

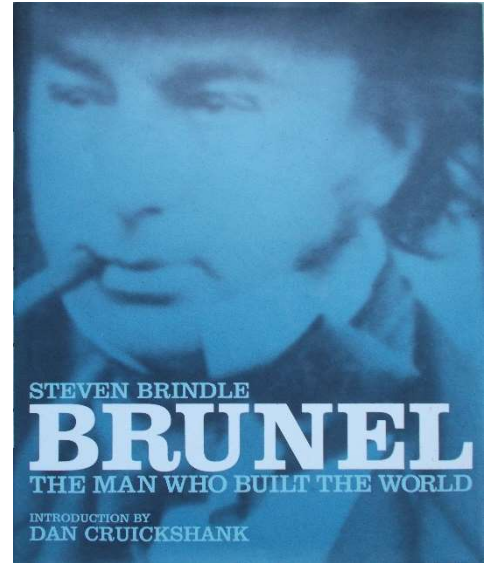
Brunel - The man who built the World - by Steven Brindle

A large format book with plenty of colour photographs and illustrations.

During his lifetime Brunel towered over his profession. Even today, he remains one of the most famous engineers in history, the epitome of the volcanic creative forces which brought about the Industrial Revolution which brought our modern society into being.

His short temper and cutting wit, with an almost unparalleled capacity for work drove him on to his vast achievements. Charismatic with a forceful personality and a refusal to accept second best from things and others.

His extraordinary talents were drawn out by some remarkable opportunities, above all his appointment as engineer to the new Great Western Railway at the age of 26. It was in his nature to take nothing for granted and examine every aspect in detail from the first principles, whether it was the longest railway yet planned or the largest ship ever imagined.



Brunel's originality was matched by his breadth of mind: excelling as architect, surveyor, civil engineer, mechanical engineer and ship designer.

A hard taskmaster to those who served him, he ultimately sacrificed his own life to his work in his tragically early death at the age of 53. His legacy is all around us in the railways, bridges and one remaining ship that he personally designed and in his wider influence.

This book draws on Brunel's own diaries, letters and sketchbooks to understand his life, times and work.

As usual you can find all our book reviews on our website. <https://stalbandsmes.com/sadmes-library/>

If you want to borrow a book from the library then contact Tony at librarian@stalbandsmes.com

We welcome members' views on any books they borrow.

Tony Ashgrove, September 2025