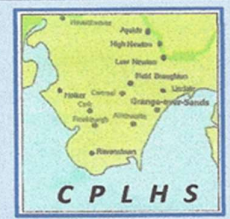


# CARTMEL PENINSULA LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

*"Bringing Local History to the Local Community"*



Founded in 1996 with the aim of promoting an interest in local history within the area

## **Newsletter: May 2019**

### **Contents**

#### **Chairman's Message**

#### **News**

- Archive News
- New Publications

#### **Research**

- Online Resources
- Research – can you help?
- Research Resources – The CPLHS Archive
- Research Update

#### **Society Information**

- Contacts (Committee)
- Meeting Programme
- Summer Trips
- News and Article submission
- Website

## **Chairman's Message**

Our course of lectures may be in its summer break but, as you will see from this Newsletter, your Society is far from being inactive! Since its launch a year ago, our new-style Newsletter continues to draw the attention of all to the latest developments.

Recently-published books are detailed on page 2 together with on-line courses. The booklet on the history of Allithwaite has been well-received. Thanks to all who put this together. Research by members continues, with our website now featuring articles of interest on an enormous range of local topics. Do take a look. As you will see on pages 3 and 4, we receive many inquiries (from all over the world) and anyone who can help is asked to be in contact. The article on page 5 on swimming across Morecambe Bay is fascinating: but please do not be tempted!

We have a digital archive which is available to members at a modest cost: details are also on page 5.

The final page gives particulars of the remaining lectures for this year and our research meeting in June as well as our summer trips which are proving as popular as ever, so much so that I am to arrange a second presentation and walk round Flookburgh. All who put their names down will be kept informed. Can I ask for any remaining names as soon as possible, please?

Thanks to Lyn, once more, for putting everything together so well.

Stuart Harling

## NEWS

### Cumbria Archives

#### Archive News

The current CARN (County Archive Research Network) ticket which is required to access to Archive records is being phased out within the next 12 months. For new users or those who need to replace an expired ticket there will then be an online system to apply for a new Archives Card with a requirement to present ID information at your local archive office before a card is issued. The card will have a photograph (either uploaded by the applicant or taken by Archive staff) attached to the application and will fully comply with GDPR. Existing CARN tickets can be used until they expire.

### New Publications

#### Allithwaite-A Short History by Phil & Pat Rowland and Barbara Copeland

This fascinating booklet was launched at the May meeting in Mary Lambert Hall, Allithwaite. It is available at Society Meetings (Free to Members and £1 to non-Members).

#### Feather Bed & Shrive of Cheese by S Martin, P Jones and L Kingston

This book is the result of further research following the Rusland Horizons Mapped Histories project. Village Histories, Landscape Names (marked on maps) and old and new photographs from Finsthwaite, Lakeside, Stott Park and Elinghearth are included. Published in 2019 by Pixel Tweaks Publications. ISBN 9781916021716. Kendal Library has a lending copy.\*

#### Old Grange-over-Sands by Neil Honeyman

A collection of well-annotated photographs shows the town in the good old days of the 1890s to the 1930s. Published by Stenlake Publishing in 2018. ISBN: 9781840338331. Grange and Kendal Libraries have lending copies\*.

#### The RAF in Cumbria 1939-1946 by Ian Tyler

This book features 31 RAF stations in Cumbria, North Lancashire and Dumfries & Galloway. Chapter 11 includes RAF Cark 'Flookburgh' pp. 49-72. Published by Blue Rock Publications in 2018. ISBN 978-0954863173. Kendal Library has a lending copy\*.

\*Cumbria Libraries have a Request Service where a non-reference book in Cumbria Library stock can be ordered to be collected from your local library for a small fee (£1.10 for adults or 60 pence if over 60).

John Becket's updated 'The Cartmel Peninsula: a bibliography' is available on the Society website (link on *Latest News* page).

## RESEARCH

### Online Resources

#### Future Learn

Future Learn is owned by the Open University and offers free short online courses in a range of subjects which also offer the option to enter into discussions with other learners on the course topics. Courses currently available include

- Radical Spirituality: the Early History of the Quakers
- Hadrian's Wall: Life on the Roman Frontier
- England in the Time of King Richard III
- A History of Public Health in Post-War Britain

<http://www.cartmel-peninsula-lhs.org.uk/>

## Research - can you help?

### Allithwaite

The area between Allithwaite from The Pheasant and Jack Hill to the Flookburgh boundary contains a few houses and several very old farms. Research is being carried out on the buildings in that area.

I am working with Peter and Sheila Hickson of Allithwaite Lodge on the history of their home. They have given me access to the legal documents relating to their property and I have gathered together information from archives and books. The site of Allithwaite Lodge was owned by the Spencer family in the 17th and 18th centuries and I am investigating the history of this important Allithwaite family. Bill Shannon's research on the Kuerden Map of 1685 has confirmed there was a building on the site before Allithwaite Lodge and I have been able to pull together much information about the family from wills and inventories held at Lancashire Archives Office at Preston. This has also resulted in information about the Barrow family of Boarbank and Kents Bank having to be researched. These families played an important part in the early history of the area. I have researched Boarbank in connection with Mary Lambert so its early history in connection with the Barrow family will add to our knowledge of that building and area.

I am also looking at about 70 wills and inventories for Allithwaite from about 1570 to 1750. Initially I am looking for information in connection with a textile industry in the locality which came to light during research that I am undertaking with David Shore on the flax industry on Cartmel Peninsula. The inventories are fascinating.

I thank Jennifer Gallagher and Peter Roden who are helping to transcribe the many documents that have been uncovered, and individual researchers who have shared information; David Hornby who is working on the history of Wraysholme Farm and its families, Barbara Copeland who has researched Wyke Farm and Allithwaite Mill and Phil Rowland who has researched Outerthwaite Farm.

Over the whole area individuals' research has resulted in the discovery of a fascinating story. Holme Farm, Blenket Farm and Beckside hopefully will be looked at in depth too which will give us a very comprehensive understanding of the history of a very important part of Allithwaite. The individual building histories are being put on the website as they are finished. If anyone would like to become involved in this project or has anything to add please contact me.

Pat Rowland

### Family History Enquiries

We have had 3 recent enquiries on the website, all researching family history. If anyone can help with any of the following enquiries please get in touch with Barbara Copeland.

#### 1. Corn Millers

The correspondent was enquiring about Thomas Dennison, corn miller at Lindale mill in 1849.

*I came across your interesting article about the Lindale Mill through a family mystery.*

*My family came from a farm at Broughton in Furness and my own line became corn millers.*

*They were related by marriage to the Backhouse family who at one time were millers at Newby Bridge and were possibly at a mill near Colton.*

*During the 19th century my branch moved to various other small mills in the northern counties. My ancestor was named James Dennison Muncaster and he was almost certainly illegitimate. The name Dennison probably indicates his father and we've never been able to work out who he was.*

*However I found an intriguing notice in a February 1849 Ulverston newspaper which reads- At Lindale in Cartmel on the 6th inst. Mary the relict of the late Mr Thomas Dennison, Corn Miller in the 97th year of her age.*

*I've found the burial at Cartmel on April 25th 1813 of a Thomas Dennison of Lindale aged 47 years. Mary would have been born around 1752 and Thomas, assuming that this is the correct man, would have been born around 1766 which makes it possible for them to have been this couple. James Dennison Muncaster was born in 1793.*

*Their respective ages make it possible for Thomas to have been the father of James.*

*The Corn Milling together with the proximity of the mills at Lindale, Newby Bridge and Colton means that these families almost certainly had some connection and it seems very likely that Thomas Dennison, apart from the possibility of being my ancestor, was working at Lindale Mill.*

## 2. Harrison Family

This researcher was looking for information on the Harrison family in the Flookburgh, Cark and Cartmel area in the late 1700s and early 1800s. No other details were given.

## 3. Seven Acres/Public Room

The third enquiry was intriguing, the correspondent stated that *My grandmother, Mary Wolstencroft (or Woolstencroft) was born in March 1881 in Public Room Seven Acres farm, Cartmel. Her parents Edward Wolstencroft and Margaret Wolstencroft (Nee Gaskarth) were present as was Margaret's mother, Mary Gaskarth. Mary and Margaret were from Cartmel but Edward was from Manchester. Edward and Margaret had married in Manchester in April 1880. I suppose they had gone to Cartmel for the birth but why at Public Room in Seven Acres farm? It wasn't their home, was it some sort of boarding house? I know Seven Acres farm is now derelict.*

In the 1881 census Edward Wolstencroft was head of the household living at Seven Acres with his family. Public Room is written in the same box as Seven Acres and described on the census as uninhabited. So was the public room in Seven Acres building or was it a building in Cartmel on the enumerator's route, followed the Police Station in the census, the nearest building to Seven Acres? Was it written in later and thus put in the Seven Acres box? In 1861 census there is a public room in Cartmel, no clue where; in 1891 the public room is on School road in Cartmel; in 1901 census it is next to Parkside and Park View. So it appears that this public room could be in the vicinity of the Sticky Toffee Pudding shop. Has anyone come across this public room before and knows where it is?

## Lindale Inn

Demolition work has begun on Lindale's former coaching inn, the Commercial Inn. Workmen have cleared asbestos from the roof areas, in a 'soft strip' of the interior. Large equipment will arrive in early May and the rear of the building will be demolished and crushed to create a ramp to make access to demolish the Lindale Inn. Anticipated time scale for demolition of the Lindale Inn is 30 days. Sylvia Woodhead is collecting records and photographs of the history of the Inn. Please contact Sylvia if you have any information. Sylvia Woodhead (sylvia.woodhead@btinternet.com)

Removal of roof of Old Smithy, 25 April 2019.

Old Smithy seen from back of Inn. This is where coach wheels were cooled by water from the Lindale Beck.



## Research Resources - The CPLHS Archive

Our digital archive of images and documents is going from strength to strength. We have thousands of images and the document database has now reached 170 items. It also contains a searchable transcript of Census records for the Cartmel Peninsula, the 1939 Register and a few Ordnance Survey maps. Plans are underway to also make available a number of oral history interview transcripts which make fascinating reading.



In all we will have 8 different archives which provide an invaluable resource if you are researching local history in the Cartmel Peninsula. We make these available to members on a memory stick for a nominal charge of £10 and update the archives periodically free of charge. There are copyright restrictions on some images so we ask for a signed agreement that the images or documents will be used for research purposes only and not for personal gain.

If you wish to purchase an archive stick please contact me. If you have any old documents or images that will be of interest to researchers please let me know.

Nigel Mills

## Research Update

### Swimming across Morecambe Bay

In 1907 the question was posed 'is it possible to swim across Morecambe Bay?' The fishermen were adamant that it was impossible but it was decided to try to do it and a swimmer who was training to swim the English Channel was invited to undertake the challenge. Professor Stern was successful on 13 July 1907. Following this successful swim many people were attracted to enter the Morecambe Cross-Bay Swimming Championship every summer for most of the 20th century.

I have researched the history of this Championship which attracted many spectators to Grange and Morecambe in the summer months. The swim would start from the pier on Grange Promenade and after Grange Bathing Pool was opened in 1932 it started from the slip between the pool and the Promenade Cafe.

My research can be found on Morecambe Bay Partnership's website - Recording Morecambe Bay.

[https://www.recordingmorecambebay.org.uk/content/catalogue\\_item/morecambe-cross-bay-swimming-1907-1991](https://www.recordingmorecambebay.org.uk/content/catalogue_item/morecambe-cross-bay-swimming-1907-1991)

Pat Rowland

## SOCIETY INFORMATION

### Contacts (Committee)

Chairman: Stuart Harling, ([s.w.harling@gmail.com](mailto:s.w.harling@gmail.com)) or Tel 36296.

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Treasurer: Christine Dawson ([christine567dawson@btinternet.com](mailto:christine567dawson@btinternet.com))

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Lecture Programme: Pat Rowland, ([patrowlanduk@gmail.com](mailto:patrowlanduk@gmail.com))

Website Editor: Phil Rowland, ([philrowland414@gmail.com](mailto:philrowland414@gmail.com))

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Committee Member: Rose Clark, ([roseclark83@gmail.com](mailto:roseclark83@gmail.com))

<http://www.cartmel-peninsula-lhs.org.uk/>

## Meeting Programme

Meetings are held 7.30 pm in Cartmel Village Hall unless otherwise indicated.

### 6 June 2019 - 2 pm in the Supper Room at Cartmel Village Hall – Research Meeting

The main theme is "Field Names in the Peninsula". John Hibbert will be showing us his work on identifying field names and their location and we would welcome any information that members have uncovered about local field names. Please bring along any references, maps, deeds etc that can help us map the peninsula, and yourselves of course.

### 5 September 2019 - Alan Cleaver and Lesley Park – The Corpse Roads of Cumbria

Criss-crossing the Cumbrian landscape are many trods, paths, lonnings and other ancient trackways, included among these are several corpse roads. These paths were used until the 18th Century to transport the dead from the remote villages to the 'mother' church for burial. Alan and Lesley have written a book about these tracks.

### 3 October 2019 - Peter Roebuck - Cattle Droving through Cumbria 1600-1900

Professor of History at University of Ulster who now lives in Cumbria. He has researched and published research on Irish and British agrarian history. Peter will talk about large scale, long distance movement of cattle from pasture to market.

### 7 November 2019 - AGM

## Summer Trips

Places are limited and advance booking is required for **all** trips, please contact Stuart Harling.

### 13 June 2019 – A walk on Hampsfell to look at some features in the landscape.

Ken Howarth will lead this walk starting at 2pm, meeting at the top of Grange Fell Road by Spring Bank Lane. A guided walk to the lower slopes of Hampsfell, indicating the Geological and Archaeological Features. There will be some off-road walking so appropriate footwear and clothing is advised.

### 25 July 2019 – Flax walk around Newton & Barber Green.

Pat Rowland will lead this walk, starting in front of the Crown Inn, High Newton at 2 pm. A guided walk indicating the extent of the Flax Industry in the High Newton, Ayside and Barber Green areas. Road/footpath walking but also walking on grass through fields so appropriate clothing and footwear advised. Contact Pat if any concerns regarding participation via email - patrowlanduk@gmail.com.

### 1 August 2019 – Walk around Flookburgh Village

Helen Evans & Dan Elsworth will be leading this walk, meeting at 6.30 pm at Flookburgh Village Hall for a presentation followed by a walk around Flookburgh highlighting the vernacular features of the houses and properties. Walking on pavements and roads and some inclines. This walk is currently oversubscribed so it is hoped to arrange an additional date (or dates).

## News and Article Submission

- Members are invited to submit news items or snippets of interest to other members to the Newsletter Editor Lyn Prescott. **Copy deadline for the next Newsletter: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019.**
- Research articles for inclusion on the website should be submitted to the Website Editor Phil Rowland.

## Website

### New Research Articles

Since the last Newsletter in January 2019, several articles have been added to the website. Topics include Abbot Hall History, Demography of the Cartmel Peninsula, Outerthwaite Farm, Hibbert Hoard, Plague Pestilence and Famine in the Cartmel Peninsula & Wyke Farm.

<http://www.cartmel-peninsula-lhs.org.uk/>