



Cumbria Local History Federation

Bulletin 78 – Winter 2018



Florence Mine (disused) Whitehaven © Jenni Lister

Chairman's Chat – Peter Roebuck	2
Future CLHF Events & booking	3
CLHF Members News	4
Local History Publications and Reviews	8
CLHF Event Review	12
CLHF Annual Convention Reports	13
CLHF Treasurers Report	18
CLHF Membership News	19
Cumbria Archive News	20
Help Requested	21
BALH Local History Day 2018	22
Cumbria Libraries British Newspapers On Line	23
Speaker Recommendations	24
Useful Websites	24
New Arrangements for the Bulletin	25
Events Listing	26

Chairman's Chat

A major surprise to me in the decade or so since I came permanently to Cumbria has been that every summer has been different from its predecessors – none more so than this year with its long spell of very warm weather, leading among other things to splendid results in the garden (and not just for the bees). It was against this benign background that the Federation enjoyed a most successful Convention in very comfortable circumstances at Newbiggin: a good crowd to listen to four excellent presentations on different aspects of Cumbrian history. The quality of work underway is impressive.

Also, at the AGM, in addition to agreement to modest increases in our subscription rates our proposed new Constitution was endorsed unanimously and we will now apply for charitable status which, if successful, promises to put our finances on a firmer footing. The new arrangements cater for a phased turnover in Committee membership and the first elections will take place at next year's AGM. The support you give to your local societies is invaluable: but why not consider a stint at the centre of the Federation?

Our efforts to assist the Cumbrian Archive Service have begun to bear fruit. Four volunteers are working on the Templeton photographic archive; material on the shelves of the search rooms at Carlisle is being catalogued and already, as noted in Adrian Allan's article below, searchers can access and search an online catalogue of a large proportion of these publications; and good progress has been made with the first stage of an application for grant-aid to bring the massive Musgrave archive into a single uniform catalogue.

Keep an eye on our forward programme and **join us if you can**. We have visits to the Helena Thompson Museum in Workington, to the Central Library in Carlisle and a trip to the Armitt Library in Ambleside to learn more about it and to receive a presentation from the Ambleside Oral History Group. Whatever else you do, enjoy your history. We all have selective memories, but history is our collective memory.

Peter Roebuck, Chairman peter.roebuck3@gmail.com 016974 73741

Future CLHF Events

Visit to the Helena Thompson Museum, Workington, on Thursday, 13 December 2018, 1.30 – 3.30 pm.

An opportunity to view the museum collections and a talk on John Christian Curwen, an agricultural pioneer who built nearby Schoose Farm. This was a demonstration farm, intended to show best practice. It included a windmill, a watermill, slaughter house, dairy and other “state of the art” features. £6. Bookings before 7th Dec please, refreshments included.

Visit to Central Library, Carlisle on Tuesday 22nd January 2019. 10.30-3.30 (lunch 12.30-1.30).

The Local Studies Librarian Stephen White will describe the background to the collections and lead a tour of the backrooms introducing the material on open access microfilm, online resources and indices. After lunch Peter Roebuck will present examples of material drawn from the Carlisle Journal. Free event. Early booking before 14th Jan please to secure a place as numbers are limited.

Visit to the Armitt Library, Ambleside Thursday 28th March 2019. 10.30 – 3.30 (lunch 12.30 – 1.30)

The Librarian Deborah Walsh will present details of the Library’s collection of printed material and the archival holdings. Jane Renouf of Ambleside Oral History Group will preside over one of the Group’s presentations “All in a Days Work” which deals with working life before and after the Second World War £3. Early bookings before 21st March to secure a place as numbers are limited.

All bookings to Liz Kerrey: lizkerrey@gmail.com

Cover image: This image was submitted by Jenni Lister who says that *Florence Mine was the last deep shaft iron ore mine in Europe, later converted to a drift mine. I was lucky to be able to visit it with the owner, Mr Gilbert Finlinson, before it closed in 2007. Sadly, since BNFL stopped pumping out water for Sellafield’s use, it is now entirely flooded.* It is now an Arts Centre www.florenceartscentre.com/florence-mine/

CLHF Members News.

Interest in recording and using Oral History for research is booming in Cartmel Peninsula LHS

Oral history did not initially form part of the historical research undertaken by the Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society (CPLHS). The importance of oral history to local research had always been acknowledged by CPLHS but it was the focus on oral history by two other local bodies that kick-started the interviews that have been recorded in the last 3 – 4 years. Cartmel Village Society (CVS) liaise with the CPLHS on various historical aspects, including historical documents, house histories and speakers. CVS involved CPLHS members in recording people who had memories of living and working in Cartmel. Some of these recordings were done with video and all the recordings, including transcripts and some photographs are on their website, cartmelvillagesociety.co.uk/oral-history. The CPLHS website - cplhs.wordpress.com – has a link to the CVS website.



Morecambe Bay Partnership (MBP) has developed projects celebrating and conserving the areas around Morecambe Bay. One of their projects was recording the oral history of the fishing industry around the Bay. Some members of CPLHS were involved and 17 of the interviews are from the Flookburgh and Grange area. MBP has a website called Recording Morecambe Bay - recordingmorecambebay.org.uk – which has 59 oral interviews with people involved in the fishing industry around Morecambe Bay. At present only the recordings are on the website, the transcripts are being checked over and will be uploaded on the website in the near future. This project has finished so there will be no further recordings added to this site. There is also a link from the CPLHS website.

In the early 1990s, before the CPLHS was formed, a small number of people had done interviews with local people and they have kindly given the CPLHS copies of those recordings. These recordings include Cartmel

villagers, farmers and a lady who moved to this area with the Women's Land Army.

At present CPLHS has an oral history website page but this is still being put together. The 1990s interviews will be added with summaries. The links to the other 2 websites, mentioned above, are already listed. All recordings should eventually have a summary and transcript. In total there are 56 recordings focussed on the local area which throw a light on social history, employment and much more. Interviews are still being recorded and oral history is now able to play its role in the research of our local area.

Barbara Copeland

~~~~~

## Cumbria Vernacular Building Group - Recent activities

CVBG celebrates five years since its foundation and has had an interesting year so far, with very varied activities. We started the year with two visits to the county archives, in Carlisle and Kendal. Then came a study day, in March, looking in some detail at the evolution of doors and windows. These are important datable features of traditional buildings, and we were able to study examples in Troutbeck.



This year, members of CVBG had been asked to volunteer to organise an event, and the first one was in April, when Anna Gray gave a full day's walking tour of Whitehaven. In May, a small group went by minibus into North Yorkshire, to visit Ryedale Folk Museum. This is one of the finest collections of re-erected vernacular buildings in the country, and they were shown to advantage on a gloriously sunny spring day.

In June, another volunteer, Chris Craghill, gave a walking tour of Askham, one of Brunskill's favourite Cumbrian villages, which displays a variety of farmhouses and cottages as well as Askham Hall, which began life as a

medieval tower house.

July and August this year, each had two events led by volunteers. Barbara Grundy arranged for the visit to Hutton John, (see image by Anna Gray) the name given to the mansion, as well as the



township. Kate Fraser, the owner of the house, guided us round, and brought to life the various influential ancestors whose portraits adorned the walls, with tales of their part in altering the building over the centuries, since it was a tower house in the middle ages. We then walked round Dacre village, church and castle. Unlike that of Hutton John, the tower of the Castle had never been added to, and it remains a single tower house, with accommodation arranged vertically, originally for defensive purposes.

Later in the month, Alex Gibbons organised a practical day, using clay for bricks, walling, wattle and daub and plaster – all of which processes we were involved with. It was held just over the Scottish border at Priorslynn, where Alex owns one of the very few remaining clay structures in Scotland. It is a barn, once on the Buccleugh estate, and Grade A listed. We were joined by members of the Scottish Vernacular Buildings Working Group and their chairman, Niall Logan, who is also a member of CVBG.

August saw us in Little Langdale on another glorious day, with Helen Evans. Helen shared her survey work with Oxford Archaeology North, surveying deserted farmsteads in the valley. By comparing foundations with standing buildings, we were able to visualise what has once stood on the remaining stones. We also spent a day at Parkhead Farm, Millom, recording the farmhouse, led by Richard Wilson. By having a sketch plan ready, we were able to fill in measurements, from which to complete a survey.

This year, the AGM was held on a September evening, at Hutton in the Forest, by kind permission of Lord and Lady Inglewood. We were given a

guided tour of the house, part of it in diminishing light, as the upper floor has never had electricity installed. It made for an intriguing atmosphere.

The October event was held in Appleby, one of Cumbria's finest towns, regarding historic buildings. It has no less than 143 listed buildings and is the subject of a Heritage Action Zone project, led by Adrian Banford, who organised our day, with Claire Jeffery. Our event unfortunately coincided with a deluge, and the programme was cut short as water approached the venue and threatened chaos. Actually, this gives those who missed an excellent topic to come on the continuation, to be arranged.

To complete the year's programme, there is a workshop day in Ulverston, where the subject will be the evolution of house plans (fundamental to the understanding of buildings) and an opportunity to visit the Sir John Barrow Cottage, a rare survival of a single-unit house. The Christmas lunch will be held in Caldbeck, on Wednesday 12 December at the Watermill Cafe. This is in Priest's Mill, an historic building, and may be followed by a walk round Caldbeck's industrial buildings, if the weather allows. Details of forthcoming events and membership are on the website [www.cvbgbg.co.uk](http://www.cvbgbg.co.uk)

June Hill

~~~~~

Cumbrian Railway Association Helps Carlisle Remember the “Jellicoe Express”

From 1917 to the end of the First World War and again in the Second World the “Jellicoe Express” train ran between London Euston and Thurso calling nightly at Carlisle. On its over 21-hour, 717-mile journey, the train carried military personnel, supplies and mail between southern England and the Royal Navy base at Scapa Flow. Informally named after the First Sea Lord Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, who commanded the Grand Fleet at the Battle of Jutland in 1916, these trains carried an estimated total of half a million military personnel.

To mark over 100 years since the train first ran and the role Carlisle played in its journey a special ceremony took place and a commemorative plaque was unveiled. The plaque has been jointly funded by the Cumbrian Railways Association (CRA) and the owners of the 301 Miles Café/Bar. Other similar plaques are being put up at stations between Euston and Thurso.



CRA Chairman Philip Tuer says: “These trains help to demonstrate the key role that Britain’s railways played in both World Wars, conveying military personnel, equipment, and coal throughout the country. The trains are also steeped in the emotions of what lay ahead for those travelling on them to postings and the relief of others returning to their loved ones. The CRA, as the key promoter of knowledge about the history of railways in Cumbria, is delighted to be associated with this commemoration which once again reinforces the historical importance of Carlisle on the railway network”

~~~~~

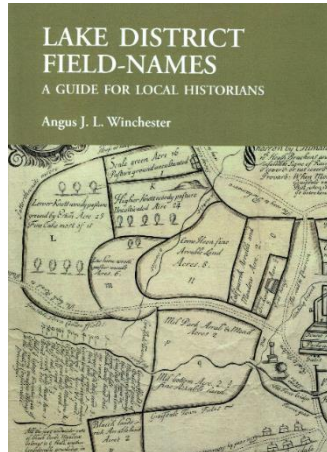
## Local History Publications

### **Lake District field-names by Angus J L Winchester.**

Published by Lancaster University, Regional Heritage Centre. 60 pages A5 Price £4 plus £1 postage. Recorded field names, or names of closes, are true historical sources of great value to anyone interested in the use of agricultural land over centuries of development. These names are a product of the interaction between the culture of an agricultural people and the nature of the land they colonise, some being retained for centuries, others being added or changed as both people and their use of the land changes. Field names complement place names and the names of geographical features, but field names are more dynamic and valuable to the local historian.



And so this little book is very much overdue, but worth waiting for a treatment by Professor Angus Winchester, the best author that one could hope to find on this subject and district. Clearly 'lake district' is not a meaningful boundary for field names, but a way of focussing on a culture and a terrain which generates the names covered. The book is generally relevant to the agricultural history of at least the whole of modern Cumbria.



There is a good explanation of how field names have originated, have been chosen, and have been retained or developed, plus a discussion of the study and collection of field names. A taxonomy is offered, which is enlightening but could never embrace all the names which individual farm owners have chosen to identify and describe their land. The most comprehensive collection of names must be the Tithe Apportionments of the 1840s, where every close covered was given a number and required a name, sometimes covering vast and recent commons allotments. One wonders how many names this exercise generated, such as the grand name of *Nova Scotia* Common, of just 2.75 acres in Lorton.

Though there is no price on the booklet, it seems very good value for little more than the price of a cup of coffee. Even the invaluable sixteen-page glossary of name-elements would seem to justify the purchase.

Derek Denman

~~~~~

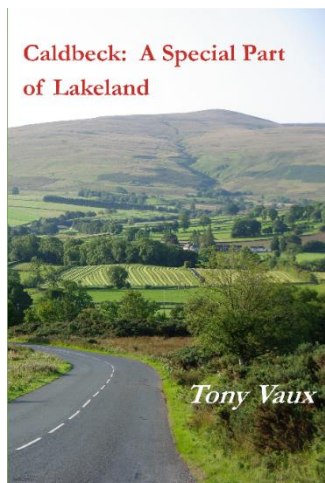
'Caldbeck –A Special Part of Lakeland' by Tony Vaux

The Caldbeck & District Local History Society has followed up on its collection of oral histories '*Memories of Lakeland*' (published in 2008 and now sold out) with a more comprehensive history of the Caldbeck area drawing on historical records as well as local interviews and the Society's extensive archive.

Early chapters of the new 320-page book trace the impact of geology and pre-history in shaping the landscape. This was followed by waves of settlers who gave names to local features and laid the foundations for the livestock farming that continues to this day. The book describes the effect on Caldbeck of the border wars, religious turmoil, the development of mining and mills and the depression in farming in the early twentieth century. It concludes with a discussion of challenges today including over-grazing and climate change.

The book has been written by local resident Tony Vaux who traces the history of Brownrigg Farm where he lives. He draws on the evidence of buildings, fields and walls to depict the life of upland farming families through the centuries. The author addresses the question- 'What is special about Caldbeck?' and finds that livestock farming has provided underlying stability despite pressure and change. Caldbeck has been fortunate to avoid the extremes of war, enclosures and industrialisation.

Today Caldbeck maintains a satisfying balance between farming, tourism and the impact of off-comers. This has resulted in a wealth of community action and services but not, as in other parts of Lakeland, the alienation of farmers or division of the community.



The book is richly illustrated and includes many old photographs from the Society's archives. Proceeds will go to the local primary school and for youth work in the area. It is now available from bookshops at £15 or contact Tony Vaux on email vauxt@aol.com.

Caldbeck & District HS

Sedbergh & District History Society

The Sedbergh and District History Society produce a regular journal of papers produced by their members and this is their latest production.

There are 4 papers of which all have a military subject, which at first glance seems surprising for a journal from such a rural area with no obvious military connections.

Sedbergh Historian

Annual Journal of
**Sedbergh & District
History Society**

The first paper is a resume of the life and works of Richard Herd, The Howgill Poet. He was born at Gate House in 1780 into a farming family, but left to become a cotton spinner at Royton near Manchester where he joined the local militia. He moved back to the area of his birth at the age of 35. The article looks at both his writing but also his other interests in life and settles them into both a local and national context.

The second paper looks at a long held family belief that one of their family James Spicer, originally of Dowbiggin, Sedbergh, fought at Waterloo. He was one of three brothers who joined the Life Guards. The paper uses all the possible sources both local and national to trace the military and post service career of all three brothers to see if the family tradition is correct. You will need to read the article to see what the outcome is.

With the third paper we move forward in history to the First World War and a look at the casualties that occurred to local men who enlisted compared to the national averages. There is then a detailed look at what was the worse day for the area - 3rd May 1917 when five local men were killed.

The last paper uses a family diary and a wide range of sources to look at the events in the area during 1943. It gives an insight not only into the effect of the war on the family but what was happening in the local area with reports of charity events, changes in local agriculture and life at the

school. It came as quite a surprise the amount of money that was raised from such a rural area for a wide range of war causes and charities.

Although all four papers are centred on a local area the detail they contain from a much wider aspect make the journal a worthwhile read for anyone with an interest in history and especially for any person with a specific interest in any of the subjects. All papers are fully referenced and are a good example of how to write local history within a wider context.

Graham Brooks

~~~~~

## CLHF Events

### Review of CLHF Museum Visit to Dent 18 September 2018

Dent Heritage Centre and Museum was the venue for the second CLHF visit, to see the collections of a remote and isolated community which survived for centuries on hill farming and extractive industries. This is a community-run museum, which provides a focus for the Dale's story to be told to visitors.

After an opportunity to explore the museum displays, members moved to the nearby village hall, to hear Dr Alan Smith give a splendid lecture on the life and work of Adam Sedgwick, Dent's most famous son. Born in 1785, (died 1873) and son of the vicar of the parish, he was educated at the grammar school, which



stands behind the church, then at Sedbergh School. Like many of his fellow scholars, he proceeded to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated in divinity, but his inclinations were to lead him to become one of the founding fathers of the newly emerging science of geology.

Adam Sedgwick was responsible for naming the sedimentary rocks of the Devonian, Pre-Cambrian and Carboniferous series. He spent the summer months exploring the British Isles, making discoveries and working out the sequences of rock formation. In winter, he earned money to fund his activities by working as a prebend at Norwich Cathedral, he took holy orders, then lecturing at Trinity.

In Dent, there is a blue plaque on the Parsonage where he grew up, and a monument of Shap granite in the main street. The parish church has fine examples of the fossil limestone, often referred to as Dent Marble. The stone works, where this was processed and polished were higher up the dale, but little can be seen at this former busy site. It was developed in the nineteenth century, by William Armstrong, who went on to become a leading industrialist of his time, as Lord Armstrong.

Also in the church are fine box pews from the seventeenth century. The knobs on the pews are highly polished by numerous generations of church-goers, and dates and initials are carved and ornamented on the doors into the pews.

June Hill

~~~~~  
Cumbria Local History Federation
Annual Convention 6 October 2018

Victoria County History of Cumbria- Studies in Local History

Once again, Newbiggin Village Hall proved to be the perfect venue for the annual Convention. Central to Cumbria and accessible by road and rail, it has plenty of parking and every facility needed to provide a comfortable place in which to hold our event.

The Annual General Meeting was held first, and members present were asked to support the submission of an application for CLHF to become a

registered charity. This, it was explained, would bring many benefits to the Federation. It was approved unanimously, along with the re-election of the officers and committee, with one resignation and one new appointment.

All those attending were treated to a spectacularly fine programme. All our speakers are published authors of local history subjects, and three of them have worked on chapters for the Victoria County History. The fourth speaker, Jane Platt, gave an entertaining insight into the workings of an eighteenth century local historian, Rev. Thomas Machell, comparing

his methods of research with present day challenges and found them remarkably similar. All four presentations were delivered in an engaging way, covering topics from



three of the four counties, (or parts thereof) which were amalgamated in 1974, to form the present Cumbria – Cumberland, Westmorland and Lancashire North of the Sands. Their summaries are given below.

During the breaks for coffee, lunch, etc., members were able to see the dozen or so stands which local history groups had displayed, and where appropriate, to buy publications. This is a great way for local societies to make their recent work more widely known. An enormous amount of research is being undertaken by groups and individuals, and the Convention is a way to publicise it as well as to set an example to others.

Thanks are due to Lowther and Askham Historical and Archaeological Society (LAHAS); for volunteering to help with serving food, to Helen Dagleish of the Watermill Cafe, Caldbeck, for providing the delicious lunch and cakes; to CLHF committee for planning the event and making

sure that all was in place for the day; to the speakers and all who displayed work; and to everyone who attended this very special event.

The date and venue for the 2019 Convention will be confirmed shortly. Please do your best to attend.

June Hill, Event Organiser

~~~~~

## Summaries of Presentations



Lecturers: Jane Penman, Bill Shannon, Richard Brockington & Jane Platt

### **The Pastors, Flocks and Pastures of Martindale - Jane Penman**

Martindale is a remote upland parish on the east shore of Ullswater, over 8,000 acres in area, with a small population. It consists of three valleys where the settlement pattern is one of dispersed farms, and a hamlet at Sandwick by the lake, which had been settled by at least the 13<sup>th</sup> century and may go back to the Early Medieval period.

Martindale has a Church of St Martin de Tours, and it is usually assumed that the valley takes its name from the church. However, it can be argued

that it is actually named after the pine marten, for which the valley was once famous and which was highly valued for its fur.

The sequence of Martindale clergy ends in 2018, because the last vicar retired at the end of September and will not be replaced. The first curate is usually considered to be Richard Birkett, a dynamic figure who secured parochial rights for Martindale and was in office 67 years from 1633-1699. However, an earlier curate, Adam Dawson, has been identified from his will of 1587 and was probably in post from the 1560s. Dawson mentions building three houses for his family, and the footprint of these can be traced in the field next to the church.

Settlement in Martindale outside Sandwick was established by at least 1486 and developed during the 16<sup>th</sup> century. By 1589 the number of men liable for Border Service is recorded as 140. From that date we have a complete survey of the manor, which enables us, with the help of Lidar data, to make inferences about land-holding in earlier centuries, and to link the tenants to events and individuals before and after. In this way we can build up a credible picture of early Martindale.

## **Researching Angerton Moss - Bill Shannon**

Angerton Moss, on the Duddon estuary, was within Lancashire until 1974. A small amount of living moss remains, within the Duddon Mosses National Nature Reserve. Place-name evidence suggests early-medieval use for hunting and summer grazing, but the first mention of the moss occurs in the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century, at which date it is clearly primarily being used as a fuel resource. At the end of that century, the moss was granted to Furness Abbey, and it remained in their ownership until the Dissolution. Shortly before the Dissolution, the first enclosures and improvements took place, the start of a process which continued over the following centuries, first under the Crown, and later under the succeeding owners. Evidence for the landscape of the moss in the Elizabethan age comes from a fine manuscript dispute map, now in the National Archives. The late eighteenth century and early nineteenth saw increased reclamation and occupation: but oral accounts tell us that all the farms within Angerton continued to cut peat for their fires certainly up to the last war – while there was also some commercial peat production, with a Moss Litter Works (horse bedding) immediately to the north of the Moss.



## **KO is KO – Researching Kirkoswald, a former market town east of Eden - Richard Brockington**

Richard combined an account of writing the forthcoming 'Kirkoswald and Renwick' - the first printed product of the Victoria County History of Cumbria project - with interesting extracts from the book. The work had taken 7 years, 5 to research and write 3 township articles for posting on the net; and 2 more to combine them into a single account. He worked closely with Angus Winchester, Sarah Rose and Fiona Edmonds, the editorial team at Lancaster University; and received help from many Cumbrian historians, and from people living in Kirkoswald, so that the book is the product of community collaboration.

St Oswald's Church is thought to have been a Northumbrian foundation in the 8th century. In the interregnum Kirkoswald was home to one of the earliest dissenting movements in Cumbria. Owned for 240 years by the Barons Dacre of the North, who built and lived at Kirkoswald Castle, the village also became, from 1611, the seat of the Fetherstonhaugh family who have owned the College, Kirkoswald, for 11 generations. A market township since 1202, Kirkoswald was a business centre until 1900: it still has 31 farms, a school, 2 churches, 2 inns and a doctor's surgery, but only one shop.

## **'How to write a Local History: advice from Reverend Thomas Machell of Kirkby Thore.' - Jane Platt**

Researching and writing local history is not for the faint-hearted. Those of us who do it, look for all possible help, whether through history groups, short courses or the Victoria County History project, to name but three types of learning resource. Whichever way we eventually gain our skills, we remain indebted to the seminal work of the earliest British local historians – antiquaries like Rev. Thomas Machell of Kirkby Thore (1647-1698), whose research paved the way for the rest of us to follow. In her wry paper on Machell's unfinished history of Cumberland and Westmorland (property of Carlisle Cathedral Dean and Chapter, now housed at Cumbria Archives, Carlisle) Jane Platt revealed both the pleasures and the

pitfalls of local historical research, as seen through the eyes of one of its earliest exponents. Machell's pleasure in his book-filled study; his struggles with conceiving and keeping to a viable research method; his annoyance at importunate colleagues who were intent on appropriating his research; the determined way in which he took his life in his hands when examining inscriptions on tall buildings; his use of family and friends to carry out his research for him; and his difficulties with maintaining objectivity when describing Cumbrians of different social class or political and religious persuasion, were just some of the many examples chosen from Machell's six volumes of research-notes and letters during the course of this paper.

~~~~~

CLHF AGM Reports.

Treasurer's Report and Update from the AGM

The loss for the year to 30th June 2018 without the website set up costs was £105.56. The expenditure was almost the same as the previous year. The Committee have exercised diligence in their control of costs, but this is becoming more difficult to sustain.



It is several years since membership subscriptions were reviewed and the Members voted unanimously to increase individual membership from £8 to £10 and Member groups from £12 to £15 with effect from 1st January 2019. To help control costs further, each individual member and each Group will receive one copy of the bulletin, instead of 2 copies, with an option of purchasing other copies. An emailed copy will be sent to all Group contacts with a copy available on the website. These changes are effective also from 1st January 2019. In making these changes the Committee has listened to Members and Member Groups, who wish the subscriptions to be maintained as low as is practical.

Members voted unanimously in favour of the new Constitution, a copy is on our website. Work has started on the submission to the Charity Commission for registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. There are several stages, where permission has to be granted at each stage to proceed. Owing to the volume of work for both Companies House and the Charity Commission, approvals and answers to queries are currently taking 45 days for responses.

Thank you to everyone, who attended the Convention and AGM, which thanks to ticket sales, donations and the raffle, produced a welcome surplus of £186.67.

John H. Poland, Treasurer

~~~~~

## CLHF Membership News

The Federation continues to grow! I'm delighted to welcome back Alston Moor this year, and greet new members Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group. We now have 55 member groups and 49 individual members. We have been forced to raise subscriptions a little this year, but we can offer you more - do keep an eye out for our additional visits and training days!

I do appreciate that it's so easy to miss news of events in Cumbria so if any group members would like to receive emails of events directly from me instead of waiting for them to be forwarded, please just let me know - this also works for electronic copies of the Bulletin! Liz Kerrey e-mail [lizkerrey@gmail.com](mailto:lizkerrey@gmail.com)

~~~~~

Membership subscriptions are now due and you will find a renewal subscription form with this Bulletin. It is also available on the website. <http://www.clhf.org.uk>

~~~~~

## Cumbria Archive News.

### Opening up the resources of Carlisle Archive Centre's research library collections

Whether you are interested in *Romans in North West England*, *West Cumberland Coal 1600 – 1982/3*, *Common Land in Cumberland 1500 – 1850*, or *The Growth and Development of Methodism in Cumbria*, these are just a few of the many thousands of titles of publications, also theses, to be found on the shelves of Carlisle Archive Centre's Search Room and Map Room, a veritable wealth of secondary literature on the history of Cumbria. In the Map Room, in sections on such subjects as Architecture, Archaeology, Education, Health, Cumbria People and Families, Trade and Industry, Transport, County Histories, and Cumbria Places, there is a large collection of publications, alongside those shelves which



are filled with copies of the Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society (CWAAS), the publications of the Surtees Society, the volumes of the List and Index Society and the Calendars of Patent Rolls and State Papers and other series of archives held by the National Archives; and to further assist the researcher there are the dictionaries and guides to archive sources and their reading and interpretation : such guides as *The Handwriting of English Documents* , *How to Read Local Archives 1550 – 1700*, *How to Read Old Title Deeds* , and *Handbook of Dates for Students of English History*.

Hitherto, through the absence of a catalogue to such publications, researchers have not been in a position fully to exploit the collections. Now the Archive Service has made a spreadsheet of a list of all that is available on the shelves in the Map Room available online: if you go to <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/archives/archivecentres/cac.asp> you will see under the 'Related links' section on the right that you can now download and search the list , which records the individual publications

and the numbered shelves on which they are to be found; this list may also be accessed on the Service's 'Family history indexes' page. Over a period of time, details of the individual holdings in the Map Room will also be made available on the library service's online catalogue. Yet to be produced and made available online is a catalogue of the further research collections held on the shelves of the Search Room – copies of parish register transcripts, printed minutes of pre-1974 local authorities, copies of local history society newsletters (including copies of the CLHF's Bulletins) , notes on individual families, and much else – but in the meantime researchers will be indebted to the staff of the Archive Service for making a list of what is available in the Map Room so readily accessible.

The Carlisle Archive Centre continues to add to its research library collections. A recent acquisition is a copy of Steve Hindle, *On the Parish? The Micro-Politics of Poor Relief in Rural England c. 1550 – 1750* (Oxford, 2006), a copy of which was not previously held in any of the county council's libraries or record centres. As Steve Hindle notes, 'one of the finest archives on negotiations over the entitlement to relief is that of the Cumberland magistracy in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. There are some 465 petitions for poor relief surviving amongst the quarter sessions of the Cumberland bench for the years 1686 to 1749'. Throughout his study, Steve Hindle cites the Q11 series of petitions etc. held by Carlisle Archive Centre. Besides holding a stock of recent publications of CWAAS, for sale, the Centre adds copies of CWAAS publications to its library collection, the most recent accessions including Christopher Donaldson, Robert W Dunning and Angus J L Winchester, editors, *Henry Hobhouse's Tour through Cumbria in 1774* (Tract Series vol. 27, 2018) and David J Breeze, *The Crosby Garrett Helmet* (Extra Series no. 48, 2018).

Adrian Allan

## Help Requested.

**Lazonby History Society** have been putting their archives into a digital format with the help of one of their members. At present these are on a USB and much on other computer folders. I need to make this a permanent and accessible archive and seek advice about the best method to preserve and open them to the public. At present, we have a

small article about the society and list of programmes on the Parish Council website, but presumably this is not the ideal home for archive material. Any advice would be very useful either at this e mail address, or by phone. Sheila Fletcher email [j.c.fletcher@btinternet.com](mailto:j.c.fletcher@btinternet.com) 01768 898 804

*Editor's Note: The CLHF is aware that some local history groups would welcome advice on how to preserve and make available local documents, images etc for research and has already made initial approaches to the Cumbria Archive Service. If there is sufficient interest in this subject we plan to hold a meeting to identify local needs and find the best way to set up an archive. Please let me know if you are interested in attending such a meeting. [nigelmillsp@qmail.com](mailto:nigelmillsp@qmail.com)*

~~~~~

British Association of Local History

Local History Day 2018

The British Association for Local History (BALH) held its annual LH day in York on Saturday 2 June this year, and what an excellent day too.

Those who arrived on the Friday were able to sign up (at no cost) for a walk around either York's churches, or, my choice, for a tour of non-conformist chapels led by Professor Ted Royle. Despite the heat we spent 2 fascinating hours seeing and hearing the history of York's chapels – many now converted for secular use – as well as visits inside the Unitarian Chapel and the Methodist Central Chapel (see image) Our guide had every detail of dates, denominations, architects, and historical context at his fingertips and it was enthralling.



Saturday saw a change to pouring rain and the full day's events in the Friends' Meeting House. The morning began with archivist Alison Kay's presentation on the records held at the National Railway Museum – clearly a treasure trove and not just for those addicted to boilers and tubes, although the extensive collection of engineers' drawings showed

they were well catered for! Architecture, plans, maps are all held, alongside the wonderful promotional posters and adverts that hold such social and graphic design history. Timetables, books, records of staff, journals, photographic images, films and videos, and oral history recordings are all part of the rich collection Search Engine, (NRM's archive), is waiting to share with you – and judging by Alison's enthusiasm they are more than eager for you to visit.

BALH's AGM finished the morning, and retiring Chair Dr Tim Lomas' speech gave us an overview of how the Association is progressing, and of future plans. After lunch (and over-spending at the bookstalls) we had the annual distribution of BALH awards to those whose contribution to LH is recognised as outstanding – remember CLHF has 3 proud former recipients – and to the prize-winning journal and article authors.

The afternoon was very warm and humid, but Professor John Beckett's presentation on Parish Churches' past, their present and, perhaps uncertain, future was both interesting and sobering. There were many beautiful images, and suggestions as to what made a church outstanding and worthy of preservation in an increasingly secular society. How to maintain or re-use churches whose congregation has diminished beyond a viable level was also mooted. This stimulated some lively discussion despite the soporific surroundings and the afternoon finished with a flourish.

Next year LH day will be on 1 June, in London again, and given that special rates were offered for groups to attend in York, maybe some of our members might like to think about organising an excursion? I've attended quite a few LH days & enjoyed myself every time!

Jenni Lister

~~~~~

## Cumbria Libraries – British Newspaper Archive Online.

I thought it may be of interest to you and your members to know that Cumbria Libraries are now subscribing to the British Newspaper Archive online resource. This means that members of Cumbria Libraries will have free access to this resource at all Cumbria Libraries with computer access. There is also public access at Cumbria Record Offices.

To access this archive you need to be a member of Cumbria Libraries [free]. You can only access the site for free through a Cumbria library or archive centre. You then quickly register online with the BNA [name email address and password] and start searching.

Stephen White, Local History Librarian.

~~~~~

Speaker Recommendations

Great Grandad's Army – Kevin Grice. Kevin talked about the rifle ranges which were created to fulfil the 24 days a year target practice that the Rifle Volunteer Company enlists were required to carry out as well as a brief history of the need for the establishment of the Companies in 1860 and how they developed as guns changed. Needless to say these sites were of necessity in relatively isolated areas and amongst those he discussed in detail was the site at Silver How, above Grasmere. Others noted were on Torver Common and at Helsfell, Kendal. He told us about how locations were identified and what remains were found. From the title I was unsure whether I would find the lecture of interest. However how wrong I was. The lecture was an entertaining and informative talk, presenting the findings of his recent research. For the Society, he concluded the lecture by including some extra, relevant, research on the rifle ranges in the Cartmel area. His lecture was full of humour to keep me hooked, and the photographs and maps were excellent.

Phil Rowland CPLHS

Useful Websites

Regional Heritage Centre, Lancaster University. This website offers opportunities and events which may be of interest and you can subscribe to an e-newsletter to ensure you do not miss any events. There are opportunities to take part in a **Massive Online Open Course** - or MOOC. Intrigued? Visit <http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/users/rhc/index.php> to find out more. Unfortunately on this occasion the deadline for this course passed before this Bulletin went to print.

New Arrangements for the Bulletin.

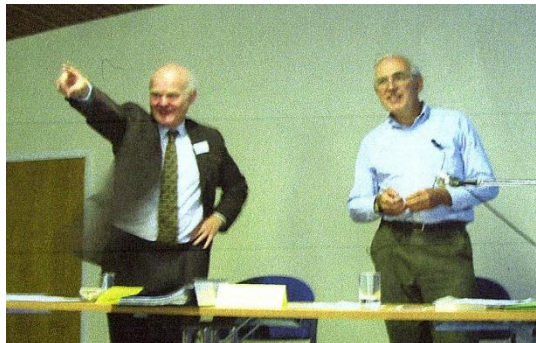
Following this number arrangements for the management of the *Bulletin* will change. Mike Turner is Secretary of the Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group, Editor of its Newsletter and has other diverse interests around Cumbria. He has agreed to take over major responsibility for the *Bulletin* from Nigel Mills. Mike will be Editor. Nigel will ease him into the role, working alongside him when necessary and continuing to look after printing and distribution. Mike will start collating content in the New Year. His e-mail address is miketurner4@hotmail.co.uk

Now is the time to express our gratitude to Nigel for his hard work on our behalf. He assumed the editorship in the winter of 2014 and has produced thirteen consecutive editions to a high standard since then. He particularly enjoyed direct contact with members and is grateful for the assistance and co-operation which he received. We are certainly most grateful to him, offer him our warmest thanks, and could not be more pleased that his long association with CLHF and its *Bulletin* is to continue. Peter Roebuck

~~~~~

## A Bit of Fun.

I found this image in the CLHF Archive taken at a past CLHF Convention. The two worthies are Richard Brockington, pointing, and Prof. Angus Winchester. Could I have some suggestions as to what Richard might be saying to his captive CLHF Convention audience please? Printable suggestions to [nigmillspp@gmail.com](mailto:nigmillspp@gmail.com) please.



## Events Diary 2018

Please see [www.clhf.org.uk](http://www.clhf.org.uk) for contacts and further event dates.

### January 2019

|    |                                                                                         |                                                     |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 8  | North Lonsdale HS<br>Life in the Home Front in South Cumbria                            | Methodist Church Ulverston<br>Bill Myers            |
| 9  | Friends of Keswick Museum<br>The Ancient Woodlands of Cumbria                           | Crosthwaite Parish Room, Keswick<br>Edward Mills    |
| 15 | Friends of Helena Thompson Museum<br>Alchemy or How to make Gold                        | Museum<br>John Hudson                               |
| 16 | Ravenstonedale Parish History Group<br>Wartime Farming in the Howgills                  | Community & Heritage Centre<br>Hilary Wilson        |
| 16 | Sedbergh & District HS<br>The Must Farm Pile-Dwelling                                   | Settlebeck School<br>Iona Robinson Zeki             |
| 21 | Holme & District History Group<br>Hat Makers in the Lune Valley                         | Memorial Hall Burton in Kendal<br>Christine Workman |
| 23 | Duddon Valley LHG<br>Horrible Railway Histories                                         | The Victory Hall Broughton<br>Bill Myers            |
| 28 | Shap LHS<br>NO LABOUR, NO FOOD, NO WAR;<br>Agriculture in the 1 <sup>st</sup> World War | Memorial Hall<br>Richard Preston                    |

### February 2019

|   |                                                                                                                  |                                                        |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Millom & District LHS<br>Topic TBA                                                                               | Methodist Church Millom<br>Bill Myers                  |
| 4 | Kendal Historic & Arch. Society<br>"A farmers lot is not a happy one" The ups<br>and downs of farming in Cumbria | Shakespeare Centre<br>David Johnson                    |
| 6 | Friends of Keswick Museum<br>Crime Policing and Punishment in the 19 <sup>th</sup><br>Century                    | Crosthwaite Parish Room, Keswick<br>Dr Mike Winstanley |
| 6 | Sedbergh & District HS<br>Cattle Droving through Cumbria 1600 -1900                                              | Settlebeck School<br>Peter Roebuck                     |
| 7 | Warwick Bridge LHG<br>Morton Sundour-The Firm that Dyed for<br>Britain                                           | Corby Chapel/Downagate Centre?<br>Chester Forster      |

|    |                                                                                                     |                                                   |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 12 | North Lonsdale HS<br>Gleaston Castle and The Manor of<br>Muchland                                   | Methodist Church Ulverston<br>Neil Whalley        |
| 18 | Holme & District History Group<br>AGM followed by Local Surgeons – the<br>Good the Bad and the Ugly | Memorial Hall Burton in Kendal<br>Dr Bryan Rhodes |
| 19 | Friends of Helena Thompson Museum<br>Blood Bikes                                                    | Museum<br>Tony Rutherford                         |
| 20 | Ravenstonedale Parish History Group<br>Changes in Newbiggin – on - Lune                             | Community & Heritage Centre<br>Les Neal           |
| 20 | Sedbergh & District HS<br>Invasion via Garsdale                                                     | Settlebeck School<br>Adrian Braddon               |
| 25 | Shap LHS<br>Weather Lore                                                                            | Memorial Hall<br>Jeaan Scott-Smith                |
| 27 | Duddon Valley LHG<br>Old Road of Cumbria                                                            | The Victory Hall Broughton<br>Nick Thorne         |

### March 2019

|    |                                                                                              |                                                   |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Millom & District LHS<br>Iron Gall Ink and Use in Old Manuscripts                            | Methodist Church Millom<br>Terry Harvey-Chadwick  |
| 4  | Kendal Historic & Arch. Society<br>Must Farm: Investigation of Life on a Bronze<br>Age river | Shakespeare Centre<br>Iona Robinson Zeki          |
| 6  | Sedbergh & District HS<br>His sisters and his cousins and his aunts                          | Settlebeck School<br>Diane Elphick                |
| 6  | Friends of Keswick Museum<br>Hidden Treasures                                                | Crosthwaite Parish Room, Keswick<br>Sally Taylor  |
| 12 | North Lonsdale HS<br>Lord Birkett of Ulverston                                               | Methodist Church Ulverston<br>Jack Rice           |
| 18 | Holme & District History Group<br>The Lost Buildings of Kendal                               | Memorial Hall Burton in Kendal<br>Richard Pealing |
| 19 | Friends of Helena Thompson Museum<br>The Corpse Roads of Cumbria                             | Museum<br>Alan Cleaver                            |
| 20 | Ravenstonedale Parish History Group<br>Shorthorn Cattle                                      | Community & Heritage Centre<br>Steve Fermer       |

|    |                                                   |                                            |
|----|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 25 | Shap LHS<br>Brougham Castle and Fort              | Memorial Hall<br>Joseph Jackson            |
| 27 | Duddon Valley LHG<br>The Diaries of Edward Wadham | The Victory Hall Broughton<br>Susan Benson |

#### April 2019

|    |                                                                                   |                                                |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 4  | Warwick Bridge LHG<br>Saving the Settle/Carlisle                                  | Corby Chapel/Downagate Centre?<br>Stan Abbott  |
| 5  | Millom & District LHS<br>Voice from the Archive – Poems, Diaries and Letters      | Methodist Church Millom<br>Susan Benson        |
| 9  | North Lonsdale HS<br>Lancaster Canal                                              | Methodist Church Ulverston<br>John Acres       |
| 15 | Holme & District History Group<br>Railways of South Cumbria                       | Memorial Hall Burton in Kendal<br>John Bateson |
| 16 | Friends of Helena Thompson Museum<br>Cotton of Cumbria – the Stead McAlpine story | Museum<br>Ros Downing                          |
| 22 | Shap LHS<br>Holidays in the Lake District 1940s & 1950s                           | Memorial Hall<br>Dr Rob David                  |
| 24 | Duddon Valley LHG<br>DVHG Longhouse Project                                       | The Victory Hall Broughton<br>Stephe Cove      |

### CLHF Committee

Committee members may be contacted by e-mail via our website

<http://www.clhf.org.uk>

|                       |                         |                                                                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chair                 | Peter Roebuck           | <a href="mailto:peter.roebuck3@gmail.com">mailto:peter.roebuck3@gmail.com</a> |
| Secretary             | Lyn Cole                |                                                                               |
| Treasurer             | John Poland             |                                                                               |
| Bulletin Editor       | Nigel Mills/Mike Turner | <a href="mailto:nigelmillspp@gmail.com">nigelmillspp@gmail.com</a>            |
| Membership & Website  | Liz Kerrey              | <a href="mailto:lizkerrey@gmail.com">lizkerrey@gmail.com</a>                  |
| Event Organiser       | June Hill               |                                                                               |
| CCHT Trustee for CLHF | Richard Brockington     |                                                                               |
| Committee             | Adrian Allan            |                                                                               |
| Committee             | Graham Brooks           |                                                                               |