



LANCASHIRE LOCAL HISTORY FEDERATION

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View from the Chair

This edition of the newsletter contains information about archives and record offices in the region. You will see below a full programme of activities at Lancashire Archives, which take place against a background of diminishing resources, but which is achieved with the hard work and enthusiasm of staff, volunteers and the Friends group.

Wigan Archives, based at Leigh, is undergoing a major transformation which is detailed below. When finished there will be purpose built facilities, and greater opportunities to engage with visitors, researchers, volunteers and local communities.

Cheshire Archives is developing a programme to relocate the Archives & Local Studies service, create two new centres in Chester and Crewe and engage more and a wider range of people. They are pursuing this despite an initial setback to their initial application for funding.

Both Liverpool and Manchester archives collections are housed in completely remodelled central libraries.

Despite the difficult circumstances under which local authorities are having to work, it is very encouraging that archives services are meeting the challenge. They are

offering more resources online but – emphatically – there is nothing like the real thing! Do make use of your local archives service, and discover the wonders they contain.

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A welcome to two new member societies: Skelmersdale U3A history group has joined. Do you belong to a similar group in your area? Perhaps they would consider benefitting from becoming members. We also welcome Sankey Canal Restoration Society. You can see below details of a book about the history of the canal which is mentioned in the Society's newsletter.

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A request from our website manager: please let him have any changes in your society, such as a new website, and any other information to include on our website. Since the site was completely revamped, we have had over 40,000 visits!

Best wishes
Marianne

NEWS FROM ARCHIVES

Lancashire Archives

Jacque Crosby, Archive Service Manager at Lancashire Archives, writes "For the archive service the last 12 months have been a more settled period after the rollercoaster of the last few years. Visitor figures have increased slightly in some months and we have attracted a lot more people to the archive service through the Family History Fridays and other events. University visits from UCLan, Lancaster and Edge Hill universities have continued and school visits have increased. At the UCLan Science Festival in June we engaged with more than 1000 children, teachers and their parents over the 3 days."

Jacque also mentions the importance of **volunteers** whose contributions have included:

- The crew lists of ships registered in Lancashire ports – which won a national volunteering award
- Preston prison registers
- Extracting place names from pre-1600 records for the Lancashire Place Name Survey
- Whittingham Lives project - the sorted and re-packaged documents of Whittingham Hospital now occupy 450 boxes, and have formed the basis of meaningful and exciting projects

The **Friends** group continues to provide tremendous support to the Archives, by funding the purchase of collections and arranging popular events.

Feasibility and scoping work is well under way on the **North West regional project to digitise the historic map collections** of the North West and to make them publicly available on a GIS web platform. Wide public consultation took place in the last quarter of

2018. The route to funding may be clearer after the Heritage Lottery Fund publishes its new 5-year strategic funding framework. The next steering group meets in March.

Jacque mentions challenges faced by the organisation, but concludes, "Overall I am however confident that we will continue to be able to provide an excellent service to the local historians of Lancashire. Please come and see us soon."

Forthcoming talks 12.30-1.30

- 8 March: **Beyond bricks and mortar – your house history:** James Towe
- 12 April: **Parish records – not just baptisms, marriages and burials:** Kathryn Newman
- 10 May: **Ancestors at sea – crew lists for family historians:** Jacque Crosby
- 14 June: **Our ancestors' Lancashire schooldays:** David Tilsley

An archivist will be visiting the following local libraries to talk about the amazing collections in the Archives, and what they contain about the local area:

Thurs 21 March 5.30pm – Barrowford

Thurs 25 April – Bolton-le-Sands

Fri 17 May 2pm – Adlington

Fri 14 June 10.30am - Ansdell

Other events

Thurs 7 March 2-4pm: **Tithe documents – what they are and what to use them for**, with Dr Alan Crosby. Learn how to use tithe maps and schedules for local and family history.

Cost: £10. Places limited – booking essential.

Sat 9 March 10am-4pm: **Beginning your family history**. Are you thinking about researching your family tree? This free workshop will introduce the different sources, both online and available in libraries and archives, which can help you get started. FREE. Places limited – booking essential.

Thurs 28 March 2pm: **Tracing your ancestors using DNA**, with Graham S Holton, principal tutor in the Genealogical Studies postgraduate programme at the University of Strathclyde.

Cost £7. Places limited – booking essential.

Every Thursday for 6 weeks from 25 April 10am-12noon: Creative writing inspired by archives. Six workshops led by Dr Naomi Kruger, Lecturer in Creative Writing, University of Central Lancashire. In 2019 we are marking the 200th

anniversary of the Peterloo massacre with a new creative writing project. Develop your own creative responses to a wonderful range of original archive material.

For example: read the congratulations to magistrate William Hulton for his decisive actions on the day of the protest, alongside the arguments of "Orator" Henry Hunt who the crowd had gathered to hear. All abilities welcome.

FREE. Places limited – booking essential.

Booking: Where booking is required please email record.office@lancashire.gov.uk or phone 01772 533039 (Tues-Fri)

Where there is a fee for events payment **MUST** be made in advance. Your place is not secured until payment has been received. Please make cheques payable to Friends of Lancashire Archives. To pay by BACS please see the Friends' website www.flarchives.co.uk.

Wigan Archives Service

Alex Miller outlines the Revealing Wigan Archives Project

Regular visitors to Wigan Archives and Leigh Local Studies will know that we were closed between August 2018 and January 2019 ahead of the full refurbishment of the Archives & Leigh Local Studies at Leigh Town Hall. With the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund and thanks to National Lottery players, we will be creating new archive facilities at Leigh, including new research and conservation spaces, specialised strongrooms, a café and a new museum exhibition area.

(L) The Market Street view of Leigh Town Hall. (R) Ground floor visual showing the location of new exhibition spaces bordering Market Street (top of the picture) and new café area in the Town Hall foyer (R)



Since August, we've certainly been busy. The Archives & Local Studies team have been engaged in a project to relocate the entire archive collection to a secure temporary storage unit ahead of the refurbishment work. All the collections have been repackaged, labelled and inventoried. Over a six week period, 700 pallets with

15,000 boxes were safely transported off site, leaving behind some unoccupied strongrooms, last seen with this many empty shelves around 1974!

The Archives & Leigh Local Studies will continue to operate from a temporary searchroom in Leigh Library for the duration of the building works at Leigh Town Hall. Our opening hours will remain the same (Mon-Tues-Wed, 9.00-2.00; Thurs-Fri, 12.00-5.00), but access to some collections will be limited, so please get in touch with us if you would like to access specific records.

Services at Wigan Local Studies will continue as normal with no changes to accessing collections located at the Museum of Wigan Life.

NEWS FROM MEMBER SOCIETIES

Burnley Historical Society

Meetings are held in St. John's R. C. Church Hall, Ivy St., Burnley BB10 1TB commencing at 7.15 p.m.

14 March: **Charles Dickens: his life and works** by Isobel Stirk.

11 April: **The River Irwell from source to sea** by Hylton Craig.

Clitheroe Civic Society

Meetings usually held at 7.30pm in the Ribble Valley Borough Council Chamber, Church Street.

11 March: **Modern building survey techniques for historic buildings**: Paul Ryan, Geospatial Imaging Manager, Imaging Team, Historic England

3 April: Clitheroe Civic Society & Ribble Valley Rail **'Double Header' – the restoration of the Flying Scotsman, and the history of Ribble Valley Rail**. Meeting to be held at The Grand, York Street, Clitheroe (limited number of tickets – first come, first served: contact Colin Green by text 07793678627 or cjglgreen@sky.com; or Peter Eastham p.eastham@talktalk.net.)

13 May: **Charles Waterton – The man who rode a crocodile**, with Steve Ragnall, maritime historian.

Friends of Pendle Heritage

Talks are held in the Barn at Pendle Heritage Centre, Park Hill, 2 Colne Rd, Barrowford, Nelson BB9 6JQ

Thurs 14 February at 7.30pm **The Old Ports of Lancashire** – Malcolm Tranter

Tues 12 March at 2.30pm **Lancaster Castle** – Dr Graham Kemp

Thurs 11 April at 7.30pm **Anglo Saxon Craven** – Dr David Johnson

Thurs 9 May at 7.30pm **AGM followed by Ancient Packhorse Bridges** – Maggie Dickinson

Wed 22 May at 10.30am **The Story of the Rescued Cruck Barn at Pendle Heritage Centre** – Dr David Taylor

Lancashire Archaeological Society

Meetings held at Fulwood United Reformed Church, Symonds Road Fulwood PR2 3DH at 7.30pm. £3.

Fri 15 March: **Warton Crag Hill Fort**: Kevin Grice.

Fri 12 April: **Lunt Meadows, Sefton – a rare 9,000 year old Mesolithic settlement**: Ron Cowell, Liverpool Museums Service

From Mavis Shannon, an account of a talk in November 2018

Worsley Man and the Bog Bodies of North West Europe: Dr Melanie Giles (Manchester University & Manchester Museum)

Dr Giles began her talk by introducing us to ‘Worsley Man’, a severed head found in Astley Bog (North Manchester) in 1958. In common with most bog bodies, it was at first thought to be a recent murder: only later was his true antiquity realised. She then described the discovery in 1984 of human remains in Lindow Moss (North Cheshire), the most famous of which is ‘Pete Marsh’, who was claimed by the British Museum rather than remaining in Manchester. Melanie then described the discovery of Tollund Man in 1950 in Jutland, Denmark.



Mosses and bogs are thought of as remote and mysterious places, the interface between our world and the underworld of gods and spiritual powers. Nearly all European bog bodies date from the Iron Age, between c.100 BC and c.400 AD – roughly the Roman period – although some are earlier.

Photo by Bill Shannon

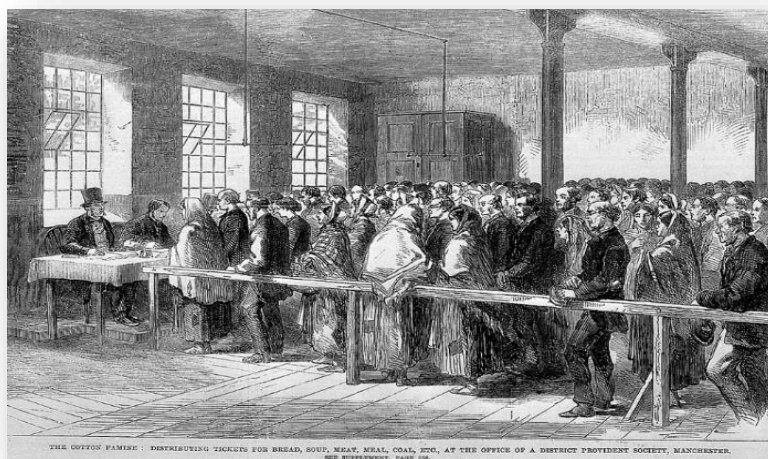
Melanie explained that evidence from classical writers, including Tacitus, suggests that the victims were either society's outcasts, or deliberate sacrifices: their deaths were not accidental.

Current work shows the victims came from the upper echelons of Iron Age society: none show evidence of hard labour, and finger nails are usually well manicured (see photo).

The bodies, or more specifically the skin, hair, internal organs, and even textiles, but not bones, are preserved by the tannins and other chemicals in sphagnum moss. Examination of the bodies using scans and tomography shows that death often involved strangulation following blows to the skull, or decapitation. The cause of death of bog women is often unclear, but they were sometimes pinned down by stakes in their watery grave, suggesting they may have been considered witches – whereas bog men more often seem to have been sacrificial victims. Worsley Man, for example, suffered a killer blow to the top of his skull, followed by decapitation, while the remains of rope or hide garrottes are often preserved around the necks of victims. Melanie said the reasons for death seem varied, but in the case of the Irish bog bodies, they were strong, healthy men in their prime, leading to the suggestion that these might be ‘failed kings’, men who had failed to bring prosperity to their tribe, and who were sacrificed to the gods in the hope of better times to come under their successors.

Melanie concluded the talk by discussing the display of these bodies in museums. Britain has tended to fail in this, compared with Ireland and Denmark. Museums need to display the bodies sensitively, and in context, showing the lifestyle of these Iron Age people, with the clothes and jewellery which often survive – and how bogs were used for other votive offerings, such as the vats of butter in Ireland, and the famous Gundestrup cauldron in Denmark.

Manchester Victorian Society



Friends Meeting House, Mount Street M22 5NS. £8 – no need to book

Tues 26 February 7pm: **The cotton famine of 1861-1865:** Gervase Philips, Manchester Metropolitan University

Tues 16 April 7pm: **Gardens of Lord Leverhulme:** Elaine Taylor

Regional Heritage Centre

Saturday 2 March: 46th Annual Archaeology Forum. Biology Lecture Theatre (marked LEC on campus maps). Standard ticket price £30 (£27 for RHC Friends and Patrons) plus optional lunch bookable for £16.50. Full details at <https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/users/rhc/events/index.htm>



The day features a broad sampling of the latest research, including Roman themes such as Hadrian's Wall, industrial archaeology, and reports on treasure hoards and other fascinating finds. Speakers include:

- John Scott of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site at Hadrian's Wall
- John Zant of Oxford Archaeology North
- Dr Frances McIntosh of English Heritage.

Remembering Resistance: Call for Volunteers

Remembering Resistance is concerned with understanding how space and place influence protest dynamics. It's an innovative, interdisciplinary project that brings together theory and methods from urban design and politics. The project's ambition is to reveal the changing relationship between people and political power over time in the context of place.

The project leader, Dr Sarah Marsden, is putting out a call for volunteers, inviting those who have been involved in protest, activism or campaigning, and who want to share their experiences, to get in touch with the team. *Remembering Resistance* will be collecting oral histories from women involved in a wide range of activism, as well as putting together a team of volunteer citizen researchers. To learn more about the HLF funded project contact s.marsden@lancaster.ac.uk, visit the website www.rememberingresistance.com, or follow the project on Twitter @rememberresist.

Warrington History Society

Meetings take place at 7.30 on Mondays at Friars Green Methodist Independent Chapel, Cairo Street, Warrington WA1 1EE

18 March 2019: **Newton Hollows, and the Roman Route from Chester to Wilderspool** – Newton Mercer

15 April 2019 – AGM & Speaker Harry Wells – **William Beamont: Life with Ann**



Warrington Literary and

Philosophical Society

Meetings take place at 7.30 on Mondays at Friars Green Methodist Independent Chapel, Cairo Street, Warrington WA1 1EE

4 March: **A Brief History of Penguin Books** with Mike Bryan, Retired head Sales Manager, Penguin Books. Arguably the most influential and well-known publisher of the 20th Century, Penguin Books have made an impact on all our lives. Mike takes a look at Allen Lane's 'Damascus Road' moment, the invention of paperback books, through mergers and take-overs, and from Lady Chatterley to Lady Luck. The surprising life of Penguin Books, and its emerging nemesis!

1 April: **The Hubble Space Telescope**, with John Anderson, High Legh Community Observatory. Along with our own Jodrell Bank Radio Telescope, The Hubble Space Telescope has been one of the most successful and informative developments in the exploration of space. John will look at its concept and design, early problems and how these were overcome, along with remarkable images obtained over more than 25 years of operation.

The Vice President of the Society, Bill Cooke, will be giving talks in aid of SWISH Friends of Stockton Heath library.

Thurs 7 March: **What killed the Warrington Academy?**

Thurs 4 April: **Four women who helped shape Warrington**

Talks take place at Stockton Heath library at 7.30pm. Tickets £4 (including refreshments) from the library 01925 261148.

OTHER EVENTS

Talks by Kevin Illingworth

Tuesday 9 April - 7pm for 7.30pm **Lancashire and Yorkshire Farmhouses of the C16th - C18th: Porches**

Ryburn Valley History Society www.ryburnvalleyhistory.org at Ripponden Conservative Club, 212 Halifax Road, Ripponden. HX6 4BG (near Sowerby Bridge).

Visitors £3.

Wednesday 1 May - 10am for 10.30am **Vernacular Buildings of Lancashire:
Preston and the Fylde, Lune Valley, and Forest of Bowland**

Garstang Antiques Group at Best Western Hotel (Garstang Golf Club), Bowgreave Drive, Bowgreave, near Garstang PR3 1YE (Preston). Tel: (Hotel) 01995 600100.

Visitors £3.

South Ribble Museum & Exhibition Centre
The Old Grammar School, Church Road, Leyland PR25 3FJ



Saturday 2 March 11am: **Air photographs and local history** with David Hunt:
Reading our past from early photographs

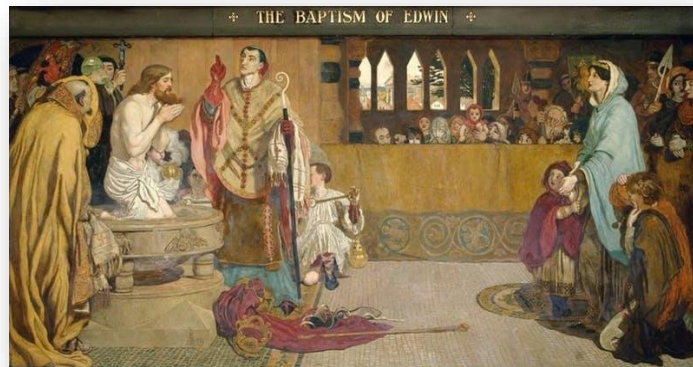
Sunday 10 March 2.30pm: **The lost Leyland map of 1740**: A walk with David Hunt,
exploring the village with a recently rediscovered map.

Saturday 16 March 11am: **Let there be light**: An illustrated lecture by Colin
Dickinson about the Lancashire electrical industry.

The Preston Family History Society holds family history workshops at the Museum –
see the website for details www.southribblemuseum.org.uk.

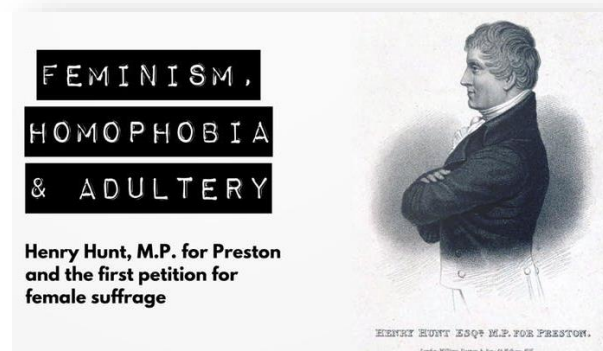
UCLan talks at the Harris Museum & Library, Preston 6-7.30pm. Tickets
available from <http://www.eventbrite.com>

27 February: **The Myth of Regions? Nineteenth-century interpretations of the
medieval past** – Dr Fiona Edmonds



Dr Edmonds (Lancaster University) considers the nineteenth-century perception of northern England's medieval past. She asks how historical study of the medieval period contributed to perceptions of northern English identity, and whether there was a regional element to nineteenth-century medievalism.

27 March: Professor John Belchem (University of Liverpool) discusses Henry Hunt, the star orator at the ill-fated meeting at Manchester in August 1819 which resulted in the Peterloo massacre. Henry Hunt was finally elected MP for Preston in December 1830 and pledged to present every petition sent to him.



He duly introduced Mary Smith's pioneer petition for female suffrage in August 1832, calling for the vote for unmarried women.

Historians have usually simply noted how the petition was greeted with derision, but it merits deeper study, not least because its vindication of the rights of women is accompanied by virulent condemnation of male homosexuality. An early milestone on the long journey to secure votes for women, Mary Smith's petition reveals political, personal and sexual divisions in early 19th century radicalism – over feminism, homosexuality and adultery - attitudes and prejudices which inhibited any decisive pre-Victorian advance beyond manhood suffrage.

NEWS ROUNDUP

Dr David Hunt, South Ribble Museum Curator, writes about a unique discovery: The Road to Walton: Excavations at Cuerden 2018

Archaeological investigation ahead of the construction of the (now cancelled) Ikea store at Bamber Bridge (NGR 555246) has revealed evidence of settlement and land use on the edge of the Lancashire Plain extending over 6000 years. Since the

selection of the sites was largely due to chance, it begs the question as to just how extensive the surviving archaeological record might yet be.

The work, by Salford Archaeology, revealed the post holes of an Iron Age roundhouse, storage pits, field ditches, and (after 150 years of searching for it) the Roman road south from Walton-le-Dale to Wigan. As Ian Miller concluded, 'It is quite a unique survival and we managed to hit the one site that had not been ploughed in over 2000 years'.

The line of the road had been identified on LIDAR scans by David Ratledge. LIDAR (Light Imaging Detection and Ranging) works on the principle of radar but uses light from a laser. To the joy of local historians it is now possible to trace the road over large distances. The Cuerden section was quite wide and very well preserved. Essentially the line south to Bent Bridge at Euxton is up to a mile further west in places than thought.

The medieval pottery is of regional significance, providing evidence of the varying trading networks of fabrics in the NW (12th-15th cent), and possibly the products from the Samlesbury potting concern (13th-15th cent) - appropriately in Potter Lane Samlesbury!

The finds at Cuerden, with the extensive excavations at Walton, the discovery of the Samlesbury site, and at long last the identification of the remains of the folk themselves at Preston Friary, have transformed our appreciation of the area's archaeology.



We now have a fresh dimension to those long lists of the names of fields and local worthies— so long the stock in trade of the local historian. And the Ribble river gravels – so productive in the nineteenth century – still await modern research, but that is a story for another day!

From member Peter Airey, an article about how persistence and thorough research uncovered the real story about his ancestor

Poor Hannah

My poor great-great grandmother Hannah Airey: there she was in the 1901 census, a widow in the workhouse at the age of 71. I was surprised as she had a family of six females and four males - surely they would have cared for her? I envisioned some

great disaster befalling this family of cotton workers, perhaps a huge family rift. On the other hand, had some serious mental issues forced her out of the home? It could not have been easy labouring through ten births and living in cramped accommodation in Johnston Street in Blackburn. Then after her husband Robert passed away in 1890, she could have been alone unable to fend for herself.

In 2014, I searched at Lancashire Archives in Preston for any workhouse inmate entries for Hannah but found none. However, I did find court proceedings against a Hannah Airey in 1894 where a prosecutor's bill at the Lancashire Quarter Sessions showed a petition was brought for attempted suicide and two years later for a Mary Airey for the same cause. Could this be my great great grandmother and one of her daughters?

This surely had the makings of a dramatic chapter in my family history writings. It was going to be a grim tale of Victorian life for a mother who bore ten children, worked in the cotton mills of Blackburn and suffered family rejections, attempted suicides and the workhouse. That would have been a dismal end to a tragic life of hardship, so I started researching life in workhouses through a couple of books by Peter Higginbotham.

Yet a few things troubled me. Hannah died in 1902 at the age of 72 and was buried in Blackburn cemetery along with her husband, not in a workhouse pauper grave. The census had stated she was a widow and a pauper and that also probably ruled out insanity and the attempted suicides. Also, how was it possible for Hannah to be born in Bolton, married, lived and worked in Blackburn but end up in an Oldham workhouse? Furthermore, whatever happened to her children? Two of her sons, one, my great grandfather, went on to be an art dealer. Another, an auctioneer, fathered two doctors who both graduated from Edinburgh university. I needed to find out more about the daughters - did they marry or die early, and where did they live?

In 2018, I decided to try to resolve these inconsistencies. It was coming up to Christmas and time for my seasonal visit to see my sister and friends in Burnley. So, leaving Scotland I made a slight detour and headed for the research centre at Oswaldtwistle. There I was greeted by Tony Foster, I had seen his name in LFHHS lights but never had the pleasure of meeting until now. Anyway, he was interested in my story and the challenges and we set about digging deeper. Tony was keen to ascertain more about the death as he was clearly sceptical about my Hannah being in an Oldham workhouse. Using *Deceased Online*, it was not long before Tony found a Hannah Airey buried in Blackburn but with an address in Blackburn on Sarah Ellen Street. Importantly, the grave number matched one that I had visited in the cemetery with Hannah's name on the headstone. Meanwhile, I was busy widening my search in the 1901 census on *Ancestry* on the centre's computers. This time, I found a Hannah but with the surname 'Airy' and crucially at the same address in Sarah Ellen Street, still living with four of her children. I had missed this Hannah 'Airy' who indeed was my great-great grandmother.

A salutary lesson then in ensuring that there is more than one piece of evidence even though I had found one with the same name, age and status. As Tony put it:

use 'the milking stool of evidence with three supporting legs' to avoid disappointment, misunderstandings and a lot of potentially wasted effort and cost.

What about the daughters? I hear you ask. Well, three stayed together as spinsters and lived into their seventies and eighties, the same three who were probably with their mother when she died. By the way, the death certificate that I was now able to order with confidence stated she died of a carcinoma of the stomach and exhaustion: what a terrible end for poor Hannah. The last of the sisters, Martha, was much younger than the other two and had been the housemaid. She died in 1944 but in Blackpool. I wonder if there might be a Cinderella story here. Well you never know, perhaps her will could tell me something and I will have a different story to write.

The State of Archaeology in North West England: A Six Year Retrospective

Dr Mike Nevell writes:

"In November 2018 I stepped down as Chair of the Council for British Archaeology North West after six years. As in the previous five years, the fortunes of archaeology in the region in the last twelve months have been varied. On the positive side, Lancashire County Council re-opened Queen Street Mill and Helmshore Mill industrial museums in spring 2018 and have committed themselves to finding a long-term future for both these nationally important industrial museums and are seeking to establish a partnership with the National Trust. In July UNESCO agreed to keep the Liverpool World Heritage site on its endangered list, rather than revoke its status, as long as Liverpool City Council came up with a long-term management and conservation plan. However, staff cuts at the Archaeology Department at the University of Manchester saw the department merged with classics and ancient history, and the number of archaeology lecturers reduced to just 4.5 full time posts. This was despite lobbying by CBA North West and others."

“Established in 2004 our research grants have since 2012 invested nearly £5000 in the archaeology of the region from supporting the conservation of the Silverdale Viking hoard to grant aiding radio-carbon dates for a Mesolithic camp site in Mottram-in-Longdendale, local societies, museums, and young archaeologist clubs benefitting from this fund.”

The article goes on to detail some of the highs and lows during the period, and to thank all the Committee members and volunteers who have worked hard to sustain the work in challenging circumstances. Read the full article at <https://archaeologyyuos.wordpress.com>



Why not visit the Working Class Movement Library?



It is free and open for anyone to use. It contains tens of thousands of books, pamphlets, archives, posters, banners, newspapers, painting, photographs, cartoons and more. As it is a reference library, all material can be studied on site, and a photocopying / scanning service is available. It is necessary to make an appointment in advance of your visit. There is a lively programme of events and exhibitions. You can find more details on the website www.wcml.org.uk.

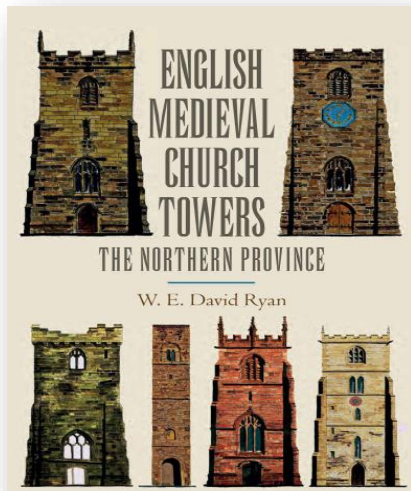
BOOKS OF INTEREST



Desirable Dwellings – Nigel Morgan’s ‘lost’ book. Edited by Peter Smith

The Preston historian Nigel Morgan became an expert on the social housing of his adopted town, and planned three books, the harvest of a lifetime's study, to make public his painstakingly acquired knowledge. At the time of his death, in 2006, he had published two of them under his imprint Mullion Books (Vanished Dwellings and Deadly Dwellings). The third, Desirable Dwellings, has not been published until now.

The typescript was deposited at UCLan. Peter Smith has edited it, added fitting illustrations, and put it online at <https://prestonhistory.com> – search for Desirable Dwellings.



English Medieval church towers: The Northern Province. W E David Ryan. Boydell Press, 2018. ISBN 9781783273539

The Northern Province – the ecclesiastical province of York, comprising the dioceses of Blackburn, Carlisle, Chester, Durham, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Sheffield, Southwell & Nottingham and York - contains over 500 medieval examples of church towers.

Each tower is illustrated by a watercolour painting and shows details of its date, location and an architectural description.

Hyperlinked Heritage List Numbers are shown, together with an interactive index and glossary of terms. There is also an e-book edition.

David Ryan is a retired architect and a former member of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

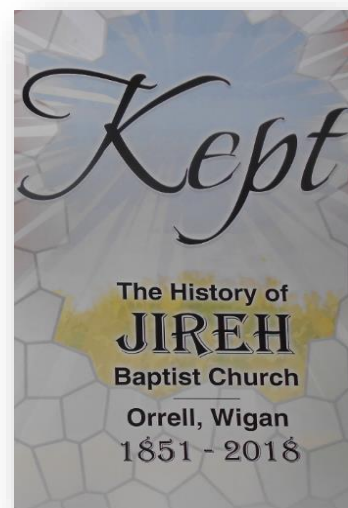
Kept: The history of Jireh Baptist Church, Orrell, Wigan, 1851-2018

Pam Thomas

Copies available from the author. £5 + £2.22.
Money raised will be given to church funds.

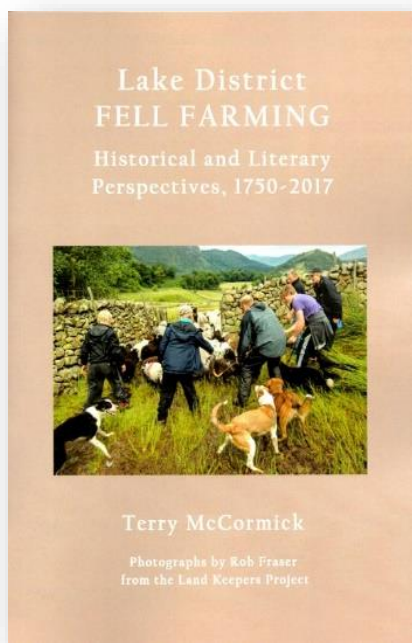
Pam Thomas, 36 Mayfield Road, Orrell, Wigan
WN5 0HZ.

07805020437 or 01942 218717



Pam has been a member of Jireh Baptist Church since 1983, and has traced its story from its foundation to the present day.

The contents cover the founding of the church community, and the building's construction, using information from the original church book and invoices from 1864. The main families involved in the early years are profiled, together with those who have been sent out to preach from the church over the 160 years. It would be of interest to historians of Victorian Wigan or non-conformist history. There is also information on some WW1 soldiers from Jireh. The church is still in existence but has merged with Pemberton Evangelical Church to form Pemberton Free Grace Church.



Lake District fell farming: Historical and literary perspectives 1750-2017

Terry McCormick. Photographs by Rob Fraser from the Land Keepers Project

Bookcase, 2018. B&W ill. ISBN 9781912181117

This book is the result of a lifetime's work by Terry McCormick, researching the way the literary culture of the Lake District has shown (or often not shown) the shepherds and working people of the landscape. UNESCO has recently awarded the area World Heritage status largely because of the landscape created and maintained by those people. The book contributes towards respecting and understanding the precious pastoral landscape of the area.

Why did St Helens grow?: Geographical influences on St Helens' industries

T R Robinson

Price £8 (add £2 if posted). Copies available from St Helens Historical Society at their meetings; Sankey Canal Restoration Society (Secretary Peter Keen peterkeen21@aol.com); or The World of Glass.

Tom Robinson was a geography teacher who compiled the text accompanied by photographs and maps in 1950. His nephew, a member of St Helens Historical Society, offered the dissertation to Sankey Canal Restoration Society. Members transcribed the text into a digital format and digitised the maps and photographs – the present book is a result of those efforts.

The text outlines the development of industry in the town as a result of the creation of the canal. The 27 photographs taken in 1970 show scenes along the entire length of the canal, providing a unique snapshot in time.



One of Mr Robinson's unique images—the ELLESWEIR ready to unload sugar at Earlestown

From the British Film Institute - Would you or your society wish to take part in an exciting new project?

“The BFI is launching its new **Britain on Film crowdsourcing platform**, and we are keen to spread the word among Britain's grass roots history-lovers and film-enthusiasts. We are hoping to enlist the help of museums and heritage organisations to get the message out there. As part of the legacy for the BFI's Britain on Film project we have created a bespoke crowdsourcing platform based on films within the Britain on Film map on BFI Player. Linking directly from the BFI Player <http://player.bfi.org.uk/britain-on-film> or via <http://contribute.bfi.org.uk>, the crowdsourcing platform will encourage people to share their unique knowledge by 'pinning' locations to the online map. In doing so, they will improve the accuracy and depth of the geo-tagging of films within the Britain on Film national collection, and will enhance our understanding of the films themselves, as well as charting the evolution of our towns and cities. At this stage, we are focusing on engaging with grass roots groups such as local history societies, local museums and local archives. The platform will be populated and moderated by its users, so we are also hoping to create an online community of people who care about archive films and their local history. I was therefore wondering if you might be willing to share some information about the platform with your members, and encourage them to use to the site. We should have a 'how to' guide ready for circulation shortly. I do hope we might be able to work together in spreading the word about this incredible resource.”

Alex Bingham



DATE FOR THE DIARY

The Federation "At Home" this year will be held by the **Lancaster Archaeological & Historical Society** on 15 June at the Quaker Meeting House in Lancaster. The theme of the day is *Historic Lancaster* and will take the usual format of talks in the morning followed by a choice of walks in the afternoon. Further details about this event will be circulated shortly.

The Federation Committee would be very pleased to hear from anyone who would be interested in taking on the role of newsletter editor. This is one of the principal means of communication with members, and is published four times a year. Guidance would be freely offered.

Please phone or email Marianne Howell.

COPY DATE FOR NEXT EDITION: 1ST MAY