

## Ashford Railway Works - the little extras

Anyone working at the Works at ASHFORD had ready access to a large group of craftsmen, skilled at Metalwork, Woodwork, Leather craft, upholstery and many other skills.

This meant that many broken objects could be expertly repaired, from wooden furniture to metal machinery, to very precise measurements.

And All for a very modest cost, directly to the craftsman concerned.

Furniture legs, traditional hinges and brackets, leather seat covers, Clock parts, parts for old vehicles were some of the most frequent requests, together with strangely shaped pieces of wood and metal for elderly Farmers and Small Holders.

Ashford Railway Works had a 50 ton drop power hammer and a huge open door forge, together with lathes and presses, and all sorts of welding equipment. This sort of equipment enabled a huge variety of contract work to be undertaken, on occasion.

To anyone with an aching back, standing in front of the open door of the largest furnace for a few minutes. The aches seem to disappear. BUT ONE PLACE EVERY one wanted to avoid was the cyanide hardening Room, a small workshop operated by just one man. There, tools and certain parts of rolling stock undergo contact with cyanide to make them very hard indeed.

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