

Heritage Open Days

9-12 September 2010

Heritage Open Days are with us again! This is the second year of the Cumbria HOD directory, produced with the support of both the Civic Trust and English Heritage. Designed by local volunteers associated with civic societies and other groups in order to raise awareness of local heritage, over 130 venues will be open to view and enjoy during one or more of the 4 days - September 11-14.

Each specified visit or activity will be entirely FREE OF CHARGE for the stated day(s) during this special annual event. The range of buildings on offer include ones not normally open to the public, such as Greta Hall, and ones usually open at charges which will be waived, such as The Armit, Ambleside, and a number of National Trust properties like Sizergh and Wordsworth House.

In addition, there will be events linked to places of interest, such as heritage walks and storytelling in Grasmere, the story of the Langdale Tapestry, a re-enactment at Derwentwater YHA, a visit to the cells at Crown Court House in Dalton, and an Archaeology Day at Windermere.

Churches include ones in Millom and Ambleside, and there will be behind-the-scenes visits to public buildings like Barrow Town Hall and Record Office, the Theatre Royal in Workington and the Turkish Baths in Carlisle. Each part of



the county will have examples of places to see, sometimes even co-ordinating various possible visits, like the Lady Anne Clifford Trail due to be launched from Appleby at Heritage Open Days this year.

*Barbara and Peter Colley,
Co-ordinator and Secretary, Federation
of Cumbrian Amenity Societies*

OTHER ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE:

*Appleby Moot Hall & St. Anne's
Hospital*

Calder Abbey

Guided tours of Carlisle Citadel

Carlisle Turkish Baths

*Behind the scenes at J.B. Banks,
Cockermouth's historic ironmongers*

*The Merzbarn at Elterwater (with
full-sized Merzbau reproduction)*

Kendal Town Hall mayor's parlour

Stainmore Railway Company

*Meet the experts at Penrith & Eden
Museum*

Windermere Steamboat Museum

Chair Message



Since this is the twelfth and last chair message I shall write for the Bulletin, I shall use it to reflect on the last four years.

I assumed the office because the Federation would otherwise have folded on Jill Wishart's retirement – which would have been a shame because the Federation is needed and does make a difference. In these four years we have made steady progress, with slowly rising membership, improvements to the Bulletin, and more ambitious (and better attended) annual conventions. From the outset I made it a personal objective to improve the climate of co-operation with other county-wide organisations concerned with local history, and in this I received support not only from the CLHF committee and membership but also from CWAAS and FOCAS: the promising development of a renewed initiative to restart the Victoria County History of Cumbria is the proof of that pudding, so to speak. There has also been steady improvement in the relationship with the County Council and the

Archives Service itself and the Federation is now represented on the Archives Advisory Group.

None of this would have been possible without the devoted support of the small but effective group of men and women who have served in the Federation Committee. I am grateful to them all but in this brief summation two deserve special mention. Valerie Hallsall, now the only committee member to have served with both Jill and myself, has been throughout these four years membership secretary and compiler of the events diary for the Bulletin. In this last year she has also assumed some of the tasks of secretary. She does everything with unassuming efficiency and reliability. Derek Denman has served both as secretary and treasurer (after the retirement of Shirley Thornhill) and has throughout been deeply involved in the production of the Bulletin and the preparations for the annual convention. His commitment and energy have made my task as your chairman relatively easy. If you have seen improvements in our services over these years, you can be sure that Derek has been largely responsible for them. We are all indebted to Valerie and to Derek.

And I am also indebted to you, our membership, for consistent and generous support for four years.

Richard Brockington
Chair, CLHF

John Todd day

CWAAS and the Centre for Northwest Regional Studies at Lancaster University will be holding a one-day local history event in honour of Dr John Todd on 19 February 2011. More in the next Bulletin.

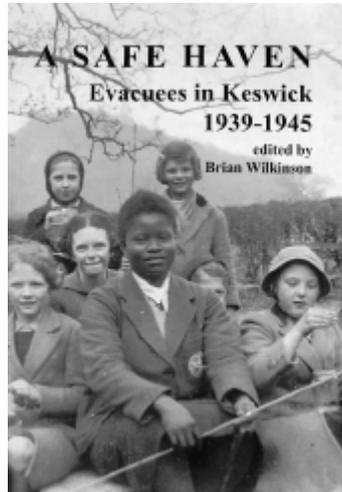
KESWICK'S INVASION – BY EVACUEES !

The evacuation of children and adults at the beginning of the Second World War was the largest mass movement of people in British history. In the first few days of September 1939 some three million children and adults were taken from their homes in those parts of the British Isles thought likely to be the targets of enemy bombers to safe, rural areas.

Keswick was one of these, perhaps unique in the age range and background of the evacuees it received. In addition to the children evacuated from the elementary schools (five to fourteen year olds) in north-eastern towns and cities, three secondary schools and a teacher-training college arrived to make their home in Keswick and district for all or most of the war years. It is estimated that upwards of a thousand evacuees arrived in the town and district.

The secondary schools were the Central Newcastle High School, Roedean School from Brighton and Hunmanby School from Ilkley. S. Katharine's College, a teacher-training institution, came from Liverpool. Older boys from the Liverpool Orphanage came to the district, eventually settling at Hause End House on the shore of Derwentwater.

The choice of Keswick for 'a safe haven' was obvious. There were no military targets in the area, apart from Thirlmere Reservoir (guarded by the Home Guard with wooden rifles !) and the presence of an Army Driving and Maintenance School at Portinscale. Neither target was attacked by German bombers. In Keswick, several hotels and numerous guest houses – likely to suffer from restricted movement in the country and severe petrol rationing – were only too



anxious to receive the young people and their teachers.

Undoubtedly the economy of the town benefited and many local people were employed either directly or indirectly through this incursion. 'Hosts' were paid ten shillings and sixpence a week by the Government for the first evacuee, and eight shillings and sixpence for a second and succeeding children. The amount was intended to cover the costs of board and lodging. The remuneration for the hotel and guest house proprietors is not known, but it may well have been somewhat equivalent to the yearly income in 'a good summer'.

The children and students were welcomed by the local people and soon became involved in local activities. Roedean and Central High School girls joined the church choirs, three Roedean girls became bell ringers at Crosthwaite Church and a CNHS girl played the organ at the Methodist church. Roedean School was rather more independent, making use of the Keswick Hotel Conservatory for science lessons, the Keswick Museum Art Gallery, the Methodist Church Room – and the

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waiting rooms at the adjoining station – sometimes to the consternation of lady passengers who found themselves sitting through a German lesson!

Among innovations in Keswick was the game of lacrosse – popular with Roedean 'gels' amongst themselves and with an occasional match with Hunmanby School. The interest in lacrosse departed from Keswick when Roedean School left!

Perhaps the most integrated children were the younger ones staying with individual 'host families'. In the country 'billets' some children met oil lamps and 'middens' for the first time (the north-east children would call them 'nettles'). The evacuees became to all intents and purposes 'locals', even losing their 'Geordie' accents ! They joined the Cub-Scouts and Scouts, the Brownies and Girl Guides, attended the Sunday Schools, presented concerts and plays in the Pavilion and became, in many cases, so much part of the 'host families' that their eventual leaving was fraught with tears.

Some three years ago an appeal was made in north-east and Liverpool newspapers for former evacuees in Keswick to write of their experiences in the town. Some forty responses to the letters resulted in a folder of reminiscences being placed in the Museum for visitors to read – which has itself resulted in additional reminiscences. The stories are a fascinating collection of experiences that, in many circumstances, were life-changing. They have now been published for a wider audience, together with accounts of the secondary schools and the training college in Keswick [in the book "A Safe Haven," reviewed at the end of this issue].

Some of the stories are rather moving – one describes the situation when a boy's

mother arrived unexpectedly to take him home to Newcastle. Mother, child and the 'host family' were all in tears and the boy had to be dragged to the Keswick Station. Another boy was 'billeted' on a farm – " ... it was all that a boy could wish for." He returned to the north-east for an apprenticeship and National Service and returned to Borrowdale to court and marry a local girl. For many children and young people it was the best time of their lives and after the war many became frequent visitors to Keswick on holidays and to visit their 'host families'. One in her eighties has visited the town at least once every year since the war ended.

The folders containing the reminiscences of evacuees will remain in the Museum – added to by further memories it is hoped.

Brian Wilkinson – an evacuee myself once, but not fortunate enough to be evacuated to Keswick !



**YOUR BULLETIN
NEEDS YOU !**

**Please send any news or
ideas you think might be of
interest, to David Bradbury:**

pastpresented@tesco.net



Cumbria news

This is a short progress report. There was a successful launch of the project on 15th May at Rheged chaired by the Lord-Lieutenant of Cumbria. Application has been made for registration of the Cumbria County History Trust (CCHT) as a charity and is expected to be approved by the end of July. The first formal approach to the Heritage Lottery Fund has been made. A successful application has been made to RDPE for funds to appoint a volunteer coordinator to study the availability of volunteers across the county and their training needs and that is likely to start during July.

The first general meeting of CCHT will be on 30th October at Carlisle. This will be the occasion on which the permanent officer team will be elected (names proposed by trustees – chair Bryan Gray, secretary Richard Brockington, treasurer Rob Matthews); and up to six additional trustees will be elected from the membership. If you intend to apply for membership, either founder or ordinary, please try to do so by the middle of September – with the intention of attending the general meeting on 30th October. As always I am hoping for active interest in become a trustee, particularly from practising local historians and leading members of local history societies. Please note too that all three of the nominated officers are men living in the north of the county, balances which should be addressed in the coming years.

You will recall that CWAAS generously offered £10K per year for 5 years, subject to matching funding. We have already reached 60% of that target and are well on course to achieving 100% by October. Several prominent members of CLHF have taken founder membership (£100 pa for 5 years): History of Kirkby Group, Orton & Tebay LHS and Lorton & Derwent Fells LHS have all committed themselves to this level of support, and Sedbergh LHS have also given financial support despite their ambiguous position vis-a-vis Yorkshire. Upper Eden LHS have raised over £500 by hosting a lecture at Kirkby Stephen by the renowned polar explorer and renewable energy campaigner Robert Swan. Many other member societies will be considering their position after the summer break, and I am sure that collectively the CLHF membership will lift us much closer to the 100% target. Unless otherwise agreed none of the annual covenants will be activated until the full funding is available from HLF or elsewhere. Our target for that, all being well, is the end of 2010.

Richard Brockington

News from C&WAAS

On June 1st the Society's new website went live. The address hasn't changed: www.cumbriapast.com

The site itself, however, is newly designed. As well as operating in the modern way (by use of tabs across the head of each page, and side panels on one or both sides of each page's main central panel) it also offers new features.

The main new development is the PayPal facility, for paying subscriptions on line. It is planned that this will in due

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course be usable for the purchase of books.

Historians might find it useful to visit our page of Genealogy Links, and the page of website addresses of societies which share interests with us. Anyone who likes reading about the county as it was in the 19th and early 20th centuries (CWAAS was founded in 1866) might get some pleasure out of reading the new EARLY DAYS page. This presents extracts from, and notes on, the Society's Proceedings, which for many years accompanied the Transactions. This can be reached from a panel on HOME PAGE or via the ABOUT US tab.

There are reports, with photos, on recent activities of the Parent Society (AGM day in Whitehaven; May Walk in the Great Musgrave area; Book Launch at Hutton-in-the-Forest) and of the Carlisle Affiliated Group (a lecture by Dr Kevin Leahy on the Staffordshire Hoard).

Another new feature is the presentation of the front cover of the most recent Newsletter, and a summary of that issue's contents. Also accessible is a Select Topic Index covering issues from January 1998 to December 2009.

Margaret Edwards
Communications Officer, CWAAS

FOCAS *Research Grants*

Friends of Cumbria Archive Service (FOCAS) make available small sums of money annually to enable researchers to access material from one or more of the Cumbria Archive Service offices in Carlisle, Barrow-in-Furness, Kendal and Whitehaven. Grants of up to about £150 are awarded for expenses such as travel costs in visiting the office(s), hiring of a

researcher if a visit cannot be made, digital photography permits, photocopying, publication costs.

As the grants are made available by members of FOCAS, the main requirement is that at least some of the research has to be undertaken at one of the record offices. Library research on its own is not covered by this grant scheme.

Further information and an application form is available from:

Dr Rob David
16 Green Rd, Kendal, LA9 4QR
r.david@lancaster.ac.uk

Ambleside Oral *History Group*

Cumbria's November floods and the extreme winter prompted Ambleside Oral History Group (AOHG) to make interviews about these extraordinary weather events. Recordings were made about the experiences of those who suffered flood damage, and the problems faced by farmers caring for stock through rain, ice and snow, with inevitable comparisons with years gone by. The community role of mountain rescuers assisting the emergency services, the thoughts of an amateur meteorologist and the week in February when Ambleside lost its gas supply are also the subjects of interviews.

In April members presented "A Bit of a Do", depicting old Ambleside in words and pictures, to help finance the online archive at www.aohg.org.uk. In May, AOHG participated in the Library Service's Local History Month at Windermere Library where eight members of the public at an Open Day recorded short interviews about the library as it once was. Further AOHG interviews

EVENTS DIARY

Area indicators:  North  South  East  West  Central

AUGUST

- | | | | |
|---|-------|--|--|
|  | to 22 | Cockermouth Museum Group | Kirkgate Centre, Cockermouth. |
| | | Summer Exhibition: Community Life in Cockermouth over the past 150 years | |
| | | Daily 10.00am to 4.00pm. Admission free | Tel. 01900 823966 |
|  | 6 | Orton and Tebay LHS | Tebay Methodist Church |
| | | Life in the Civil War | Tel. 015396 24780 |
|  | 8 | Lorton and Derwent Fells LHS | Please see website for details or telephone |
| | | Historic walk in Loweswater | Tel. 01900 829812 |
|  | 24 | Duddon Valley LHG | Seathwaite Parish Room |
| | | Quakerism, Early History and Today – Bill Shaw | Tel. 01229 716196 |
|  | 25 | CWAAS SW Group | Meet at the site at 6.30pm |
| | | Visit to Haig Mining Museum | Tel. 019467 24634 |
|  | 26 | Shap LHS | Memorial Hall |
| | | A Walk around Caldbeck with Diana Greenwood | Tel. 01931 716244 |
|  | 27-29 | Higham Hall | Higham Hall, Bassenthwaite Lake, Cockermouth |
| | | Writing a Village History – Course tutor June Hall | Tel. 01768 776013 |

SEPTEMBER

- | | | | |
|---|----|---|------------------------------------|
|  | 9 | Lorton and Derwent Fells LHS | Yew Tree Hall, High Lorton |
| | | An introduction to Industrial Archaeology – Mining and Bridges – Graham Brooks | Tel. 01900 85482 |
|  | 10 | Orton and Tebay LHS | Visit to Hadrians Wall |
| | | | Tel. 015396 24780 |
|  | 11 | Lorton and Derwent Fells LHS | Contact John Hudson |
| | | Visit: Ravenglass Roman Bath House and Hardknott Fort & Parade Ground – Alan Airey | Tel. 01946 861555 |
|  | 14 | Appleby Archaeology Group | Supper Room, Market Hall, Appleby. |
| | | Lancaster's Delftware Industry – Mathew Town, North Pennines Archaeology | Tel. 01768 353463 |
|  | 15 | Caldbeck and District LHS | Parish Hall, Caldbeck |
| | | Edward 1 – Tim Padley | Tel. 016974 78270 |
|  | 15 | Lazonby and District LHS | Village Hall, Lazonby |
| | | AGM followed by Medieval Deer Parks of Cumbria – Harry Hawkins | Tel. 01768 898046 |
|  | 16 | Brampton Local History Group | Community Centre, Brampton |
| | | Brampton's history revealed by artifacts recovered from a local rubbish dump – Thomas Akitt, Solway Diggers | Tel. 016977 2484 |
|  | 20 | Holme and District LHS | Burton in Kendal Memorial Hall |
| | | Lord Ashton – Sue Ashworth | Tel. 01524 782121 |

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-  SEP. Whitehaven LHS United Reform Church Hall
20 AGM followed by a talk and slideshow: James Robertson Walker & Nelson on HMS Victory at Trafalgar – A Dick Tel. 01946 695698
-  23 Cartmel Peninsula LHS Cartmel Village Hall
The life of Thomas Hayton Mawson – Bette Kissack Tel. 015395 36603
-  23 Lamplugh and District Heritage Society, Lamplugh WI Hall
Whitehaven Shipbuilders – Ralph Lewthwaite Tel. 01946 861493
-  23 Levens Local History Group Levens Village Institute
TBA Tel. 01539 560318
- 25 **Cumbria Local History Federation** Newton Rigg Campus, near Penrith

Annual Convention 2010.

Local History and Material Culture



Although you will receive a detailed conference programme leaflet with this issue of the Bulletin, an extra reminder never hurts.

Copies of the programme can be downloaded from www.cumbrialocalhistory.org.uk

-  25 CWAAS SW Group Supper room, Egremont Market Hall at 2.00pm
AGM followed by talk on Carlisle County Gaol – Denis Perriam Tel. 019467 24634
-  27 Shap LHS Memorial Hall
Shap Granite – Jean Scott Smith Tel. 01931 716244
-  28 Duddon Valley LHG Seathwaite Parish Room
Burnbanks, A Cast Iron Community – Patricia Garside Tel. 01229 716196

OCTOBER

-  1 Lorton and Derwent Fells LHS Kirkgate Centre, Cockermouth at 8.00pm
Bernard Bradbury Memorial Lecture: West Cumberland and Slavery – Susan Dent
-  4 CWAAS Kendal Regional Group Shakespeare Centre, Highgate, Kendal
Why has the VCH never reached Westmorland – John Beckett Tel. 01539 722439
-  5 Bampton and District LHS Haweswater Hotel
AGM Tel. 01931 713645
-  6 Friends of Keswick Museum Crosthwaite Parish Rooms, Keswick
The Building of Keswick – Dr Alan Smith Tel. 017687 73801
-  12 Appleby Archaeology Group Supper Room, Market Hall, Appleby.
The Impact and Legacy of the Arrival of the Scot in Dalriada in the 5th Century –
Sheena Gemmel Tel. 01768 353463
-  14 Hesketh Local History Group Low Hesketh Village Hall
Lake District Farming from the Stone Ages – Geoff Cole Tel. 016974 73511
-  14 Orton and Tebay LHS Orton Market Hall
Drove Roads Tel. 015396 24780
-  18 Holme and District LHS Burton in Kendal Memorial Hall
Sizergh: Castle, Family and Contents – Dick White Tel. 01524 782121
-  18 Upper Eden History Society Kirkby Stephen Grammar School
Thomas Wilson Bracken (1865-1932): Son of Stainmore – Servant of the Empire
Martin Gibson Tel. 017683 41007

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-  OCT. Whitehaven LHS United Reform Church Hall
18 A Castle , a Garden and a House – John Madison Tel. 01946 695698
-  16 Cumbria Industrial History Society The Wave Centre, Maryport 9.30 to 4.00
CIHS Autumn Conference: Industries of North West Cumbria Tel. 015395 68428
-  20 Caldbeck and District LHS Parish Hall, Caldbeck
AGM and Supper Tel. 016974 78270
-  20 Lazonby and District LHS Village Hall, Lazonby
Traditional Farm Buildings – Richard Young Tel. 01768 898046
-  21 Brampton Local History Group Community Centre, Brampton
The Building of Castle Carrock Reservoir – Thomas Speight Tel. 016977 2484
-  21 Cartmel Peninsula LHS Cartmel Village Hall
Cumbria in the Dark Ages – Sheena Gemmell Tel. 015395 36603
-  21 Levens Local History Group Levens Village Institute
Members Evening: What we know so far Tel. 01539 560318
-  23 CWAAS SW Group Supper room, Egremont Market Hall at 2.00pm
Wellington Pit Disaster of 1910 – Jenni Lister Tel. 019467 24634
-  23 Lamplugh and District Heritage Society Lamplugh WI Hall
Beekeeping – Val Sullivan Tel. 01946 861493
-  25 Shap LHS Memorial Hall
Prehistoric Shap – Gabriel Blamires Tel. 01931 716244
-  26 Duddon Valley LHG Seathwaite Parish Room
Windermere's Lakeshore houses – Diana Matthews Tel. 01229 716196

NOVEMBER

-  1 CWAAS Kendal Regional Group Shakespeare Centre, Highgate, Kendal
Characterising the Historic Landscape of Cumbria Tel. 01539 722439
-  2 Bampton and District LHS Memorial Hall, Bampton
The Yellow Earl's Great Adventure – Dr. Rob David Tel. 01931 713645
-  3 Friends of Keswick Museum Crosthwaite Parish Rooms, Keswick
My Family and Other Ancestors – researching your family tree – Pat Stokes
Tel. 017687 73801
-  9 Appleby Archaeology Group Supper Room, Market Hall, Appleby.
2008 Excavations at Brougham of the Civilian Settlement to the East of the Roman
Fort, Brocavum – Oxford Archaeology North Tel. 01768 353463
-  11 Hesketh Local History Group Low Hesketh Village Hall
Stone Circles of Cumbria – Gabriel Blamires Tel. 016974 73511
-  11 Lorton and Derwent Fells LHS Yew Tree Hall, High Lorton
The Railway History of West Cumbria – Peter van Zeller Tel. 01900 85482
-  15 Holme and District LHS Burton in Kendal Memorial Hall
The Lost Sheep of Westmorland – Philip Onions Tel. 01524 782121
-  15 Upper Eden History Society Kirkby Stephen Grammar School
Ravenstonedale, Then and Now – Caroline Morris Tel. 017683 41007

about the history of shops in Ambleside has captured the imagination of others, and volunteers are putting together an online map locating the old businesses. Selected extracts from the archive of over 400 recordings will soon be available to a wider audience. The Group is currently completing an illustrated book covering a range of themes, which draws on both the oral archive as well as many unpublished photographs from private collections. It is anticipated that this book will be published late in 2010 or during 2011 and will be called *Voices of Lakeland*.

Jane Renouf
Chair, AOHG

Insurance for Local History Societies

The Federation recommends that member societies who organise events should consider taking out public liability insurance, and we have in the past suggested that membership of the British Association for Local History (BALH) provides an insurance that should cover most eventualities, as a benefit of BALH membership.

If you arrange talks or other meetings in a village hall, or at a commercial venue, then the premises and the facilities supplied should be covered by the insurance policy of the venue. However, there are still mishaps than can occur, perhaps involving the equipment brought in or the catering for example, that could be at the risk of the organisers.

Many societies now arrange outings, or visits to historical sites, that pose more obvious risks to the participants and to third parties, particularly on fell or farmland. Of course we all do a risk assessment in advance, and make sensible

arrangements to guard against dangers to our participants, other people and property. But there can always be accidents or unforeseeable events that might result in a claim, which will fall on the society members if you have no public liability insurance.

Some societies will have their own policies, but it is usually prohibitive to have a policy specially provided for a small society through a broker. The specialised general schemes, such as that offered by BALH as part of membership, have the advantage of no extra charge for each society. Membership costs £58 per calendar year for a society and for this you get public liability insurance for the activities covered by the policy, up to a limit of £5,000,000 – plus *The Local Historian* of course. This is good value for peace of mind, although you cannot expect the insurance to cover running commercial operations, or an archaeological excavation. The website www.balh.co.uk gives full information about BALH with the insurance details on www.balh.co.uk/insurance.php. BALH can be contacted at PO Box 6549, Somersal Herbert, Ashbourne, DE6 5WH or e-mail info@balh.co.uk for an information pack.

Derek Denman
Treasurer, CLHF

The Bulletin

This issue of the CLHF bulletin is under a slightly odd form of joint editorship. Contributions have been provided via Jenni Lister and Derek Denman as in previous issues, but as the proposed incoming editor, I have been given the chance to try out a few ideas in advance of the AGM. I hope you like the new designs for the front and for the Events Diary, and aren't too worried about the

disappearance of the Contents list; all criticisms and suggestions concerning those and other aspects of the Bulletin will be welcomed.

If all goes well at the AGM, the next issue of the Bulletin may see some changes in content. I hope to emphasise a “bottom-up” approach to local history, with plenty of encouragement for individual enterprise contributing to Cumbria’s local history resources. In particular, I would like much of that encouragement to come from societies and individuals who have tried stretching their abilities- whether or not their ambitions have been fulfilled.

*David Bradbury,
CLHF Bulletin editor*

HISTORY AS TIME- MACHINE

Historypin and its rivals

This spring, CLHF was contacted by the creators of www.historypin.com, a website designed to interface with Google Street View to pin historic data, with time references, onto modern mapping, and even to pin historic images onto corresponding Street View scenes. It should be explained from the outset that Historypin is not really aimed at local history societies with ambitious projects, but directly at individuals. The hope is that users will interact with the material which becomes available, so that, for example, anybody with a story related to a particular photograph can easily submit and link it, or anybody with additional images showing the same place at different times can add those too. A similar facility, without the Street View superimposition, is <http://www.sepiatown.com/>

Google have involved themselves directly with the Historypin project, which

also uses their Picasa web storage facility for easy image uploading. In theory, it’s a brilliant system, but it has had a few problems, some of the teething variety, others of a more fundamental nature. The sample frame below, a Sillioth scene from the early 1960s, shows one- the designers did not build in enough flexibility for satisfactory viewing on small screens.

Also, a close study of the publicity for Historypin shows that the lovely superimpositions of old images on Streetview scenes tend to have one thing in common- the old images were taken from points in the middle of the road, such as now-lost traffic islands. In reality, very few historic photographs were taken from the same viewpoints as Street View scenes, because for the most part, photographers standing where the Street View car now happily trundles would not, even a century ago, survive very long. I hope the example given here demonstrates something approaching the reality of the superimposition system.

Still, Historypin offers an obvious way round the superimposition problem- just go out and take your own modern photos from the same viewpoints as the historical images, and put them on Historypin at the same positions in space, but at their own points in time. I’ve done this for a selection of Sillioth views (just search for Sillioth) from the 1890s, sepia tinting the modern photos



to remind viewers that a seaside resort in the late-Victorian was probably no less colourful than the same place today.

Ultimately, however, the champion in this field may turn out to be Google Earth. Although the facility to superimpose user-generated images onto Street View in Google Earth is still in its infancy, it seems likely to become extraordinarily effective. Even without that ability, we here in Cumbria can take spectacular advantage of the terrain modelling facility. Maps of an area, when superimposed on the relevant section of Google Earth, mould themselves automatically to the shape of the land, so that viewers can fly through them like Harry Potter, skimming over place-names and symbols and being flung upwards with the slope of the virtual fells (and note how elegantly uncluttered the screen appears).

At present, only the "Pro" version of Google Earth offers the facility to pin objects in time as well as space- in theory. For practical purposes, however, it turns out to be surprisingly easy to cheat, using a very basic text editing program such as Windows Notepad. Learning the basics of putting an object in place on Google Earth is pretty easy- it's just a matter of clicking the "Add" menu and selecting the type of object you want to add, then showing Google where on the Internet your object is stored, and pushing and pulling a bit until you're happy with the positioning. Having mastered that you can swiftly

move on to putting several objects in a single folder (which you create via the same menu). These objects can be images, ground overlays such as maps (or, presumably, photos taken from elevated viewpoints, though I've never tried that myself), graphic, text, or even (another avenue I have only just begun exploring) virtual models.

Once you've created and saved such a folder full of objects (and made a copy for safety), then the cheating begins. If you start up your notepad-type program and use it to open the file created for your folder of objects, you'll find that it doesn't appear on screen as binary code, but as a list of instructions (albeit with odd punctuation marks). To add a time dimension for each object, all you have to do is type some simple instructions, such as:

```
<TimeSpan>
<begin>1930</begin>
<end>1936</end>
</TimeSpan>
```

and paste them into the instructions for the relevant object (for ease of later editing, I always paste my time references immediately after the command </description> which should appear in the instruction set for every object. Save the file again when you've finished and you should find that when you open it in Google Earth, a time-line appears and objects only show at the right periods in time.

My experiment with presenting pre-dam Haweswater (sadly I haven't yet learned to change the water level in the terrain modelling) is at

<http://www.pastpresented.info/Haweswater.kmz>
but there are many "Google Earth mashups" being produced for historical study, some very jazzy indeed, as seen in the Scottish examples at
<http://geo.nls.uk/urbhist/examples.html>

David Bradbury



Pathé News

Your expertise is needed regarding local history in Cumbria.

Between 1897 and 1970, in addition to major world events, British Pathé recorded many hours of the way we live on the British Isles and this, naturally, includes footage of Cumbria. Your society's members can assist with identifying some of the people, places and events that are not included on the canister notes to ensure that the newsreel history of Cumbria is correct for future generations.

All you and your members need to do is visit the British Pathé website (www.britishpathe.com) and search for places, people and events in Cumbria and having watched the films check the notes. If you find an inaccuracy or omission please email us the film ID and the new information you have identified: localhistory@britishpathe.com. This can be done a few films at a time. It does not matter if information is duplicated by different people as this helps corroborate the information.

We look forward to hearing from you and your members and thank you in advance for helping to ensure the nation's newsreel archive is accurately documented.

Alastair White, P.N. General Manager

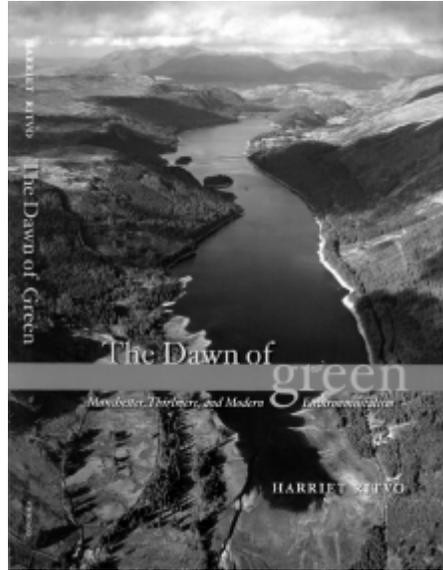
June Hall's course

June's course at Higham Hall on 27-29 August, mentioned in the Events Diary, is practically-based (including a village visit), emphasising first-hand observation and documentary evidence, and exploring a variety of routes to publication. *Booking details from Higham Hall, Tel 017687 76276 www.highamhall.com*

Books

The Dawn of Green: Manchester, Thirlmere and Modern Environmentalism, by Harriet Ritvo

Published by the University of Chicago Press, 2009, ISBN 978-0-226-72082-1 RRP \$26 US or £14.30 from Amazon. Hardback, 240pp, 60 mono illustrations.



This excellent and very readable historical study considers the creation of the Thirlmere Reservoir and the annexation of its catchment in the 1870s, as an early model for subsequent clashes between industrialisation and environmentalism. By the time of the struggle to occupy Thirlmere, both Manchester and the Lake District had been travelling for 100 years towards their definitions as opposite extremes. Manchester represented science and industrialisation, man's mastery of nature. The Lake District represented the antithesis, the Romanticism of pre-in-

dustrial man working with nature in a semi-natural landscape.

The political and cultural dimensions of the Thirlmere debate, before, during and after the events of the 1870s are well understood and addressed by Harriet Ritvo. Despite the expectations of the title, the author does not approach the study from the point of view of an environmentalist, does not seek to 'speak for the trees', but considers both sides from their own interests, histories, and cultures. The process of their interaction is then examined with a view to teasing out those aspects which are of the essence of a clash between environment and industrial interests, and how those aspects were developed in subsequent territorial contests around the world.

For anyone interested in the history of North West England as a whole, and its increasing geographical diversity in the industrial period, this book is essential reading as well as an example of the best historical writing. The one disappointment is the quality of reproduction of the numerous illustrations, a compromise too far in favour of utility at the expense of aesthetics.

Derek Denman

A Safe Haven. Evacuees in Keswick 1939-1945, edited by Brian Wilkinson
Published by Bookcase, 19 Castle St., Carlisle, CA3 8SY
2010, no ISBN. £12 (+ £1.50 by post).

The Bookcase in Carlisle has a long tradition of publishing substantial books on specialised aspects of local history, sold in the shop and its associated Bookends outlets at Carlisle and Keswick. "A Safe Haven" is a welcome addition to the range, dealing one of the most fascinating aspects of the Home Front in the Second World War. Brian Wilkinson has contacted the various institutions which

were evacuated to Keswick during the War, and used both official records and personal reminiscences (solicited through local newspapers) to depict the sometimes strained, occasionally magical experiences of the young people who found themselves unexpectedly resident in the shadow of the Cumbrian mountains.

Most of the contributors are women, because most of the institutions which took evacuees to Keswick were girls' schools (and a women's college- Lucretia Odensi, pictured on the cover, as seen on page 3 of this Bulletin, was not a big schoolgirl but a young student teacher from St. Katharine's College in Liverpool). Boys' lives at Keswick are represented mostly by stories of evacuees from various schools in the North-East. The Roedean chapter, more than any other, features extracts from several published works, in addition to new personal narratives.

The work is not heavily illustrated; as usual, the shortage of film in the Second World War has a major impact on the recording of ordinary life. The quality of the photos which have been provided is variable, and many show the contributors at the time they wrote their pieces, but those taken during the war provide some interesting glimpses of the ordinary (a bunch of cheery Brownies) and the unusual (digging for victory).

Overall, the book is a great achievement, and one which I hope will be emulated by others. The approach of inviting contributions through local newspapers has worked very well, and clearly shows the scale of resources available for the telling of "human interest" stories connected with the major events of the 20th century.

David Bradbury

And finally . . .

COME TO THE 2010 CLHF CONVENTION!

25 September

Newton Rigg campus, Penrith

Several of the speakers are well-known, including Vicky Slowe, curator of the Ruskin Museum, at Coniseton, on "The Significance of Objects for the Local Historian", and, straight after lunch, a proper "Show and Tell" session with six enthusiasts revealing the delights of seemingly ordinary objects.

Two of the speakers are well-known curators, Stuart Eastwood of the King's Own Border Regiment Museum, and Helen Clifford of the Swaledale Museum, lead the popular afternoon practical sessions, then the final themed presentation comes from Jeff Cowton, curator of the Wordsworth Trust Museum.

All that for just £12 ... (£15 if you're not a CLHF affiliate).

Download a Convention booking leaflet at www.cumbrialocalhistory.org.uk

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