

Cartmel Peninsula

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- First lecture 17 Feb Paul Hindle, 'Turnpikes & Tourists in 18th Century Lakeland', p.5
- Oral History by Ken Howarth, p.3
- Subscriptions for 2011 are now due. Please complete and return attached form with your cheque as soon as possible
- Field Broughton Cricket Club, p.3
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Business Name

May 2011

Visits to Kendal Record Office



Members of the Society had the opportunity to visit the Kendal Record Office over two dates in April and May. Two groups organised there had to be organised such was the response to the proposed visit. The first visit, on Thursday 14th April, was very informative and well-organised from their side. Richard (Hall) informed the group of what was available at Kendal, took two small groups on a trip to one of the vaults and had made available a variety of sources to look through. Two hours went by very quickly but everyone seemed to pick up some new information from the trip. For those interested in making their own foray to the Record Office, it is open Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 17.00pm. You will need to obtain a Reader's Ticket which

will be organised for you once you get there, if you have not already got one. You will need to take two proofs of identity with you.

The entrance to the Record Office is through the main door of the county offices where you have to sign in at reception. You will then be given a visitor's pass and directed through the next set of doors. Immediately you are through these doors take the left hand door which takes you down into the bowels of the building. Follow the passage round and to the left where you will find the record office sign in desk on your right hand side about half way down the corridor. Kendal Record Office holds a wide range of documents relating to the historic county of Westmorland, and also some for the Sedbergh-Dent district (formerly in the West Riding of Yorkshire) and for the Cartmel district (formerly in Lancashire North of the Sands).



Some of the types of records held in Kendal are listed below:

Local Authorities, Civil Parishes, Statutory Bodies, Official records, Businesses and Industries, Families and Landed Estates, Solicitors, Societies and Organisations, Schools, Charities. Significant collections include the archive of Thomas H. Mawson, landscape architect of Lancaster and Windermere, late 19th to 20th centuries; Lady Anne Clifford (1590-1676) of Appleby Castle records; Sir Daniel Fleming of Rydal Hall papers, late 17th century.

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'Kendal's Treasures' by Trevor Hughes—A talk given to the society on 19 May 2011

It is well known that Kendal has an extraordinary history, but Trevor's talk revealed an unexpected and intriguing hidden history squirreled away in the Town Hall. A unique collection of objects, pictures, and documents chronicling Kendal's civic past has miraculously survived. Trevor has so far catalogued around 500 items ranging from textile samples through to important Pictures. There are far too many items to list but his slides included images of Kendal's 1st Market Charter 1189, including rights to 'gather plants for lye kilns' (potash kilns) for the woollen fulling trade and a Charter signed by Elizabeth 1st, making Kendal a Borough with Alderman in 1575 giving it a sense of law and order. There is a tankard of 1649 presented by Alderman Wilkinson, a ceremonial sword, and a Charter dated 1684 with the Seal of Catherine Braganza wife of Charles II. An intriguing & priceless item is a tiny handwritten prayer book known as Katherine Parr's Book of Devotions (1699) a unique part of British History.

By the 19th century civic attire included a Mayor's chain of office and Mayor's jewel. There is a ceremonial tankard (1883) associated with David Huddleston, manager of the Kendal Bank, & a silver trowel, mal and hammer relating to the foundation of the market hall in Kendal.

In 1936 a solid-gold Mayoress' chain was added to the list, the latest document dates to 1993 when the Town to its embarrassment found that its Coat of Arms had not been registered. Trevor then went on to show us some of the pictures and drawings held in the Town Hall. These included many famous local names – Sam Gawth (snuff), George Braithwaite Crewdson, George Foster Braithwaite, John Sleddell (Almshouses), James Cropper (Paper-making), Gilbert Gilkes (Water engineering), Clarence Stanley Webb, Mr & Mrs Bindloss, Francis Webster (Architect), Katherine Parr, Queen Victoria and a 'View of the Fells' a picture by celebrated contemporary of Turner, artist Thomas Girtin.

There is a photograph of Sir Arthur Eddington who was born in Kendal 28th December 1882. He became a leading astronomer and scientist with medals from the Royal Society, and friend of Albert Einstein.

Finally, Trevor outlined how a rare textile pattern book (c1769) from Crewdson's Mill had been recovered from a bin in Kendal and how - much to the delight of the audience - the Kendal Green waistcoat he was wearing had been hand-woven from the pattern book especially for him.

Ken Howarth

CAN YOU HELP?

Does anyone have any information on a Dr Thomas Oliver who lived in Grange at Bay Villa in the early 20th century. He died in 1944 and came, originally, from Galashiels. This is as much as we know. If anyone has anything further they can add to this very short outline could you please contact Pat Rowland on

CNWRS online course

The Centre for North West Regional Studies at Lancaster University will be running a new course entitled Certificate in Regional and Local History. The link for this course is <http://www.lancs.ac.uk/depts/cnwrs/courses.html/>

Trevor Hughes and a walk round Kendal 14th July 2011

Following his successful talk to our society on the 19th May (see article above by Ken Howarth), we have arranged a walk with Trevor which will take place on Thursday 14th July and will start at 6.30pm at the County Hall (parking available to the rear. For further details please contact any of the Committee members.

May 2011

Broughton Cricket Club (FBCC)

Yes that's right, Field Broughton used to have its own cricket club in the years 1948 to 1954. Playing in the Westmorland Cricket League and using a field along the lane to the west of Egg Pudding Stone crossroads and to the rear of Broughton Lodge. The location for the club was often referred to by its grid reference of 393809 no doubt to help the visiting team find the right field.

This field was full of stock most of the year and even on match day the outfield was never mown but left to be cropped by sheep, which posed no small hazard for fielders! A hen hut doubled as the pavilion, and was large enough for the visitors only, the usual occupants being evicted just before the match.

In 1948 the players included George Fishwick, Bill Marsden, Roger Shaw, Stanley Fell, James Crowe (Chairman), Fred Crowe (Vice Chairman), John Crowe, Gordon Creighton, John Shaw (Wicket-keeper), Jack Ogden (Captain), Henry Airey, John Beckett, Fred Dawson, George Airey, Charlie Evans (Secretary) and George Saxon (Umpire).

Bill Marsden was the founder of the club and really passionate about FBCC and in Jack Ogden they had "no finer left-arm spinner in the league". In 1949 the club made Division 1 after 89 wickets were taken by Jack Ogden but it sadly folded in 1954 after words between two of its members. (Their names are not published here to protect their families!).

It is difficult to imagine the present day men of Field Broughton playing cricket but I have been told that a gentle game of croquet occurs occasionally in a secluded part of the village. Could this be the new FBCC?

You will notice some familiar family names in the list of members so if anyone has any stories, photographs or memories of the FB CC I would be pleased to hear from them.

Thank you to George Airey for lending me "*Gone. But Not Forgotten*" an article by John Glaister, Westmorland Cricket League Historian, from which the above information has been extracted.



Nigel Mills 015395 36603

Oral History by Ken Howarth

In March we were treated to a talk by Ken Howarth on the topic of oral history. Oral history, we learned, encompasses far more than listening to people talk. By using some of his vast recordings we could hear the sound made by weaving looms and shuttles, we learned how the girls and women doing this work had to learn to lip-read in order to be able to communicate with each other. Being reasonably young still (at least I

tell myself I am), I had never heard the actual sound made by many weavers working—and Ken ensured he had the volume turned up so that we got the full effect at the proper volume!

We also heard the sounds of lost dialect and of other sounds which have been lost as time has progressed. Oral history is a way of capturing not just voices but the sounds from a different age—as ours will be to our grandchildren

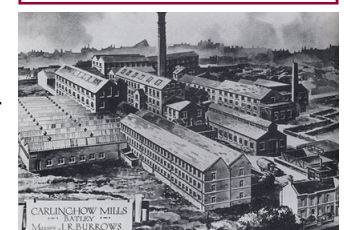
and great-grandchildren in future years. It is as important to capture sounds and voices as it is to keep hold of documentary evidence. Both help to document the past and help provide a fuller picture of our history and our heritage.

We hope to be able to organize a workshop with Ken in the near future.

Ruth Hughes



Queen Street Mill, Harle Syke, Lancashire



Carlinghow Mill, Batley, West Riding

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Visit to Shap Abbey 2010

On 1st August 2010 twenty three members met at Keld Chapel, near Shap to be joined by Harry Hawkins (who had spoken to the Society in February on Shap Abbey). He gave a fascinating insight into the history of the Chapel and told us that there was still uncertainty as to the status of the Chapel although it is believed to be a chantry owned by the monks of Shap Abbey.

A chantry was a building often separate from an Abbey to enable Masses to be said there for the repose of deceased souls. The obligation on religious houses to say such Masses in perpetuity (often a request from a wealthy benefactor) was one which became a burden to them and special Chapels were established for that purpose in the early part of the twelfth century. These Chapels became separate from the Abbeys by the fourteenth century and Keld Chapel is thought to date from sometime after 1350. There is no record of what happened to the Chapel after 1540 but it is thought to have continued as a 'chapel at ease'. There is evidence of a baptism there in 1672.

Prior to 1698 the building became a house: in that year it was sold for five pounds and ten pence.

In 1857 it was sold to the Vicar of Shap who attempted to restore it as a Chapel. The parishioners refused to accept it and after later sales it was one of the first properties to be given to the National Trust.

We enjoyed a look inside before a pleasant walk along the side of the valley to Shap Abbey itself. After viewing the Abbey from the valley side we were given a detailed guide by Harry through the remains of the Abbey, bringing to life the lecture he presented in February.

Shap Abbey was founded in about 1200 and was the home of a community of Premonstratensian canons. The monks wore white habits and built their monasteries in remote places, living a contemplative life and serving as priests in the local community.

Following the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the reign on Henry VIII the land was granted to the Governor of Carlisle in 1540, some of the buildings being used as a farm. However, most of the buildings were dismantled and the materials re-used elsewhere.

The original Church was laid out on a cross-shaped plan. Evidence can be seen inscribed on the 15th century floor in the nave of the circles where canons stood at the end of the Sunday procession. A stone coffin is visible in the floor of the Chapter House and two further burials are evident in the adjacent cloister.

Richard Redman (d 1505) was Abbot from 1458 and became the head of the Premonstratensian Order in England, eventually being appointed Bishop of Ely.

Information boards give further details of the life in the monastery and the layout of the Abbey Church, the Cloisters and Chapter House.

We also saw the site of the fish ponds and the water mill of which no evidence remains above ground (the land having never been fully excavated).

After a picnic in the Abbey grounds we retraced our steps to Keld to collect our cars and proceeded to Shap Heritage Centre which had on display a most detailed record of the houses and other buildings comprising the village of Mardale before the construction of Haweswater Reservoir. There were also meticulous records of the families who lived in Mardale in the period before the village was flooded.

We were fortunate to have a warm and dry day for our visit, a welcome change from the several weeks of wet weather before that time.

Stuart Harling, Field Trip Organiser.

May 2011



Images of Shap Abbey taken during the Field Trip 1st August 2010

‘Turnpikes and Tourists in 18th Century Lakeland’ by Dr Paul Hindle 17 February 2011

It was fascinating to learn about the part played by the turnpikes in the development of tourism in the Lake District. Many of the early records that Dr Hindle discussed centred on the Keswick and Borrowdale areas and we were shown maps from the 1540s (John Leland) which indicated routes around the lake. Later maps showed more detail until by 1700 the first real tourist map by Celia Fennes was produced which clearly showed “roads” (which were little more than horse tracks).

John Wesley’s extensive travels around the district from 1748 to 1790 increased interest and by the mid 1700s we saw the first writings about the beauty of the area (Dr Dalton and Dr John Brown). Engravings were produced showing the lake and waterfalls, often with exaggerated slopes.

The Lake District was regarded as a cheaper alternative to the European Grand Tour and the journal (1768) one of the first non-local travellers (the poet Thomas Gray) and the first guidebook (1778) by the Dalton priest Thomas West increased awareness of the region. The artist Turner painted and sketched many Lakeland scenes.

The poor state of the roads was much improved by the late 1700s with the establishment of Turnpike Trusts from 1753 and by 1770 Thomas Jefferys was producing maps which showed much more detail, including mileages and toll gates. Most visitors still kept to the roads, only a few (including Wordsworth and Coleridge) venturing onto the fells.

“Turnpike mania” occurred during the 1750s to 1760s with locals setting up turnpike trusts (each by a separate Act of Parliament) and manning toll gates, levying tolls with which their parish roads were improved. Maps of the late 18th century (by Peter Crosthwaite - who ran a museum at Keswick - and by Donald and others) show the turnpike roads which were often alternative routes to other roads / tracks. For example, the roads which are now the A6 and the A590 were not shown on the maps but the route across Morecambe Bay was shown, extending to Kirkby Ireleth and across the Duddon Estuary (map by Thomas West).

The improved roads set up a conflict between those who wished to maintain the quietness of the Lake District and those who wished to open it to tourists, a conflict which persists to this day.

Stuart Harling

Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society

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Our society was founded over 11 years ago to promote the history of the Cartmel and District area. Some years ago we changed the name of the society to more accurately reflect the geographical area which our Society encompasses.

We try to arrange, for each lecture session, a wide variety of topics to interest all our members and visitors.

Over 2010 we had lectures on Shap Abbey, Lakeland Architecture, Shorts' Flying Boats, Yeomen Farmers and the Reformation, the life of Thomas Hayton Mawson, and Cumbria in the Dark Ages.

This year we have another varied programme which can be found on page 3. We hope you enjoy it and look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

We will also be arranging field trips and visits, one of which was to the Kendal Record Office in April. We hope to arrange to visit Barrow Record Office next year for any who missed the visit this year.

We are always open to suggestions from our members about the way this Society can grow; lecture topics; lecturers; field trips you would like us to organize etc.

WE ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB AT:

www.cartmel-peninsula-lhs.org.uk

Please come and visit us there.

Committee Members 2011

Chairperson:	Post to be filled
Treasurer:	Nigel Mills
Secretary:	Ruth Hughes until post filled
Committee Members:	Pat Rowland
	Barbara Copeland
	Stuart Harling
	Mike Hornung
	Ken Howarth