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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author is grateful for the kind permission of the following to reprint photographs/engravings: the Local Studies Library, Nottingham Leisure and Community Services [illustrations appearing on pages 9 (lower), 27 (upper), 33, 41 and back page - the latter being of the mending room at Birkin & Co in 1914]; Small & Tidmas, Barnstaple, Devon [page 5]; Birkin & Co, Nottingham [page 16]. The lace used to illustrate finishing techniques is from Sheila Brown's collection. The front page is developed from an illustration in Women's Headdress and Hairstyles, by Georgine de Courtais, published in 1973 by B T Batsford, and the illustration on page 21 is from the same source.

Alterations to the original text have been kept to a minimum, only being made where the change from Mr White's words to those of his interviewees, or vice-versa, could lead to confusion. Where the archaic £ was used to indicate a pound sterling, this has been altered to the modern £. All temperatures should be read as in fahrenheit. Definitions of words are from the 1993 edition of the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary (SOED). Author's comments are placed in [ ] if necessary for clarity.

'A rough lot…', by Alan Brown, is available from bookshops, lace suppliers, museums and from the publisher: Sheila Brown.

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ISBN 0 95352064 1