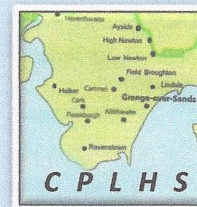


CARTMEL PENINSULA LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

"Bringing Local History to the Community"



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

Newsletter: June 2023

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Chairman's Message

The first part of the year's lectures has come to a close and I feel we have had a varied, interesting and enjoyable programme: thanks to Rose.

Summer is with us, with amazing weather to enjoy. Hopefully it will continue for our summer programme of visits. All who visited Cark with Andrew Musgrave at the end of May thoroughly appreciated hearing of its history and old buildings - some now no longer there. Thanks to Andrew and his helpers on the days and to Pat for the report in this Newsletter. The visits to the Armitt Gallery, Rookhow and Furness Abbey have been fully supported and we are all looking forward to those in the next months.

Thanks to Lyn for the details that follow as to the local records recently deposited at Barrow and Kendal Archives, recent publications and the pending events of the Cumbria Local History Federation.

We much appreciate articles for publication and the follow-up to our lecture on Arthur Ransome, the fascinating article on Christopher Rawlinson and the report on the early history of the Ornamental Gardens will provide interest to us all. Thanks to Jeff and to Pat. Continue to enjoy the summer and thank you for your continued participation in all we do: lectures resume in September.

(It is good to see the membership of our Society once again back to numbers we enjoyed pre-Covid.)

Keep well and stay safe.

Stuart Harling

Archive News

Cumbria Archives



On 1 April 2023 Cumbria County Council and the 6 district councils in Allerdale, Barrow, Carlisle, Copeland, Eden and South Lakeland were replaced by two unitary councils called Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council. Cumbria Archive Service has the new official name of Cumbria Archives. It remains as one service hosted by Cumberland Council and supported by the Westmorland and Furness Council. There is no change to the services provided to depositors and researchers. Cumbria Archives will continue to collect, preserve and facilitate access to Cumbria's written heritage in line with current policies and current catchment areas. The contact email addresses of the Archive Centres have all changed as has the Cumbria Archives website address:

Barrow: barrow.archives@cumberland.gov.uk

Carlisle: carlisle.archives@cumberland.gov.uk

Kendal: kendal.archives@cumberland.gov.uk

Whitehaven: whitehaven.archives@cumberland.gov.uk

Cumbria Archives Website: <https://cumbriaarchives.org.uk/>

The Archives regularly receive and catalogue additions to their collections. Items which have been deposited and catalogued this year of interest to the local area include:

Barrow Archives

BDKF/C/82/2 Estate accounts re Elizabeth Danson of Cark in Cartmel deceased (d1887) 1887

BDKF/C/123/4 Tenancy agreement of George Sedgwick, Guide over Kent Sands 12 Nov 1888

BDKF/C/135/1 Leases of farms in Newton in Cartmel 1900-1913

BDKF/C/214/1/15 Schedule of deeds relating to the estates of Revd. TM Remington deceased 1818-1900

BDKF/C/279/30 Draft conveyance of Seatle Plantation, parish of Cartmel 15 Dec 1922

BDKF/C/280/14 Abstract of title of Arthur Dickson With draft conveyance to the Lancashire Ultramarine Company Limited 1922 and sale particulars 1821

BDKF/C/279/31 Draft sale particulars and correspondence for Broughton Grove estate, Cartmel 1921

BDKF/C/Misc/117 Estate administration accounts of James Keighley of Holly House, Lindale 1921

BDTB/153/2/4/2 Case Paper, Lawrence versus Johnson 1. Thomas Lawrence, Flookburgh, plaintiff 2.

Thomas Johnson, Askam-in-Furness, labourer and defendant 3 Sep 1880

BDKF/S/68 Sale conditions and particulars of Residential Estates, Villa Residence, Beer House, Cottages,

Closes of Land, Building Land, and other property at Cartmel, Grange, Allithwaite, and Flookburgh 30 Oct 1906

BDKF/C/285/3 Conditions for letting The Hound public House at Haverthwaite 1836

Kendal Archives

WDMM/11/2 Title deeds relating to Blawith End, Hampsfield, Cartmel 1653-1718

WDTHW/4/5 Deeds relating to Beech Hill Hotel on Lake Windermere (parish of Cartmel Fell) 1715-1916

WDTHW/4/8 Bargain and sale of two closes of land called Blaikrigg and Low Smithy Cragg part of the Spooner Close estate, Cartmel Fell. 11 Mar 1748

WDSO 420/4/6 Papers regarding Charter Anniversary Dinner at Netherwood Hotel, Grange-over-Sands 1986-1987

Events

A Walk around Cark – Manors and Mills



The interest in our first outing for 2023 was so great that two walks were conducted around Cark by Andrew Musgrave on two glorious days in May. We started at the rear of Cark Station and heard about William Cavendish and his shorthorn cattle and where the auction marts had been located and then we walked past several buildings that had been hotels, shops, cafes and banks, serving the village and auction mart. Surprisingly there had never been a church. We looked at the former corn mill, originally established in the 13th century, which was converted into a house in the 1970s and outside the Engine Inn learned about the big change that had happened in Cark when the Cotton Mill was built in 1785, replacing several mills that had been located on the stream. We looked at what little remained now of the mill development other than the houses on Low and High Row that had been built to house the workers. Outside Cark House, the home of three generations of James Stockdale, we discovered more about the family. Close to Cark Manor (which never has been a manor house) we were told about ghostly spirits, will o' the wisp and dobbies and even found one on a wall close by. Finally at Cark Hall we discovered its history, and that George Fox probably did not spend a night there on his way to Lancaster to stand trial. Members discovered the interesting history of Cark, a place that many had not explored but had driven through often.



Pat Rowland

Cumbria Local History Federation

The Society is a member of Cumbria Local History Federation, along with over 60 other organisations interested in the history of Cumbria. The Federation has an events diary which includes Federation events and also those of their member groups. <https://www.clhf.org.uk/events-diary/>

Events taking place this summer include:

Monday 19th June 2023 @ 7pm. Walk - Historic Kendal - Burton Holme & District LHS.

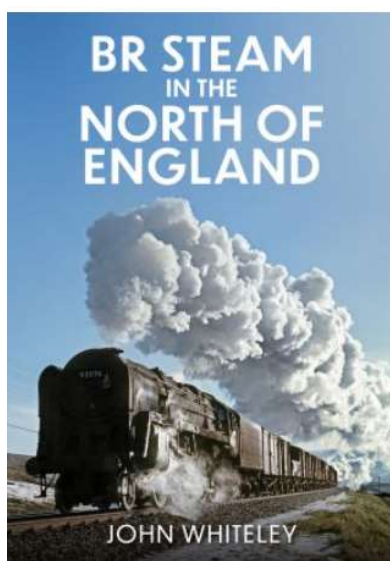
Monday 24th June 2023 @1pm. A walking tour of Ravenglass - Guide: Sharon (a blue-badge guide). SW Cumbria History & Archaeological Society

Friday 7th - Monday 10th July 2023 National Association of Mining History Organisations (NAMHO) 2023 Conference at Grasmere.

Thursday 13th July 2023 @ 7.30 pm. Loaves & Fishes; the mills, fishponds and grange of Shap Abbey talk by Kevin Grice. Lorton & Derwent Fells Local History Society.

Monday 21st August 2023 @ 2pm Walk - Historic Sedbergh, with Kevin Lancaster. Burton Holme & District LHS,

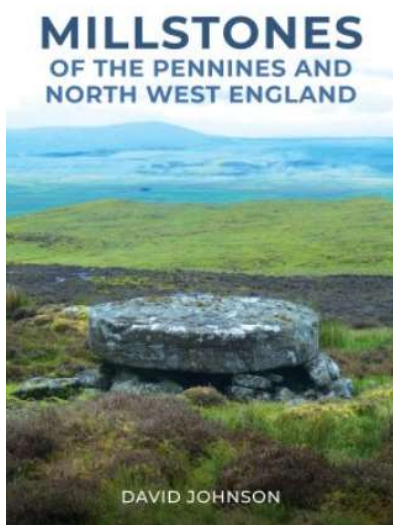
New Publications



BR Steam in the North of England by John Whiteley

A photographic survey of the last years of steam on British Railways in the North of England. The photographs cover the period from c. 1959/60 to the end of steam in the area in 1968. By the early 1960s British Rail was rapidly replacing steam with modern traction, but before the last steam locomotives were withdrawn the decade witnessed a glorious swansong for steam in the North of England. The area covered ranges from northern Derbyshire and northern Cheshire to include the last days of steam in the Peak District, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cumbria up to the Scottish border.

Publisher: Amberley Publishing, 2023. ISBN 9781398116443



Millstones of The Pennines and North West England by Dr David Johnson

Ever since people began cultivating cereal crops 10,000 years ago grain had to be ground down, or milled, into flour to make bread. Up to the Roman period in Britain this could only be done using simple hand querns but, over time, technology improved by introducing circular, horizontal millstones powered by water or wind.

Millstones and grindstones were roughed out in small quarries and on hillsides wherever suitable stone outcropped, and the evidence of this rural industry can be teased out by examining abandoned 'roughouts' that litter many upland areas and by searching for tooling marks. This book explores production sites across North West England and along the Pennine chain, where millstones and grindstones were sourced from the Middle Ages to the nineteenth century.

Publisher: Amberley Publishing, 2023. ISBN 9781398112933

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

Local Research

Arthur Ransome and a Cartmel connection

Following May's lecture and a visit to Rusland next month where we can visit Arthur Ransome's grave I was interested to find out that Arthur had a connection to Cartmel.

In an article in Soulby's Ulverston Advertiser dated 1 May 1913 headed Characters at Cartmel and A Writer's Haunt Arthur Ransome was profiled as he had recently written a book about Oscar Wilde upon which Lord Alfred Douglas founded his action for libel. According to the article one of Arthur's favourite haunts was Cartmel. He had stayed several times at Ayers' Old Fashioned Eating House on Cavendish Street and shared rooms with an artist friend, a Frenchman whose name has been forgotten. He had also taken an apartment at Wall Nook Farm just outside of Cartmel. He was a young man then and visited most summers. He was visited by literary and artistic friends. They



were described as bohemians and Arthur would be seen 'hatless, coatless and even without his waistcoat in hot weather'. He was fond of getting into conversations with the 'bizarre gentry who tramped the roads'. It was during these visits to Cartmel that he wrote the book 'Bohemia.' He was considered to be a very nice gentleman by Mrs Ayres and her daughter and they regretted that he no longer visited now that he was married. The article also noted that a nephew of Arthur's was a student at Aynsome Labs, a chemical and research establishment with a European reputation.

Arthur was born in 1884 so he was probably visiting Cartmel early in the 20th century. Bohemia in London was published in 1907 and it was his first success. Apparently, the idea was suggested to him in 1906 and 'he went off to Cartmel with a crate of books and had more sent by the London Library, and settled down at Wall Nook ...' The book is available for free, online. (<https://archive.org/details/bohemiainlondon00rans/page/n13/mode/2up>) In 1908 he met Constance Walker and they married in 1909.

Pat Rowland

Christopher Rawlinson

Background

My wife and I were visiting a relation in St Albans and whilst wandering around the magnificent St Albans Cathedral, I was comparing the architecture to our own Cartmel Priory, meanwhile my wife noticed a memorial that mentioned Cark Hall and one Christopher Rawlinson. Interest was duly piqued!

Brief Biography of Christopher Rawlinson

The father of Christopher Rawlinson was Curwen Rawlinson who in 1677 married Elizabeth Monk the daughter of Nicholas Monk, Bishop of Hereford, and niece of General Monk, who was created Duke of Albemarle by Charles II.

Christopher's father, Curwen Rawlinson was MP for Lancaster, and died in 1639, having left all his lands to his elder son Monk Rawlinson, who only survived his father Curwen by five years. On Monk Rawlinson's death the estates

passed to his younger brother Christopher Rawlinson. In 1706 Christopher installed a memorial on the East wall of the South transept of Cartmel Priory. The memorial to his illustrious relations in Cartmel Priory, reads as a rather gushing tribute. Regarding his Grandfather, Robert Rawlinson (of Cark Hall) it states, "His great integrity joined with a profound knowledge of the law made him admired by all that knew him." JA note - I guess that excludes George Fox! Regarding his father, Curwen Rawlinson, it is stated, "he was a most accomplished and ingenious gentleman a true Patriot". Of Christopher's mother is written, "she was a most dutiful Daughter of the Church of England as well as a Prelate of it"



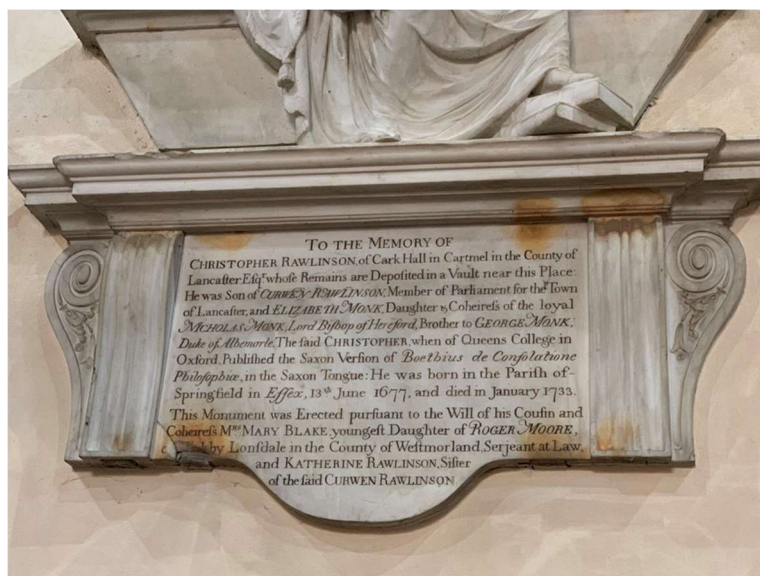
Christopher himself was born in Springfield, Essex in 1677. He matriculated at Queen's College Oxford in 1695. He was skilled in Anglo-Saxon and Northern literature, and he published a beautiful edition of King Alfred's Saxon Translation of Boethius (The philosophy of Boethius). He was a great collector of manuscripts, particularly related to the history of Lancashire and Westmorland. He died intestate in 1733, aged 55 in Holborn, London. He had previously ordered his under coffin to be made of heart of oak and to be covered with red leather. At the north end of the north transept of the Abbey Church of St. Albans is a white marble sarcophagus, with a figure of History and an epitaph in memory of Christopher Rawlinson. As he died intestate the estates reverted to the descendants of his aunts, Ann and Catherine, the sisters of his father Curwen Rawlinson.

According to the Dictionary of National Biography, the furniture of Cark Hall was sold by auction at his death, and his manuscripts were at the same time disposed of in bundles, and were bought for pence by the villagers. (JA note - I wonder who has those in their loft?). Christopher Rawlinson had made valuable collections for the history of Lancashire, Westmorland, and Cumberland, all of which have probably perished. Sir Daniel Fleming had, however, copied extracts from the portion relating to Westmorland, and these extracts were deposited in the collection of manuscripts at Rydal Hall, and were used about 1777 by Nicolson and Burn for their 'Westmorland and Cumberland.'

Christopher Rawlinson's own memorial in St Albans Abbey reads

To the memory of CHRISTOPHER RAWLINSON of Cark Hall in Cartmel in the County of Lancaster Esq whose Remains are Deposited in a Vault near this Place: He was Son of CURWEN RAWLINSON Member of Parliament for the Town of Lancaster; and ELIZABETH MONK, Daughter and Co-heiress of the loyal NICHOLAS MONK, Lord Bishop of Hereford, Brother to GEORGE MONK, Duke of Albermarle. The said CHRISTOPHER, when of Queens College in Oxford. Published the Saxon Version of Boethius de Confolatione Philosophic in the Saxon Tongue: He was born in the Parish of Springfield in Essex, 13 June 1677, and died in January 1733.

This Monument was Erected pursuant to the Will of his Cousin and Co-heiress MRS MARY BLAKE, youngest Daughter of ROGER MOORE of Kirkby Lonsdale, in the County of Westmorland Sergeant at Law, and KATHERINE RAWLINSON, Sister of the said CURWEN RAWLINSON.



Sources:

CWAAS Excursions and Proceedings, June 1894
 Dictionary of National Biography – (online)

Jeff Appleyard

Grange Ornamental Gardens

Can you image Grange without the ornamental gardens and duck pond? In 1893 Grange Local Board reached an agreement with the owner to purchase the site. For the previous seven years the gardens which had been set out in 1865 had been abandoned and went wild.

A 21 year lease, at £5 per year, had been granted in 1865 by the owner, Benjamin Hall, for the marshy area cut off by the railway embankment from the foreshore, to be landscaped and made available as a tourist and local recreational area. When Benjamin died in 1874 his extensive estate in Grange was sold and the land and lease were purchased by Mr Thomas Wells of Norwich for £830. He argued that as Mr Hall had only been a life tenant of the land, he did not have the power to grant the lease. The case went to Chancery Court in May 1877 and Mr Wells discovered that he had made a mistake and consented to the court making an order to grant the lease and paid all of the costs. Before the lease expired in 1886, he had sold the land to Mr Coates of London.

When the lease came up for renewal, in 1886, Mr Coates was prepared to sell the land to the Local Board for £2500 as he had been offered that amount for building purposes. The Board could not agree to this and Mr Coates would not accept less so maintenance ceased and the gardens were abandoned. In 1891 the Board approached him again, but he still asked for £2500. Furness Railway Board owned the part of the site on the embankment adjoining the railway line and they were prepared to donate that to the Board if they were able to purchase the former leased area. After several Board meetings it was decided to approach the principal inhabitants of the area and ask if they would subscribe to the purchase. Some agreed but many considered that the land was not worth more than £1000 and the money could not be raised. Petitions were handed into the Board against the purchase at £2500 but eventually the Board, by the Chairman's casting vote, made a decision to apply for a Local Government Board loan of £2500 adding about 2d in the pound to the local rate, making it about 3s to the pound in total. In January 1893 an inquiry was held in Grange to allow the Local Board and ratepayers to state their cases to the Local Government Board inspector before they decided if they would grant the loan. In April the loan was agreed. Therefore when Grange Urban District Council came into existence in January 1895 the future of the Ornamental Gardens had been secured and maintenance had recommenced.

Pat Rowland



SOCIETY INFORMATION

Contacts (Committee)

Chairman: Stuart Harling (s.w.harling@gmail.com) or Tel 36296.
Secretary: Barbara Copeland (barbara.cland@btinternet.com)
Treasurer: Christine Dawson (christine567dawson@btinternet.com)
Lecture Programme: Rose Clark (roseclark83@gmail.com)
Membership Secretary: Nigel Mills (nigelmillspp@gmail.com)
Social Media: Geoff Beeson (geoffbeeson@icloud.com)
Vice Chairman/Newsletter Editor: Lyn Prescott (lynprescott@hotmail.com)
Website Editor: Phil Rowland, (philrowland414@gmail.com)
Committee Member: Catherine Bottomley (cnblever@hotmail.co.uk)
Committee Member: Pat Rowland (patrowlanduk@gmail.com)

Following an appeal for a volunteer to take on the role of Minute Secretary for Society meetings, Dianne Cameron has very kindly offered to take on this role.

Meeting Programme

Talks are held at 7.30 pm in Cartmel Village Hall. Trips take place during the summer months and bookings have already been taken. Discovery meetings take place at 10 am in the Supper Room at Cartmel Village Hall. If you have any questions about meetings or visits, please contact Rose Clark.

- **7th September** - George Hutchins Bellasis, the first picture of Grange-over-Sands. Tony London will explore a painting and show how it fits into the early history of Grange-over-Sands.
- **5th October** - RAF Cark & South Lakeland Airfields. John Nixon will talk to us about the role and importance of the airfields in our area.
- **2nd November** - Discovery meeting (10 am in the Supper Room).
- **30th November** – Annual General Meeting

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: 30th September 2023**
- Research articles for inclusion on the website should be submitted to the Website Editor Phil Rowland.

Social Media

The Cartmel Peninsula Local History Facebook Group continues to grow, passing the 100-member milestone and currently at 113, with a number of topics under active discussion.

Geoff Beeson

Website

New Research Articles

Since the last Newsletter in January 2023, the following articles have been added to the website:

- The Pubs & Inns of Flookburgh and Cark
- The Cartmel Agricultural Society and Show – early years' history

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