

Reading Rooms Loders and Uploders

By Helen Doble 2021

Uploders? Reading Room

In December 1877 a concert was given in the schoolroom in connection with the Uploders Reading Room and Mutual Improvement Society. In May 1878 it was reported that this institution has been much patronised by the villagers during the past winter. The room being well supplied with papers for many of which the thanks of the members are due to Sir Molyneux and Lady Nepean.

The Nepean lodge of odd fellows started in 1885 and met in Loders, then in the Uploders School room eventually moved to Dorchester in the late 20th century, as it became part of the Manchester Unity. Odd fellows was a form of Friendly Societies where workers could protect themselves and their families against illness, injury or death by paying a subscription.

Loders Reading Room

A meeting was held in the schoolroom in October 1887 with Sir Molyneux Hyde Nepean in the chair to see about opening a public parochial reading room, which eventually was opened in a cottage placed at the reading room committee's disposal by Sir Molyneux in December 1886. Entertainments were also held in the Loders schoolroom in January 1888 and January 1890 in the aid of the Loders reading room funds.

I assume lower Loders and Upper Loders had a reading room each, whether Uploders reading room was in the parish room by the Crown Inn which was sold in 1972, we don't know.

The five poor houses were sold in 1873 by the parish vestry at public auction and purchased by Sir Molyneux for £105, after the Second World War they were converted to three. Now known as Waynflete, Libra and Lothers. Perhaps one of these was the cottage provided for the Loders reading room?. The poor houses were no longer required as there was now the Bridport Union workhouse for the district in Barrack Street, Bridport, which opened in 1836. In 1904 the register general decided a child born in the workhouse would have their place of birth recorded as a street address or pseudonymous one, and from c1920 it was adopted for the death certificate, so the Bridport Workhouse was renamed Bedford House, it finally became Port Bredy Hospital in 1948 with the advent of the NHS and closed in 1996.



Loders Arms with the Alms houses opposite (now Libra, Lothers and Waynflete).

Listed Buildings

[LIBRA LOTHERS WAYNFLETE, Loders - 1288387 | Historic England](#)

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