

Lancaster University Heritage Newsletter

E-NEWSLETTER, February 2016

Welcome to the latest e-newsletter from the Department of History's Regional Heritage Centre. You are welcome to forward this email to any groups or individuals you think will be interested in our activities. If you have received this as a forwarded message please [join our mailing list](#).

In this edition:

- Upcoming study days and events – including news on Canals in the Lancashire Landscape
- Chapel-le-Dale Heritage Archive now available for consultation
- News from the fundraising campaign for our Oral History Digitisation Project
- 2016 Iredell Lecture
- External events and announcements, including an appeal from Lancashire Archives to contribute to a consultation on their opening hours

RHC STUDY DAYS AND EVENTS

We are delighted to announce that our study day **Canals in the Lancashire Landscape** on **Thursday 7 April** is now open for booking. This event will be held in the beautiful surroundings of Hoghton Tower. Located just off the A675 between Preston and Blackburn, this Grade I listed building is the ancestral home of the de Hoghton family. Hoghton Tower is the only true baronial hall in Lancashire and much of the current building dates from 1565. The Leeds and Liverpool Canal runs through the grounds, making the Tower a fitting venue for an event which will include discussion of that canal, which is marking its 200th anniversary this year, and also focuses on the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal. The day includes a presentation by artist Liam Curtin, who will talk about his 'Meccano Bridge' project over the canal at Little Lever. Space is strictly limited for this event, which includes an optional soup-and-sandwich lunch, and we strongly encourage early booking. Full details are available [here](#), and you can book online [here](#).

Also, a reminder that you can still book for the **43rd Annual Archaeology Forum** on **Saturday 5 March**. Topics will include the exciting discoveries on the site of the Carlisle Northern Development Route, prehistoric discoveries in the Forest of Bowland, recent work on Early Iron Age socketed axes and the early history of railways in Britain. Full details are available [here](#), and you can book online [here](#).

Bookings are also open for **The Raw Materials of History – publishing historical records** on **Saturday 23 April**. This event is organised in association with the Surtees Society in memory of Constance Fraser (1928-2013), who was one of the leading record scholars in the north of England; a generous subsidy

means that admission is only £5 per head, including coffee, tea and biscuits, or £20 per head including lunch as well as morning and afternoon refreshments. Full details are [here](#) and you can book on the online store [here](#).

CHAPEL-LE-DALE HERITAGE ARCHIVE

RHC is pleased to report that we have a range of papers deposited in 2013 by Gerald Tyler, then of Winshaw, Chapel-le-Dale, near Ingleton, North Yorkshire, which are available to researchers by appointment. The materials were collected during research into the local history of Chapel-le-Dale (and, to a lesser extent, Ingleton) carried out in connection with rural regeneration projects in Ingleton parish, 2001-2005. Most of the papers relate to a series of local history publications written by Gerald Tyler, including *Sheep, Steam and Shows: farming life in Chapel le Dale* (2002) and *The Chapel of the Fells: the history of St Leonard's church, Chapel le Dale* (2003). The archive contains research notes, photocopies of archival sources, a few original documents, photographs and draft text. Subjects include St Leonard's Church; Chapel-le-Dale School the Mission to Settle-Carlisle Railway workers; local families; and Ribbleshead Sheep Show. The archive also contains a full photographic record of the Chapel-le-Dale valley c.2002-3. A detailed list of the archive, and information on access, is available via the Resources page of our website: click [here](#) for a direct link.

ELIZABETH ROBERTS' WORKING CLASS ORAL HISTORY ARCHIVE DIGITISATION PROJECT: UPDATE ON FUNDRAISING

Our January newsletter was able to report that we had raised over £15,000, and more money has come in since then so our current total is **£15,682**. We are pleased to acknowledge grants from the Aurelius Trust, the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, the Elspeth J. Thompson Charitable Trust, the Cumbrian Railways Association, Lancashire Local History Federation, the Friends of Lancashire Archives and the Friends of Cumbria Archives, as well as donations made by a number of individual supporters.

As a reminder, this project aims to digitise the transcripts of this internationally-significant oral history archive, and to create a fully searchable, largely open access, online resource. The funding will also enable a community history project developed in collaboration with archive offices at Barrow and Preston. This will involve volunteers interviewing family members of the original interviewees, asking about their reactions to hearing the interview(s) given by their forebear, and gathering historic photographs, and perhaps photographing relevant artefacts, to form an online exhibition for presentation alongside the transcripts and sound clips of the Archive.

You can find out more and **donate online** via our website: <http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/users/rhc/> - look for the **Oral History Digitisation Project** section.

If you would like to **donate by cheque** please make it payable to 'Lancaster University' and send to **Christine Wilkinson, Regional Heritage Centre, Department of History, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YT** For further discussion about potential sources of funding please contact us: rhc@lancaster.ac.uk or direct line to Dr Sam Riches: 01524 594841

2016 IREDELL LECTURE

We are pleased to invite our Patrons, Friends and supporters to attend the 2016 Iredell Lecture, organised jointly by the History Department and the Law Department here at Lancaster University. On **Thursday 10 March** Sir John Baker, Professor Emeritus of the Laws of England at Cambridge, will speak on **Magna Carta: Its Resurrection 1216-1616**. A reception will be held in the Law School, C Floor, Bowland North, from 5pm and the lecture will start at 6pm in the Cavendish Lecture Theatre, Faraday Building. Attendance is free but places must be booked online: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/iredell-lecture-2016-tickets-21381666139>

EXTERNAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note that the RHC cannot provide further information on these events and announcements, nor be held responsible for any inaccuracies in what is posted below. If you have queries or wish to **book** for any event listed here please contact the organiser/venue/promoter directly.

Lancashire Archives is currently consulting users on proposals to reduce opening hours to help in meeting essential budget reductions. If you would like to take the opportunity to give your views on the proposals which would reduce the opening hours from 42.5 hours per week to 30 hours per week, here is a link to the consultation questionnaire: [Have your say](#)

As noted in our January newsletter, some aspects of **Lancashire County Council's budget proposals** are now subject to public consultation. You can join in the consultation process through this link: <http://www3.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/consultation/responses/responses.asp?siteid=5140&pageid=26908&e=e>

Whilst we would encourage our Patrons, Friends and supporters to give their views on all elements of the proposals which interest them, we would like to particularly draw your attention to the consultations which relate to the county's heritage. In addition to the Archives consultation mentioned above, three online consultations are currently live: 'Lancashire museum consultation 2016', 'Museums: community ownership of assets and community service provision' and 'Historic Environment Service consultation'. Paper questionnaires for the museum consultation are available from Lancaster City Museum for those who do not wish to complete the on-line form.

As a reminder, the County Council has continually had to make financial savings over the past five years, both to offset the Government's cuts to its funding and to account for significant cost pressures brought about by high demand for many services. To help achieve the level of savings required to balance the books, new proposals affecting a wide range of services were taken to a meeting of the council's Cabinet on 26 November 2015. For the archive service the proposals mean a 33% reduction in service cost between now and the financial year beginning in April 2017. There are also specific proposals to close five of the county's museums from April 2016: the Museum of Lancashire in Preston, Fleetwood Museum, Queen Street Mill in Burnley, Helmshore Mills Textile Museum and Judges' Lodgings Museum in Lancaster. Five further museums, including Lancaster City Museum and Lancaster Castle, would be expected to fully cover their costs through a new charging policy implemented from 1 April 2016.

You can read about the Museums Association's response to this situation at <http://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/27112015-proposal-to-close-five-museums-in-Lancashire-passed-by-council>

There are a number of online petitions which you might like to sign, including <https://www.change.org/p/councillor-jennifer-mein-save-lancashire-s-mill-museums>

(now with over 9,000 supporters) and <https://www.change.org/p/lancashire-county-council-save-the-judges-lodgings-museum-in-lancaster> (now with over 5,000 supporters). A recent addition is this one <https://www.change.org/p/lancashire-county-council-save-the-museum-of-lancashire> (with almost 2,000 supporters).

A range of events is taking place across Lancashire for **LGBT History Month** in February 2016, including venues in St Anne's, Lancaster, Preston and Burnley. Find out more, including information about events around the country, at www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/national-festival

Allotment Soup: Isle of Walney Community Growing Space.

A range of events taking place at Mill Lane, opposite the Fire Station, including tree planting on **Saturday 20 February**, 10am-2pm, working day on site **Saturday 19 March** 10am-2pm, building raised beds **Saturday 2 April** 10 am-2pm. Free to join, tools and snacks provided though please bring your own lunch and warm, waterproof clothing. The aim is to turn the Mill Lane 'space' into a 'place' of story, memory, affection and life enhancing activities for future generations!

To book your place or to ask any questions, contact Nick Owen, Project Manager – artgenenick@btconnect.com 07742271570

The **London Medieval Society** is holding a colloquium 'Treasure in the Middle Ages' on **Saturday 27 February**. The colloquium springs from the 70th Anniversary Conference last year which saw archaeologists, curators, historians, and medieval literature experts united to discuss medieval London in a most fruitful collaboration. This Colloquium probes medieval attitudes to treasure and how we consider and care about medieval material culture today. The LMS is delighted to bring together a panel of academic and curatorial experts to debate and question medieval and modern perceptions of treasure, whether relic, ritual, or royal object, and hoarded, lauded, or rubbished. Programme and registration via <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/treasure-in-the-middle-ages-london-medieval-society-tickets-19078786163>

On **Tuesday 1 March** Peter Donnelly, curator of the King's Own Royal Regiment Museum in Lancaster will give an illustrated talk, 'Don't Panic! Our Dad's Army - The Story of the King's Own Home Guard of the Second World War' at the Dukes Cinema to tie in with the showing of the new *Dad's Army* film. Talk starts at 17.00, free. To be followed by a screening of the new film, starting at 18.10 for which normal admission charges will be made. For more information please phone 01524 64637; please note there is also a small Home Guard exhibition now open in the museum.

Morecambe Bay Partnership Conference 2016, Wednesday 9 March at The Platform, Old Station Buildings, Marine Road West, Morecambe, 10:00-16.30.

Programme includes

- Putting Morecambe Bay on the Map, Susannah Bleakley, Morecambe Bay Partnership
- Septic tanks, sewage and sexy vegetables - selling sustainability - Chris Dessent, Creative Concern
- Morecambe Bay's fishermen's stories - Jenn Mattinson, Morecambe Bay Partnership
- Walduck's Wall – Simon Williams, Morecambe Bay Partnership
- Morecambe Bay Birds – Chris Lumb, Natural England
- Gleaston Castle, New Insights in 3D – Dan Elsworth, Greenlane Archaeology & Adam Stanford, Aerial-Cam

Suggested Donations to help cover costs for lunch (hot pie and pudding) and refreshments:

- £25 per person for large organisations
- £12 per person for small organisations and individuals
- If £12 is simply too expensive for you, please ask for one of the limited number of concessionary places.

Full information, including how to book, is at:

<http://www.morecambebay.org.uk/events/morecambe-bay-partnership-conference-2016>

There are regular lunchtime talks at **Lancaster City Museum** and **Lancaster Maritime Museum**.

The next talk at Lancaster City Museum is on **11 March**, when Dr David Steel will speak on 'Karel Klic, Photogravure and 1890s Lancaster'.

The talk starts at 1pm and is FREE but places must be booked in advance by ringing 01524 64637. Please support the Friends of the Museum by purchasing raffle tickets on the day.

Friends of Lancaster Maritime Museum meetings are held at 2 pm in the Education Room on the fourth floor of the Maritime Museum. Please note that the museum is not open to the public at present and the lift is out of action – this is all due to damage caused by the floods in early December. However, we are assured that these talks are going ahead, but if you are not a Friend of the Maritime Museum please ensure you book your place by contacting John Harman: jandcharman@gmail.com or 01995 603232

28 February Louise Martin will speak on Morecambe Bay Partnership

20 March The History of Williamsons, a presentation by George Niven, ex Technical Director.

Visitors are very welcome to attend at £2 per head; attendance is free for Friends of the Maritime Museum.

Giving to Heritage workshops – the final workshop organised by the Heritage Alliance in the Giving to Heritage project is now open for booking:

8 March, 'Developing a Heritage Fundraising Plan', Winmarleigh House, Warrington – back in the region due to popular demand.

For full information and how to book please see the Heritage Alliance website:
<http://www.theheritagealliance.org.uk/gth/>

Lancashire Archives have unveiled their programme of talks for Spring 2016. All talks take place on a Wednesday lunchtime from 12.30pm to 1.30pm, unless otherwise stated, at Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE:

23 March Problem pages in teenage magazines in the 1960s and 1970s, Dr Melanie Tebbutt

13 April Urinals for all, Dr Sally Ann Pilkington

11 May The Preston Lock Out, Dr Robert Poole

8 June The Leeds and Liverpool Canal, Mike Clark

13 July Westfield: A story of First World War survival, Martin Purdy

Look out for other events and exhibitions throughout the year or come to one of the FREE 'Getting to Know' sessions on the second Friday of every alternate month starting on the 8 April from 2.30pm-4.00pm. Booking is essential please.

Contact: Lancashire Archives, Record Office, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE (01772) 533039 record.office@lancashire.gov.uk

Friends of Lancashire Archives present 'Business and Pleasure Combined: the Hiring Fairs of North-west England, 1890-1939', a talk by Dr Stephen Counce, recently retired Senior History Lecturer from the University of Central Lancashire. **Tuesday 22 March**, at 7pm, followed by a buffet.

To be held at Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE, on Tuesday, March 22nd, at 7pm. Fee: £10

Booking required: contact Zoë Lawson, Roselea, Mill Lane, Goosnargh, Preston. PR3 2JX. Tel. 01772 865347 or email zoe.lawson@talktalk.net

And finally: news from the **Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne**:

A group of volunteers have been carrying out a transcription project, on two of the documents in the Society's archives:

- The 1771 Tyne Flood Papers, a bound volume of documents from the relief fund for Northumberland set up after the calamitous floods in North-East England in November 1771. The volume covers the subscriptions paid in, claims for damage, and the compensation paid out. It is essentially the office file of the Secretary to the Fund, solicitor Lancelot Heron from Hexham; and
- The 1784 Poll Book is a record of the voting in the Newcastle Election of 1780 with additional manuscript notes from the 1784 election, made by the agent for Andrew Stoney Bowes of Gibside in the 1784 Parliamentary election for Newcastle upon Tyne.

For more information about these, see their website at <http://www.newcastle-antiquaries.org.uk/index.php?pageId=726>

The transcriptions of both are fully searchable. There is still work to be done on the databases, but once complete, they will also be able to provide the full contents in an Excel spreadsheet to bona-fide researchers, which will allow for extensive analysis.

We hope to see you at a Centre event soon.

Sam

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For more details of our activities and publications visit our website at <http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/rhc>

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