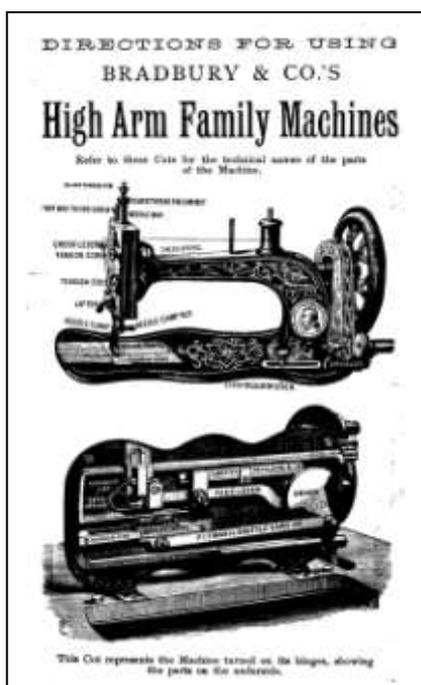


Bradbury's High Arm Family

Unlike many British sewing machine Companies Bradbury endeavoured to keep pace with models being introduced in both America and Germany. A classic example of this is Bradbury's High Arm Family machine introduced in the 1890's and which was a copy of the German machines of this type. It is a fairly mundane machine, true early versions have fine filigree gold decals and there were some minor changes during production. Most notably a thumb screw instead of a catch to hold the machine to its wooden base and the handcrank casting was changed from curved to straight (I told you they were minor changes!) Other than that the decals were changed to a Gold/Red almost Paisley pattern. Infact it's quite a boring machine compared with the Mother of Pearl and fancy decal versions produced by the Germans. Bradbury's couldn't new titles and even be bothered to produce a new manual for this machine instead they used the Family No.1 manual with changed the tension adjustment illustration



High Arm Family c1905



1904 High Arm Family Manual



Even as Bradbury enthusiasts we find it hard to get excited about this model, so why would be add another one to our ever expanding collection? Could it be that it had it's original manual (which helps with our research), or perhaps because it's a combination? (That is a Hand & Treadle machine). There again maybe it was because it was just 20 minutes drive away and came free of charge. All those helped but then just take a look at the decals. The WOW factor has it!

High Arm Family c1902 or 1903



Top Left: The Stand with the standard hand machine on top complete with case. When used as a treadle the machine is held in position by four small depressions in the table.



Top Right: Detail of the drawers Bradbury's ooze quality.



Left: Absolutely beautiful art work on this machine - its as good as it gets. Note the decals are even repeated on the belt guard.

The Bradbury Register

If you have a Bradbury machine or Bradbury literature of any type please contact us;
Email bradbury1852@lineone.net

Copy right David Best