



Cumbria Local History Federation

Annual Convention and AGM 2026

Saturday 10th October 09.00 – 16.00

North Lakes Hotel, Clifford Road, Penrith CA11 8QT

£35 to include lunch, tea/coffee etc.

“Aspects of Life in 18th Century Cumbria”

- 09.00 Doors open - Register, Set up displays, Tea & Coffee**
- 10.00-10.15 Introduction – Les Gilpin CLHF Chairman**
- 10.15 – 11.00 Paul Hindle – Tourists and Turnpikes in Eighteenth
Century Lakeland**
- 11.05-11.50 Chris Craghill –The Winners & The Losers – Cumbrian
Farming Practices in the 18th Century**
- 11.55-12.25 CLHF Annual General Meeting 2025
Les Gilpin**
- 12.30-13.30 Lunch**
- 13.30-14.15 Trevor Grahamslaw – Times of Change,
Solway Life in the Georgian Period**
- 14.15 – 14.35 Tea & Coffee**
- 14.35 -15.20 David Cross – Cumbrian Lives of 18th Century Beyond
the Canon**
- 15.20-15.40 Summing Up & End of Convention**

Paul Hindle – Tourists and Turnpikes in Eighteenth Century Lakeland – Paul brings together early travellers and tourists, descriptions and depictions of the landscape, turnpikes and maps. He has compiled a unique talk for the Convention on two of his main research subjects, the beginnings of tourism in the Lake District and the routes to travel to reach a destination.

Bio: Paul was Senior Lecturer in Geography at Salford University. His PhD was concerned with the road system of medieval England and Wales. He continued to specialise in the study of historic roads and old maps more generally, taking a particular interest in 18th century county maps and the creation of turnpike roads. He took early retirement in 2000. He was Hon. Secretary of the Manchester Geographical Society for 35 years and is now its President.

Chris Craghill – ‘The Winners & The Losers – Cumbrian Farming Practices in the 18th Century’ – An assessment of some of the major Cumbrian manorial estate owners and their tenantry in a time of national change in agricultural practices. How did Cumbria compare and who were the winners and the losers?

Bio: Qualified local historian Chris Craghill is a long-term researcher on Cumbrian farming families and the buildings in which they lived and worked. In the past she has concentrated on the Northern Fells area ‘Back o’ Skidda’ but at present is working on the N.E. area of the county and the Barony of Gilsland.

Trevor Grahamslaw – ‘Times of Change. Solway Life in the Georgian period’. – A talk inspired by letters discovered in Carlisle Archive Centre sent by Jane Matthews of Wigton Hall to a friend, which reference institutions, work, leisure, politics and hardship for the people of the Solway area from the 18th Century into the early 19th.

Bio: Carlisle born Trevor Grahamslaw has been photographing, collecting and publishing images of the Solway for over 40 years. His latest publication “Wigton & the Solway. Times of Change” is his first book on a more in-depth history of the area.

David Cross – ‘Cumbrian Lives of the 18th Centry: Beyond the Canon’ – A talk that covers both familiar and less familiar figures who contributed to the affairs of the county during the 18th century. The names are drawn from a wide range of occupations in the arts and the sciences.

Bio: Barrow born, David Cross is both a Durham and Lancaster University graduate, an ex global teacher of English and Drama as well as being involved in the Ruskin Studies program. In 1998 he became a co-founder of the Cumbrian Lives project. www.cumbrianlives.org.uk during Covid.

- Please bookplaces for (names).....

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Return forms to Graham Brooks, Fairhurst, Aglionby, Carlisle. CA4 8AQ

Final booking date is 21/09/2026

- with cheque or pay by BACS, informing Graham by Email
solwaypast@yahoo.com
- CLHF Sort code 16 – 52 - 21 Acct. no. 54246406
- Book a stall for your display/sales,
- Register your food preferences.
- Please note refunds are not possible after 25th September 2026

...TALKS....RAFFLE...DISPLAYS...

Directions to the North Lakes Hotel, Clifford Rd., Penrith CA11 8QT

