




CHAIRMAN


T R Greenough 

*H Speakman **  * Later to become Alderman Sir Harry Speakman


*H Speakman **

E R Sutcliffe 

*E R Sutcliffe OBE
S G Warburg*


M H Stothert 

*M H Stothert (until 1968)
S W Livesey (from 1969)*


S W Livesey 

*S W Livesey (until 1982)
A J Wheway (1983 - 1985)
J G Bellak (from 1986),
pictured right* 

*J G Bellak (1990)
F W Buckley*

W W Vogelhuber 


SENIOR MANAGEMENT


*E R Sutcliffe
J Killcross,
pictured right* 


*E R Sutcliffe
J Killcross*


*E R Sutcliffe
J Killcross*

*E R Sutcliffe
J Killcross*

*E R Sutcliffe (1940 - 1942)
E R Sutcliffe & J D Speakman (1943)
Major M N T Gubbins & J D
Speakman (1944 - 1945)
J D Speakman (1946 - 1949),
pictured left
J Killcross (1940 - 1944)
J W Osborne (1944 - 1949)* 



*J W Osborne (General
Manager),
pictured right
E Mullins* 

*J W Osborne (General
Manager 1960)
J W Osborne (Managing
Director 1961 - 1965)
N Bardsley
(1965 - 1969)
E Mullins.
K P Shea (1969)* 

*E Mullins, pictured left
K P Shea (1970 - 1976)
A Flint (1976 - 1979),
pictured right* 

*A Moores (1980 - 1985)
N D C Wilkes (1986 - 1989)
A Flint*

*N D C Wilkes (group CEO 1990)
R J Mumford (MD & CEO
1991 - 1994)
A Flint (1990 - May 1991)
J P Ross (from May 1991)
R Lowery (Sutcliffe Speakman
Carbons Ltd 1994-1996)
M S Mabony (1992-1998)*

*A Singleton (MD), pictured below left.
J P Ross, pictured below right*  

KEY EVENTS

1902 - 1909: Sutcliffe Speakman & Co Ltd incorporated in 1902.

1910 - 1919: Great War 1914 - 1918. The part of the factory devoted to munitions became the Leigh Corporation Bus Shed in 1930.

1920 - 1929:

1930 - 1939: Purchase of former Brewery Building from George Shaw & Co Ltd in 1936. World War II 1939 - 1945. Fern Mill factory established. J Killcross dies in 1944. ER Sutcliffe receives OBE, 1943 and dies in 1945.

1950 - 1959: 1952 Fred Bleakley receives the first 50 year service award. 1953 Sutcliffe Speakman apply for public company status.

1960 - 1969: Sutcliffe Speakman supply filtration and dechlorination plants, including activated carbon, to ships in order to maintain a high standard of drinking water on board.

1970 - 1979: Joint venture with Norit NV, a Dutch company, established Anglo Dutch Water Carbons Ltd, which was based at the Leigh site. At the peak of the Cold War, Sutcliffe Speakman's war gas filters are adopted by the Ministry of Defence. 1976, Counc. Fred Taylor receives his 50 year service award.

1980 - 1989: Purchase of former Leigh Corporation Bus Sheds in the early 1980s to enlarge Leigh Site and obtain valuable frontage on Holden Road. Acquisition of Wymouth Lehr in 1985 and acquisition of Brackett Ltd in 1988, along with the acquisition of Paxman Filtration Assets and business. 1980, production controller, Richard Tyldesley retires after 45 years service. 1986, having completed 49 years Stan Prescott, Chief Analyst retires.

1990 - 1999: Sale of Environmental Division in 1990 and the re-financing of the Sutcliffe Speakman Group in 1991. Sale of Leigh Site for housing in 1994. Businesses relocate to Ashton-in-Makerfield. Acquisition of Samuel Banner Holdings Ltd in 1996. Sale of Barnebey Sutcliffe, Sutcliffe Speakman Carbons and Sutcliffe Croftshaw to Waterlink Inc in USA in 1998. 1991 Alfred Flint, Company Secretary, retires after 47 years employment. 1996 Biotechnology introduced.

2000 - : 2002, the Sutcliffe Croftshaw and Sutcliffe Carbons businesses are re-merged to become Sutcliffe Speakman Ltd.

PRODUCTS

1902 - 1909: Early invention and product was "Emperor" press.

1910 - 1919: Emperor Press adapted to produce brass shell caps, fuses and fuse rings. Towards the end of the War the company introduced it's activated carbon as a protection against poisonous gases.

1920 - 1929: The experience gained in the workings of the brass for munitions led to the company entering the non-ferrous and hot-drop stamping and casting industries.

1930 - 1939: Chemical Engineering section was established following the design of a plant capable of recovering solvents and using activated carbon as an adsorption media.

1940 - 1949: Due to the purchase of the former brewery building in 1936, Sutcliffe Speakman could produce activated carbon as a filtering medium for use in the military and civilian gas masks on a large scale and the company were able to meet all the large demands of the Ministry of Supply.

1950 - 1959: After the war the company continue to supply the armed forces with hot-drop stampings and castings to be used in aircraft and motor transport, and specialised secret activities.

1960 - 1969: Sutcliffe Speakman supply filtration and dechlorination plants, including activated carbon, to ships in order to maintain a high standard of drinking water on board.

1970 - 1979: During the early 70s the company supply odour control systems to the Royal Navy for installation in the Navy's Valiant Class Submarines.

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