



Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group met at the Quaker Meeting House, Cockermouth.

## Chairman's Chat.

Here is the first Chairman's Chat under the auspices of Nigel, our new Editor. We're delighted to welcome him aboard and look forward to him moulding the Bulletin to his own style. To spare his blushes I won't say more, only add that he volunteered in the nick of time – June and I were able to remove the chains and padlocks from the AGM venue doors and discreetly put away the thumbscrews we held in readiness. I trust you're all grateful to Nigel! I do urge you all to support him by inundating him with tasty snippets about your, or your society's, activities and interests, particularly in the areas he has suggested. Remember the Bulletin only succeeds if CLHF members (that's thee & me) take an active role in keeping it interesting. And don't forget to make sure ALL members see the Bulletin either this copy or on the website.

This year I am sad to announce that there is no Local History Day with Alan Crosby planned in the way I used to organise it, although it's still possible FOCAS may be able to host an event.

However Alan and I are talking of an event (date to be arranged), and I would appreciate expressions of interest and suggestions for subjects of wide appeal, as we shall only have one chance to get it right! I shall be looking for a venue in West Cumbria, preferably with parking reasonably close, and maybe only having a half day. I would be grateful for comments, ideas and proposals, so on with the thinking caps, please.

Finally, on behalf of the CLHF Committee and me, may we wish you a very happy, healthy and locally-historical New Year!

Jenni Lister

## Introducing me, the new Bulletin Editor.

I don't know what came over me at the CLHF AGM on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 at Newbiggin Village Hall. I regularly attend these events as the representative from my own society, Cartmel Peninsula LHS, and I was planning as usual to listen attentively and look interested but above all to keep quiet, as most of us seem to do at an AGM! So what happened? Perhaps it was the stop at Cranstons for their superb breakfast, perhaps it was the coffee and biscuits served at Newbiggin on arrival or perhaps being so far north the air was too thin for me. To be honest it was none of these. I had been thinking about volunteering and then seeing Jenni's growing despondency I gave in!

In agreeing to be co-opted to the CLHF Committee as the editor I was assured that I can do it my way. However my view is that the Bulletin edited by David Bradbury was always a good read and especially so when it contained contributions from member groups and individuals. David's IT skills are more advanced than mine so inevitably there will be differences in format due to this but things will improve! I will continue to welcome, encourage and rely on members to contribute items of interest. There is more about this later in this issue. Best Wishes and Happy New Year.

Nigel Mills

## Contents

Chairmans Chat – Jenni Lister	Cover
Introduction & Contents	2
Editors Thoughts	3
CLHF AGM – Robert Baxter	3
CLHF Annual Convention – June Hall	4
Oral Storytelling Network – Jenni Lister	6
CLHF Members Area - Liaison between Members	7
- Exchange of Ideas	7
The Great War – Research by Cartmel Peninsula LHS	8
Can you Help?	10
News from Cumbria County History Trust	11
CLHF Membership News – Sally Newton	11
Events of Interest	12
Cumbria Vernacular Building Group	12
Events Diary	13
Historical Walk – L&DFLHS	16
Report of the LDNP Archaeology Conference – David Bradbury	17
Financial Matters – Ray Newton	19
Final Thoughts & Contacts	20

## Editor's Thoughts.

So as I am now a co-opted member of the CLHF Committee and Bulletin Editor to boot I felt I should start by looking at why the federation is in existence and what its stated objectives and aims are. The Constitution was approved at the inaugural meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> October 1992 and one of the CLHF's main aims is to:

*"provide a means of liaison between organisations interested in Cumbrian local history and a forum for exchange of ideas and information"*

The other 4 are.....sorry you will have to wait until future issues to see these. In this issue I want to encourage and urge all member societies and individuals to help me fulfil the above aim using the Bulletin as the means by which we liaise and exchange ideas and information. Later in this Bulletin I introduce two themes with this in mind. Please let me know whether you think these themes help achieve this aim and also send your contributions to me on [nigelmillspp@gmail.com](mailto:nigelmillspp@gmail.com) as soon as you like or by 31/03/2015 . Thank you.

## CLHF AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 – Report by Robert Baxter.



At Newbiggin Village Hall a well-attended meeting heard from our **Chair, Jenni Lister**, that 2014 had been a somewhat quiet but not an easy year. Branch Officers had suffered bereavements and difficulties, and we had little response from the membership for the bulletin editor's role. Thankfully this has now been resolved with the generous help of Nigel Mills who has now stepped forward!

Jenni thanked the Treasurer and Membership Secretary for their excellent work and also June Hall for her time and efforts in organising the Convention. She also thanked David Bradbury who has reorganised the CLHF website, which has become increasingly important as the main point of contact for all sorts of enquiries that the Chair and Secretary receive.

Our **Membership Secretary, Sally Newton**, reported that 50 Groups and 34 individuals are currently members. Thanks to David Bradbury's work on the website, Sally can now tweak member group contact details and can publicise group events even quicker as she now has direct access to edit the website.

Our **Treasurer, Ray Newton**, reported that 2013 had been another successful year and there was a healthy balance at the bank of £2,696.35. He thanked Maureen Denby for her free auditing of our accounts. The Chair proposed purchase of flowers/wine as thanks to Maureen and proposed that our balance would allow us to do some smaller events as well as the annual convention.

Our **Web Editor, David Bradbury**, had changed the web site to allow any member of the committee to update it. The front page can now allow those with access to drop news items and photographs into to it. Our hosting costs are now subject to a modest rise.

Our Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer were all re-elected unopposed, and David Bradbury, Richard Brockington June Hall and Sally Newton were all re-elected as Committee members.

There was one point of other business which was a proposal from Stuart Cresswell that the examiner of the accounts be subject to appointment by the membership at the AGM. The proposal was passed. The AGM was followed by lunch and the CLHF Convention.

## CLHF Annual Convention 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014– Report by June Hall.

For the second year, the Annual Convention was held in Newbiggin Village Hall, near Stainton. This seems to be a very suitable venue, with a large room for the conference and several displays by local societies, a well equipped kitchen, a smaller room for lunch and plenty of parking space. It has the advantage of being fairly central to Cumbria, situated near the junction of the M6 and the A66.

First came the AGM, when the committee was re-elected en bloc, and Nigel Mills volunteered to edit the Bulletin, which appears here, after too long a gap. We are all very grateful to Nigel.

The programme for the day consisted of two halves; the morning session devoted to the place of folklore and magic in local history, and afternoon contributions addressing the practicalities of establishing, managing and sustaining a local archive.

June Hall introduced the part that folklore, tradition, magic and superstition has played over the centuries in the psyche of communities. Before the Age of Enlightenment, and the scientific approach to medicine, the only resorts, in the face of illness and misfortune were religion, tradition and folk magic. Wise men and women provided spells, incantations and potions, and by mysterious incantations, claimed to divine the future, discover criminals and the whereabouts of lost property; witches were blamed for loss, damage and harm to livestock; and homes were protected from evil by certain marks over doors, windows and near hearths. It was thought that wherever the air could gain access,

so could the devil or the witch. These apotropaic symbols include the “daisy wheel” (a circle with a six-petalled flower shape inside), and the “witch posts” as seen on the North York Moors and in Lancashire. We have yet to discover examples of the latter in Cumbria. Deposits in the floor near the hearth or the threshold, thought to counteract evil, include the long bone of a horse, a glass bottle containing iron filings, and leather, usually in the form of a shoe.

Jean Scott Smith, of Shap Local History Society, gave a fascinating insight into the folk traditions of Cumbria. She has spent many years researching the subject, and included descriptions of the rush-bearing ceremonies which survive in the county, at Grasmere, Ambleside, Great Musgrave and Warcop. Her talk included many customs related to life’s vital events, of birth and baptism, courtship and marriage, and death and burial. Clothes, food, and ceremonies were used according to long-standing traditions, in some cases, into the twentieth century, and in the case of rush-bearing, are still carried on.

An account of the life of a white witch, living near Alston in the mid twentieth century, was given by June Hall, based on research by Richard Wilson. Eleanor Bone, who lived and worked in Cumbria before going to London, became one of the leading figures in the popular revival of witchcraft in the 1950s. She adopted the name of Artemis for her activities and became a high priestess in 1953. Many sensational newspaper articles appeared and there were television programmes about her. As a White Witch, she professed to carry out rituals and ceremonies for the good of fellow humanity. She moved to Clarghyll Hall, Alston, in 1972, and is buried in Garrigill.

Richard Brockington told the story of the Renwick Cockatrice. Firstly, he defined the fabulous beast, also known as a basilisk. Such a figure appears on a misericord in Carlisle Cathedral, and was a medieval symbol resembling a cock with a serpent’s tail. Richard told the story of how, when Renwick Church was being demolished, one of the workers saw a cockatrice fly out of the



stonework, hit it, and it disappeared. On the basis of this deed, he claimed exemption from paying tithes, as did an eighteenth-century descendant. In fact, the dates of the rebuilding of the church do not tally with the supposed event, so the mystery continues. In the afternoon, two local history societies gave really thorough accounts of the reference collections they have built up over some years. Richard Cann, of Sedbergh,

told of the premises the society uses, above the Tourist Information Centre. He described the type of material they collect, how it is filed, and the access for society members, local residents and visitors. Maps, census returns, tithing apportionments and enclosure awards, trade directory entries, old photographs and many other categories of record are kept, in copy form, in a colour-coded filing system, and are being continually added to.

Eileen Risk told of the work involved in creating the Crosby Ravensworth Parish Collection of resources for local and family historians. With the support of Crosby Ravensworth Parish Council and grants from the *Heritage Lottery Fund* and *Awards for All*, the volunteers have created a research facility open to all, at regular times, and are prepared to open by appointment. As at Sedbergh, the usual categories of material are included, with house histories, oral accounts, local ephemera and monumental inscriptions.

Both societies emphasised the fact that original material was passed on to County Record Offices. They acknowledged the help, advice and training received from the county archive service and stressed the amount of hard work needed to establish, run and maintain such a facility, but also, the very worthwhile and valuable role that it plays in the local and wider community.

There was time to examine and discuss displays and publications by societies, and to enjoy the delicious refreshments provided by the Watermill Café, at Caldbeck.

During the general discussion, the question of support for local history societies in the county was raised. One suggestion was that local societies could meet in small area groups. This idea has been taken up by Shap LHS, who have arranged to invite neighbouring societies to join them for an informal afternoon in March. The aim is to share ideas, discuss projects, and generally understand the work being undertaken in the area. This may be the first of many such gatherings.

The theme for the 2015 Annual Convention has not yet been chosen. Requests and suggestions are welcome. (Please e-mail June Hall direct. Editor.)

## Oral Storytelling Network – Jenni Lister.

I have been contacted by Andrew Mulcahy who has invited members of the CLHF to participate in a newly formed and still developing on-line social network that focuses on oral storytelling. This may be of interest to members developing an oral history archive or who have a general interest in this aspect of local history. The website address is <http://inecdotes.com> and it features a map where users can pin videos of themselves narrating stories or anecdotes relevant to a particular place. Guidance on use of the website is on <http://inecdotes.com/#/landing-page> and Andrew can be contacted through the website.

(Please let me know if you make use of this offer. Editor.)

## CLHF Members Area.

The membership of CLHF includes some 70 plus groups and individual members all of whom have an interest in the local history of our county. As the reason for this Bulletin is to keep you all in touch with each other I hope you will circulate it or the website link to your members. I



also hope group members and individuals feel they can contribute thoughts on one or both of the following two themes adopted for 2015. Comments and responses to the Editor please.

### Theme 1:- Liaison between Members.

At our AGM the suggestion was floated that area gatherings of CLHF Members and Groups might be an interesting way of helping individuals and societies develop their local history interests.

The CLHF Committee fully back this idea and one member group, Shap LHS is already planning this. Please see Events of Interest on page 12. The format can be decided by those groups involved and CLHF support is available. Please let

the editor know if this is something your group would be interested in.

### Theme 2:- Exchange of ideas.

Each member group and individual member of CLHF will have their own group or personal local history interest, I know I do, which may be very specific to them or more general to a particular area. However there are nationally historical events that have a local perspective and can stimulate local research. The anniversary of the First World War otherwise known as The Great War is one such subject and an event that probably affected every community in one way or another.

Many of you as individuals or within your society will have researched aspects of WWI or are planning to do so and possibly present to your community. I am sure this will be of great interest to other members so please let me know what you plan or have done and how you went about it. What resources did you use and did you perhaps find out something really unique about the impact of war on your locality. Please let me know so that I can print your responses in the next Bulletin. Email and deadline can be found on the last page of this Bulletin.

The following research is on The Great War and has been contributed by the Cartmel Peninsula LHS. It initially highlights the Parish Magazine as a useful resource and secondly describes a very successful community effort in researching the 11 names of men from Allithwaite who lost their lives in The Great War.

## The Great War – Research by Cartmel Peninsula LHS.

As 2014 marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of The Great War we arranged a lecture by local man Howard Martin entitled “Cartmel Valley and the Great War”. Howard told us about the local men who lost their lives and are forever remembered on our War Memorials. This prompted two avenues of research.

**The first being an examination of Cartmel Parish Magazine issued in the early months of 1914.** In it church news included reflections on the recent services, upbeat reports from various groups like The Girls’ Friendly Society and Cartmel A.F.C. and extracts from the Church Accounts. However from the August 1914 edition a more sombre tone becomes pervasive. The Rev. Smith reflects the need for prayer and practical help.



*“The gloom of a great catastrophe is hanging over us all, and we expect each morning when we open our papers to find that we as a nation which sought*

*no quarrel, but only asked for peace, are caught in the maelstrom of European strife. It may be that before these lines are in print honour will have pointed out the hard way for us: if so, we must not be afraid to take it. Here in a little country place we can do our share, by keeping our heads, by practising every economy, and learning willingly to endure a hardness which may soon be ours without choice, by responding to the calls and obeying the orders of those in authority, and by praying to God to bring peace and blessing even out of so terrible a cataclysm as this”.*

In the September magazine the Rev. Smith prepares the people of Cartmel for what is to come saying “*The time is coming when we must be prepared to face bravely the death of those very dear to us.*” and urges readers to “*think very much of the Kingdom of God of which we are members and we must feel that even if called from this world they are still with us at home and under the care of the one Father.*” The magazines are recommended as a rich source of information and open up several avenues for further research for local research.

**The second avenue of research is described below and was into the eleven “Allithwaite Boys” who died in the Great War and are remembered on the war memorial at St Mary’s Church, Allithwaite, Grange-over-Sands.**

In the Spring of 2014, CPLHS was approached by 2 members of Allithwaite Church, Mervyn and Carole Hull, to help with research into the men killed in World War One whose names



appear on the War Memorial on the outside east wall of the church. Two members who lived in the parish, Pat from Kents Bank and Barbara from Allithwaite, volunteered to help. 11 names were on the memorial and Pat researched their lives and families before they enlisted and Barbara looked



at where and how they died. Where possible Carole visited local families of the men and Mervyn involved Allithwaite School in the project. Pat initially used the Cumbria newspaper database of WW1 soldiers to identify reported information and then viewed microfiches of the Westmorland Gazettes at Kendal Library Local Studies section. Census records were also viewed. Allithwaite School records could not be found; we thought some information might have been recorded in the daily log. As some soldiers were named on more than one memorial she got some information from Howard Martin's website, *Cartmel Valley War Memorials* and from a booklet *A Book of Remembrance of the men commemorated on Grange-over-Sands War Memorial* published 2011 and researched and written by Frank Brooks and Peter Robinson. She also found information on one of the men in the *West Wales War Memorial Project*, a website compiled by Steve John. A family website provided background

information on the career of one of the soldiers. One soldier's history evaded the group, a false trail led to Canada but this soldier survived the war so not him. Eventually a plea in the local paper led to a reader discovering information on the correct soldier from one of the genealogical research sites. Pat also looked at church records to discover details of the memorial and how the decisions were made to include which names. Although she discovered that a committee had been formed for the establishment of the memorial, no minutes were found. Newspaper reports of the unveiling of the East Memorial Window and the memorial stone were more informative.

Barbara initially looked at the war records and medal rolls index cards for each soldier using *Ancestry* and *National Archives* websites, which gave their service numbers and other information such as date enlisted, personal descriptions, details of regiments and country where fought. Unfortunately not all war records are available as some were destroyed in WW2. She also researched the regiments that the men had enlisted in, using the regimental websites and where the men were at the time they died. Websites such as *The Long, Long Trail*, *Forces War Records* and *Wikipedia* were used to understand the various consolidation of regiments and battalions and the battles and movements that those battalions and armies were involved in. In addition the final resting places of the men were researched and the memorials for those whose graves were never known. The *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* website had that specific information.

Carole Hull met some family members and in some cases families had no information but in other cases a rich story was told and she was shown personal artefacts and letters. One widow visited her husband's grave in 1922 bringing back a wooden cross which is hanging in Allithwaite church. This information led to research about the establishment of the War Graves Commission and the visits by family members in the early 1920s. One soldier's name was not added to the memorial until 1999 after his immediate family had died and the younger members explained that was because their grandparents could not come to terms with his death.

A presentation to about 100 people was held in Allithwaite Church on the evening of 4 November when the men's stories were told alongside poetry from schoolchildren and accompanied by slides of the village in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the homes of the soldiers, a photograph of the local schoolchildren in 1903, photographs of battle grounds and military cemeteries. Music and poetry reminiscent of WW1 accompanied the talk which added poignancy to the presentation. It was



videod and photographed and a presentation pack will be produced later this year. The information researched was displayed around the church for a few days which included Remembrance Sunday. The display will

be put up again in Grange library from 25 May to 25 June 2015.

A number of local people have now come forward with further information about family members killed in WW1 and this information will be added to the knowledge already held. We are planning to produce a booklet of all of the research and the information will be put on the Imperial War Museum project *Lives of the First World War* website.

Pat Rowland and Barbara Copeland  
January 2015

## Can you help?

No members' page would be complete without requests for help. Please let me know if you have questions for other members or need some advice on anything connected with local history in Cumbria. I will start this off with two questions:

Question 1: Can anyone suggest a good publisher to use for the publishing of a 90 page local history book please?

Question 2; Recent signpost restoration in the south Lakes has resulted in several finger posts now sporting a black and white ringed design rather than the grey colour that I have been familiar with for 30 years plus. Does anyone know when the grey paint replaced the original black and white design if indeed it did please?

Responses to me please. Editor.

## News from Cumbria County History Trust. (CCHT)

Richard Brockington is the CLHF nominated trustee on the CCHT and has received the following update from Dr Sarah Rose Deputy Editor of The Victoria County History Project:

There are currently more than forty townships/parishes assigned to our volunteer drafters, who are making steady progress. Since the autumn, a VCH article for the township of Gamblesby has been completed and posted on the CCHT website. This is the eighth completed article, and joins the existing articles for Mosser, Renwick, Skelsmergh, Helsington, Kirkby Lonsdale, Casterton and Barbon. In the past few months, revisions have been made to the guidance for the Economic and Social History sections of VCH articles, found in the VCH Volunteer Handbook. This is so that that Handbook's Cumbrian-specific advice ties in more closely with the national VCH guidelines. These revised guidance notes are freely available on the Handbook page of the CCHT website. You can now also be kept informed the updates made to the CCHT website by clicking on the 'Subscribe' button under 'Follow' at the bottom of the homepage. You will then receive weekly emails informing you of all new items added to the website.

Any member or Society wishing to know more about the project can contact me, Richard Brockington, on 01228-560740 or at [richardbrockington08@gmail.com](mailto:richardbrockington08@gmail.com)"

## CLHF Membership News – Sally Newton.

**Subscriptions are now due for 2015. Please see enclosed form.**

We have 45 groups and 32 individual members as 2014 closes. We have lost 2 groups which have unfortunately had to close, but then we have gained 2 individual members from those groups. We haven't heard from 15 other groups and so assume they have folded but confirmation to me by email would help.

The details you include on the Subscription renewal form for 2015 (*see enclosed or website for application form*) are used in promoting your group on our web site and so contact names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses especially need to be easy for me to read. I understand why so many of you now want to be anonymous under the general titles of "The Secretary" or "The Chairman" but it would be nicer to have an actual name, which we could keep confidential, so if necessary a member of the Committee can telephone or email you on a more personal basis. Our new bulletin Editor may want to check some facts with you or June Hall may want to contact you about a future Convention. Sending a cheque with a blank renewal form, or even just a cheque, causes me confusion. All I can do is repeat the previous year's details and hope they are still relevant. As you know from the web site, details of Group Events are now shown up to December 2015.

## Events of Interest (In addition to Events Diary).

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015;** Lancaster Archaeology and History Society, “Castle Dairy, Kendal” by Dan Elsworth at St Pauls Hall, Scotforth, Lancaster at 7.30pm. Visitors £3.

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2015;** Shap LHS are holding an informal get together with tea and cake. An opportunity to discuss and show your own society’s projects, ideas, publications etc. Tables available. Please contact Liz Kerrey by e-mail on [lizkerrey@gmail.com](mailto:lizkerrey@gmail.com) by 28<sup>th</sup> February 15.

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015;** Staveley District History Society, “Slate Quarrying in the Lake District” by Andy Lowe at Staveley School 7.30pm.

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015;** Kendal Library “Edward Wakefield –Kendal luminary, aviation pioneer, soldier and social reformer” by John Gordon his biographer and descendant. 7.30pm in the library £1.50.

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015;** Ravenstonedale Parish History Group, “Lakeland Architecture” by Andy Lowe at High Chapel Community and Heritage Centre 7.30pm Tel 015396 23306.

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2015;** Cumbria Industrial History Society Conference at Shap Wells Hotel. Theme is “Industry and the Arts in Cumbria – a look at links between industry and the arts”. See [www.cumbria-industry.org.uk](http://www.cumbria-industry.org.uk) for details.

## Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group.

The CVBG held a study day on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2014 in the Quaker Meeting House, Cockermouth with the subject of The Great Rebuild – How thorough was it? June Hall introduced the Great Rebuild which in itself proved to be quite a provocative subject not least because the period of the Great Rebuild is a much debated question with W G Hoskins putting it as c 1570-1640 and the evidence in Cumbria indicating c 1660 to 1730. June explained the evidence in Cumbria for favouring the later period and her introduction was followed by several presentations including Professor Michael Mullett presenting the work of CVBG Member Gordon Fairclough who could not be present and Christine Craghill who gave examples of buildings in Cumbria which showed evidence of the Great Rebuild. Barry Harrison then widened the study to characteristics of houses of the Great Rebuild in Yorkshire.

The CVBG is going from strength to strength and offers both the opportunity to learn about the buildings of Cumbria and an opportunity to learn how to record them in a thoroughly professional way. See [www.cvbgb.co.uk](http://www.cvbgb.co.uk) for further details. Editor.

## Events Diary

All meetings start at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated

### January 2015

17 <sup>th</sup>	SW Cumbria History & Arch. Society Archaeology at Holm Cultram	Market Hall Supper Room, Egremont Pat Bull & Gill Goodfellow
19 <sup>th</sup>	Whitehaven LHS A Collection of Pictures from Glass Plate	United Reform Church Hall, Whithaven Dave Banks
21 <sup>st</sup>	Ravenstonedale Parish History Group Ravenstonedale Retailers	Comm. & Heritage Centre, Raven'dale Val Fermer
26 <sup>th</sup>	Shap LHS Members Night	Memorial Hall Green Room, Shap
27 <sup>th</sup>	Duddon Valley LHG Richard Kirkby: Gentleman, Officer & Mutineer	Victoria Hall, Broughton in Furness Charles Rowntree
28 <sup>th</sup>	Mourholme LHS The Steamboats of Windermere	Village Hall, Yealand Redmayne Margaret Reid

### February 2015

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kendal Hist. & Arch. Society The General Strike Of 1926	Shakespeare Centre, Kendal Robin Smith
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bampton & District LHS The History of Shap Granite Works	Memorial Hall, Bampton Jean Scott-Smith
4 <sup>th</sup>	Friends of Keswick Museum Churches of the Roman Wall	Parish Room, Main St, Keswick Bruce Bennison
5 <sup>th</sup>	Cartmel Peninsula LHS Grizedale Hall-A Mansion fit for demolition	Village Hall, Cartmel
19 <sup>th</sup>	Ravenstonedale Parish History Group The Original Place Names of Cumbria	Comm. & Heritage Centre, Raven'dale Jean Scott-Smith
21 <sup>st</sup>	SW Cumbria History & Arch. Society George Moore 18 <sup>th</sup> Century Wigton	Market Hall Supper Room, Egremont Nigel Entwistle
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Shap LHS Appleby Fair	Memorial Hall Green Room, Shap Andy Connell
24 <sup>th</sup>	Duddon Valley LHG Millom Ironworks—The Great Survivor	Victoria Hall, Broughton in Furness Bill Myers

25 <sup>th</sup>	Mourholme LHS Local Metal Detecting Finds	Village Hall, Yealand Redmayne William Hargreaves
------------------	--	--

**March 2015**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kendal Hist. & Arch. Society Archaeological Discoveries in the South Tyne Landscape	Shakespeare Centre, Kendal Stewart Ainsworth
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bampton & District LHS The War Means Whisky	Memorial Hall, Bampton Michael Rose
4 <sup>th</sup>	Friends of Keswick Museum The Vikings of Cumwhitton	Rachel Newman
5 <sup>th</sup>	Cartmel Peninsula LHS The Dig in the Park- Sizergh Project	Jamie Lund
18 <sup>th</sup>	Ravenstonedale Parish History Group Lakeland Architecture	Andy Lowe
21	SW Cumbria History & Arch. Society Excavations at Maryport	Market Hall Supper Room, Egremont John Zant
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Shap LHS Flower at Acorn Bank	Memorial Hall Green Room, Shap Richard Harland & Bob Price
24 <sup>th</sup>	Duddon Valley LHG Westmorland – A Lost County	Victoria Hall, Broughton in Furness Janice Wilson
25 <sup>th</sup>	Mourholme LHS The Boundaries of Beetham Parish	Village Hall, Yealand Redmayne Peter Standing

**April 2015**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cartmel Peninsula LHS SY Gondola	Village Hall, Cartmel Dennis Whittaker
7 <sup>th</sup>	Bampton & District LHS Cattle Droving Through Cumbria	Memorial Hall, Bampton Peter Roebuck
13 <sup>th</sup>	Kendal Hist. & Arch. Society AGM & Quakers –Lonsdale Merchants	Shakespeare Centre, Kendal Mike Winstanley
18 <sup>th</sup>	Cumbria Industrial History Society Industry and the Arts in Cumbria	Shap Wells Hotel
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mourholme LHS AGM & What is That Part 2	Village Hall, Yealand Redmayne Geoff Wood

- |                  |   |   |
|------------------|---|---|
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | Shap LHS<br>Whitley Castle-Alstons Roman Fort       | Memorial Hall Green Room, Shap<br>Alastair Robertson    |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> | Duddon Valley LHG<br>Steam Yacht Gondola since 1860 | Victoria Hall, Broughton in Furness<br>Dennis Whittaker |

**May 2015**

- |                  |   |  |
|------------------|---|--|
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Cartmel Peninsula LHS<br>A Soldier of The Great War | Village Hall, Cartmel<br>Howard Martin         |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> | Shap LHS<br>AGM +Traditional Life in the Lake Dist. | Memorial Hall Green Room, Shap<br>Donald Angus |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> | Duddon Valley LHG<br>AGM                            | Victoria Hall, Broughton in Furness            |

**June 2015**

- |                  |   |  |
|------------------|---|--|
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Bampton & District LHS<br>Revisiting the History of Bampton | Memorial Hall, Bampton<br>Prof. Patricia Garside |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Shap LHS<br>Sliddale Hall visit-Members Only                | Memorial Hall Green Room, Shap                   |

**July 2015**

- |                  |  |                                |
|------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Bampton & District LHS<br>Annual BBQ       | Memorial Hall, Bampton         |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | Shap LHS<br>Return Visit to Yarnworth Hall | Memorial Hall Green Room, Shap |

**August 2015**

- |                  |                                   |                                |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 17 <sup>th</sup> | Shap LHS<br>Visit to Drybeck Hall | Memorial Hall Green Room, Shap |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|

**September 2015**

- |                  |  |  |
|------------------|--|--|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Cartmel Peninsula LHS<br>The Yellow Earl's Big Adventure | Village Hall, Cartmel<br>Dr Rob David            |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> | Shap LHS<br>Ninekirks, St Ninians, Brougham              | Memorial Hall Green Room, Shap<br>Tony Greenwood |

**October 2015**

- |                 |   |  |
|-----------------|---|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Cartmel Peninsula LHS<br>The Victoria County History Project      | Village Hall, Cartmel<br>Prof. Angus Wlinchester |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> | Bampton & District LHS<br>Northern England Hiring Fairs 1890-1938 | Memorial Hall, Bampton<br>Dr Stephen Counce      |

19 <sup>th</sup>	Shap LHS The Jacobite Rebellions	Memorial Hall Green Room, Shap Paul Heslop
------------------	-------------------------------------	---

**November 2015**

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bampton & District LHS Oral History of Farming in Dentdale	Memorial Hall, Bampton Anthea Boulton
-----------------	---	--

5 <sup>th</sup>	Cartmel Peninsula LHS AGM & Bring and Show	Village Hall, Cartmel
-----------------	---	-----------------------

14 <sup>th</sup>	Shap LHS Social Evening, Supper & Quiz	Memorial Hall Green Room, Shap Keith Richardson
------------------	---	--

**December 2015**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Bampton & District LHS Annual Quiz	Memorial Hall, Bampton
-----------------	---------------------------------------	------------------------

If your Society or Group is not included in the above it is not too late to let me know. Just email me details and I will include the dates in the next Bulletin due in April 2015. Editor .

**Historical Walk in Loweswater – Lorton & Derwent Fells LHS**

Dr Derek Denman led this historical walk in Loweswater in September 2014. It was a fine walk in good weather and an opportunity to learn about the influence of the church, private landowners, the medieval manor house, deer park and the influence of tourism in this area. The memory of the remains of a homesteading at Gillerthwaite and trying to keep up with Derek as he sprinted up the 1:4 fellside to Green Wood will remain with me forever. This was an enjoyable and well prepared walk with guidance notes and a map provided.

Refreshments at the Kirkstile Inn finished the walk in style.

Anon.



**A –Z Speakers List**

This is the last call for any speakers you recommend and wish to be added to the next A-Z. Please let Sally Newton know as soon as possible. Editor.



## Report of the LDNP Archaeology Conference at Keswick on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2014 by David Bradbury.

The 2014 Lake District National Park archaeology conference was held on 2 November in the Theatre by the Lake at Keswick. In his introduction, Prof. Jeremy Rowan-Robinson, chair of the Lake District's Historic Environment Advisory Group, reported successful development of the Volunteer Network, and a good year for Heritage Lottery funding. Eleanor Kingston of the National Park Authority then summarised recent conservation projects, referring to work at Coomb Height wolfram dressing mill and Roughton Gill china clay workings, near Caldbeck, and the protection of a lime kiln on Askham Fell from sheep damage. Eleanor also looked forward to new HLF-supported projects, Rusland Horizons and the Coniston Coppermines conservation project.

Holly Beavitt-Pike next provided an update on the archaeological progress of the Romans in Ravenglass project, where the 2013 trenches were re-opened, and a new one was dug across the line of the road leading east from the settlement. Most finds this year were dateable to around the 3rd century. The project will continue in 2015. John Hodgson rounded off the summary of National Park Authority activities with confirmation that the Lake District is to be the UK's World Heritage Site nomination for 2016, as a Cultural Landscape of Outstanding Universal Value. John finished by reporting that the in 2014 Volunteer Network has taken part in six Level 1 archaeological surveys, and bashed epic amounts of bracken, doing work worth some £44,100 at current HLF rates.

Jeremy Rowan-Robinson then returned, in his capacity as a supervisor of volunteer workers, to say more about the Level 1 surveys. One five-day survey in Furness this year revealed 135 previously unknown sites, including many



relics of the important local charcoal industry. Mervyn Cooper, also a supervisor, described the 2014 survey on Woodland Fell overlooking the south end of Coniston Water, which involved eight volunteers over nine days, and found 106 sites, including burial cairns, clearance cairns (typically in groups of 3 to 9), shepherds' huts and shelters.

Eleanor Kingston then gave details of three bloomery excavations in the final phase of the Windermere Reflections project, around the south end of the lake, and Ian Miller of Oxford Archaeology North described a fourth site, by the north shore of Blelham Tarn. It was noted that all the above investigations confirmed site identifications made by the late Mike Davies-Shiel. Eleanor returned briefly to explain that this was the last year of the Reflections on History project. Archaeological reports on all phases are available, and there is also a 68-page full-colour booklet, "Windermere Reflections: Reflections on History" (published by Oxford Archaeology North, ISBN 978-1-907686-19-1, price £5). The whole Reflections project has its own website, [www.windermere-reflections.org.uk](http://www.windermere-reflections.org.uk)

After lunch, the conference returned to the Romans in Ravenglass project, as Lisa Keys from Minerva Heritage explained the increasingly sophisticated outreach activities being used to increase public awareness and understanding of the site itself, and the archaeological techniques being used. Activities included school visits, an open day with experts from the Portable Antiquities Scheme, enabling people to report casual finds in their possession, site tours led by outreach volunteers, and open days featuring a Roman re-enactor. The Campaign for National Parks' Mosaic Project also brought 16-25-year-old visitors to the site, where they were able to try some hands-on archaeological work, from surveying to excavating. The project blog is at [ravenglassromans.blogspot.co.uk](http://ravenglassromans.blogspot.co.uk)

Next speaker was Paul Brown, an expert on the prehistoric rock art of northern England. He used the large boulder at Copt Howe in Great Langdale, where he and his wife found rock art in 1999, to illustrate some basic principles and problems (notably the difficulty of dating rock art unless it can be stratigraphically linked with dateable deposits). In question time he reported that in tests it took about 20 minutes to make a cup mark with stone tools (using a stone mallet).

After the tea-break, Jamie Lund of the National Trust reported on the excavation phase of the Levens Local History Group's Sizergh Park project, following on from the landscape survey conducted in 2010. A "burnt mound" by the main drive through the park was found to have been developed in phases from about the 25th to 20th centuries BCE, and to have a trough system to supply water, suggesting that it functioned somewhat like a sauna. Two trenches were dug to investigate a 200 metre long bank and ditch curving round the south-east of the formal gardens, but nothing was found which could give a reliable clue to its purpose or date. The project also conducted a survey of the Great Barn, using a Total System to obtain detailed and accurate measurements. Dendrochronology was also employed, finding that some trees had been felled in the mid 16th century. However, it was apparent that the timbers had been re-used from an earlier cruck-type barn design. The full report is available at [sizerghdiginthepark.wordpress.com](http://sizerghdiginthepark.wordpress.com) and a large format 28-page colour booklet "Sizergh Castle: 'Dig in the Park' " (ISBN 978-1-907686-17-7, price £5) is also available.

## Financial Matters – Ray Newton.

The Accounts for 2014 were presented by Ray and accepted by those present at the AGM. Ray introduced himself to me as a “mere number cruncher” but I am sure a lot of local societies would more than welcome an excess of income over expenditure of over £700 in 2013! (Editor)

### CUMBRIA LOCAL HISTORY FEDERATION ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2013

	2012	2013	EXPENDITURE	2012	2013
<b>INCOME</b>					
Federation Income:			Federation Expenditure		
Subscriptions: Societies	£600	£600.00	Bulletin printing	£340	£342.00
Subscriptions: Individuals	£360	£272.00	Stationery & Postage	£79	£92.50
Extra Bulletins	£11	£16.20	A-Z printing	£12	£12.00
Directories purchased	£0		Subscription FOCAS		
A-Z Speakers Lists purchased	£24	£24.00	Refund of overpayment for bulletins		
Donations	£6		Cumbria County History Trust		
Donations to Cumbria C H T	-		Accounts Financial Examination	£50	
			Room Hire	£37	
			Web Site Hosting		£15.11
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,001</b>	<b>£912.20</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£418</b>	<b>£461.61</b>
Convention 2012 Income:			Convention 2012 Expenditure:		
Convention fees	£560	£558.00	Hire of venue, lunch, refreshments	£461	£275.00
			Convention speakers	£50	
			Expenses (stationery, printing etc)	£52	£20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£560</b>	<b>£558.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£563</b>	<b>£295.00</b>
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>£1,561</b>	<b>£1,470.20</b>		<b>£980</b>	<b>£756.61</b>
Excess of Income over Expenditure		£713.59	Treasurer Mr R Newton		
Bank balance carried forward from 2012		£2,034.65	Date 29/07/2014		
		<u>£2,748.24</u>	Examiner Mrs M Denby		
		Sub-total	Date 30/07/2014		
Less £51.89 included in 2012 accounts		£51.89			
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2013</b>		<b>£2,696.35</b>			

## Final Thoughts from the Editor.

I have asked earlier for your contributions to the two themes of Liaison between Members and Exchange of Ideas between member groups and individuals and look forward to hearing from you on these subjects. I would also appreciate hearing from you, whether you are an individual member or a society or group, about your particular local history interests. If a society or group I would be pleased to receive a note of what you do and how you do it for inclusion in later Bulletins. For example do you organise lectures or trips, run research groups, produce newsletters, contribute to local newspapers or magazines etc etc.

So what do you think of my first Bulletin? What have I missed? What would you like me to include? Please let me know on [nigelmills@btinternet.com](mailto:nigelmills@btinternet.com) or telephone me on 015395 36603.

So as Jenni urges you in her Chairman's Chat please inundate me with tasty snippets. Of course if I don't hear from you then I am sorry but you will get to read even more about Cartmel. So be warned!

Finally to misquote John Ebdon "Anyway if you have been, thanks for reading". You will need to be of a certain age and a Radio 4 listener to understand this, or Google him of course!

Best wishes

Nigel

### CLHF Contacts

Chair & general contact	Jenni Lister	lister.jenni@gmail.com
Treasurer	Ray Newton	ray@raynewton.plus.com
Bulletin Editor	Nigel Mills	nigelmillspp@gmail.com
Secretary	Robert Baxter	rr.baxter@talktalk.net
Membership & Events Diary Secretary	Sally Newton	sally@raynewton.plus.com
Event Organiser	June Hall	junelennahall@hotmail.com
CCHT Trustee nominated by CLHF	Richard Brockington	Richardbrockington08@gmail.com