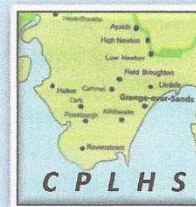


CARTMEL PENINSULA LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

"Bringing Local History to the Community"



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

Newsletter: October 2023

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Chairman's Message

Our lecture programme has now come to an end for this year and I thank Rose Clark once more for arranging such a varied and fascinating set of lectures. I feel I must mention the final one and say what an absolutely amazing talk we had from John Nixon ... and to say that the attendance did full justice to his efforts, with 66 people present.

In the following pages there is something for everyone.

- Lyn's summary of Archive and Registry news always fascinates me and contains much of interest, not only to the keen researcher.
- Please support the Cumbria Local History Federation Conference. We did so last year at Allithwaite but the subject this time is equally interesting and the venue quite easy to reach.
- The books briefly reviewed by Lyn provide a varied picture of local subjects and her experience at an archaeological dig might, I hope, spur others to dip into this aspect of historical discovery.
- The inquiries the Society receives on a regular basis are amazingly varied and that from Australia provides a glimpse into the local past as well as showing colonial connections.
- Our involvement in our local Agricultural Show, the Cartmel Pinnacle and Fish Slabs shown in a wider context and the fascinating background to a former mill at Cartmel follow, all adding detailed interest that is, perhaps, an extension to our knowledge.
- Finally: what do you collect which may be unusual, individual and worth sharing next time?

Thanks to all contributors and to Lyn for all her work and thanks to all members for supporting our Society. Our numbers are continuing to grow despite many organisations struggling to maintain membership. We shall continue to present a varied programme of lectures, visits and participatory events next year and, hopefully, for many years to come. Keep well and stay safe.

Stuart Harling

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

Archive & General Register Office News

Cumbria Archives

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

BLC/PH/120/CB/HIN1 Illustrated handbook: Cark-in-Cartmel, Flookburgh and Holker by J. Hindle, Cark in Cartmel 1895.

BSRDNL/4/LPA125 Application for the erection of a combined Library - Clinic, in field 176 at Flookburgh. 1973.

BSRDNL/4/6876 Application to erect bank premises on Church Road Allithwaite for District Bank Ltd (Manchester). 1969.

BSRDNL/4/LPA46. Application to erect a boiler house for school at the rear of Lindale C. of E.School, Upper Allithwaite. 1973.

BSRDNL/4/6813 Application for change of use of auction mart premises to residential or industrial purpose at Cark Auction Mart for Kendal and District Auction Mart Ltd. 1968.

Kendal Archives

WDX 921/1 Probate of Isabel Dodgson of the Square, Highgate, Kendal. Bequests to Atkinson, Hoggarth, Burrow, Rudd, Cowperthwaite, Edmundson. Property: two messuages at Hubbersty Head, Crosthwaite, one at Yews; message at Pattison Howe, Cartmell Fell and Over Allythwaite; annuities and personal estate. 1802.

WSUDG/2/2/87 Plan: Cartmel Road - Slaughter house for Mr William Jackson. 1890.

WSUDG/2/2/22. Plan: Ornamental Grounds near Grange Station for Grange Local Board. Undated.

Links to new acquisitions at all Cumbria Archives locations:

<https://archiveweb.cumbria.gov.uk/calmview/showcase.aspx>

General Register Office (GRO)

In addition to ordering printed copies of Birth, Marriage and Death certificates for a cost of £11.00 and PDF for £7.00, you can now order digital images of birth registrations from 1837-1922 and death registrations from 1837-1887 at a cost of £2.50 per image. You will need to provide the GRO reference for each entry and you can obtain these from either: Free BMD (<https://www.freebmd.org.uk>), Find My Past (<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/>), Ancestry (<https://www.ancestry.co.uk/>) or by searching the GRO Indexes available via the GRO website. For full details on how to obtain certificates and how to register via the GRO website:

<https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/Login.asp>

Events

Cumbria Local History Federation Conference

The Annual Conference is being held on Saturday 4th November 2023 at Newbiggin. The theme is Riches from the Earth – Aspects of mining history in Cumbria. The talks comprise: An Overview of Mining in Cumbria, German Miners in Elizabethan Keswick, Pennine Coal, Lead Mining in the Pennines, and On the Rails (the Maryport and Carlisle Railway). CPLHS has booked display space at the Conference and several CPLHS members have already booked their places so if you decide to attend there will be familiar faces there on the day. More details and booking information on the CLHF website <https://www.clhf.org.uk/events-diary/>.

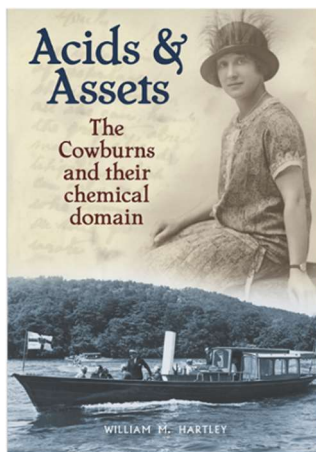
Kents Bank Railway Library & Talks

A unique resource is being developed at Station House, Kents Bank: a railway library on a station! Member Paul Salvesson has a large collection of railway books which he is planning to vest into a trust to form 'Kents Bank Station Library'. It will have a focus on local and rural railways and railway social history. However, the collection covers a

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

very wide area and includes books on trams, buses and waterways. Donations are very welcome. The library will primarily be for reference, on an appointment basis. However it is hoped to have an open day once a month. There will be a small borrowing section and a book sale corner, with monies raised used to help the library develop. Monthly talks on railway history will start in the New Year. A preview of the library will take place at Station House on Saturday October 21st, from 13.00 to 16.30. Teas and cake will be available, books available for inspection. All welcome. Entrance via the steps off Kentsford Road next to Beach Hut Gallery. Details from Paul Salveson on 07795 008691 or paul.salveson@myphone.coop

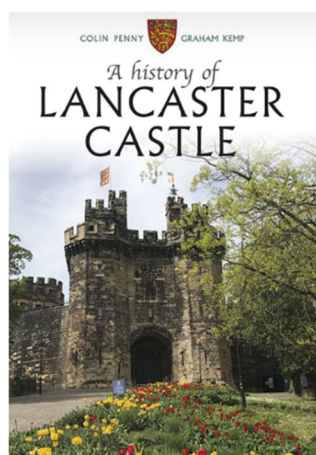
Publications



Acids and Assets: The Cowburns and their chemical domain by William M Hartley

This is the story of the Cowburns, big sulphur merchants of Trafford Park and their rise to fortune from modest Victorian beginnings. Grasping opportunity in an industrial climate, William Henry Cowburn set up his chemical business and within a generation his son Arthur William was the main supplier to the mighty Courtaulds textile giant. Profits streamed in and Arthur William acquired the impressive steam launch, the SL Branksome, on Windermere, purchased the mansion of Booths Hall, Knutsford and a holiday home in Llandudno. Within another generation, faced with mounting costs, punitive taxation and a more competitive industrial climate, the houses, the boat and the family business had gone. It happens!

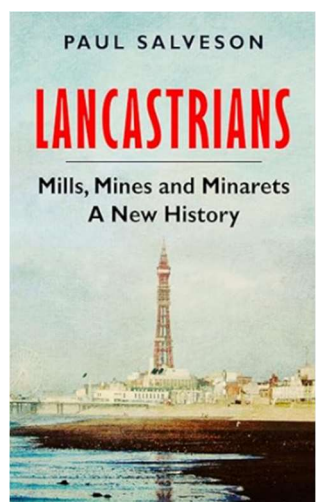
Publisher: Carnegie Publishing, 2022. ISBN 978-1-910837-41-2



A History of Lancaster Castle by Colin Perry & Graham Kemp

Lancaster Castle is one of Britain's major historic monuments. For over 900 years it has dominated the hilltop looking out over the river Lune and the city of Lancaster. Owned by Her Majesty the Queen in her role as Duke of Lancaster, the castle has a unique history. This book charts the growth and development of the castle from medieval times to the present day, but also explores the use of the site during the Roman period. Colin Penny and Graham Kemp give us an accurate historical account at the same time as bringing Lancaster Castle to life with their sometimes amusing and sometimes macabre anecdotes. This is no dry historical text, but a riveting story written by two people who have a passion for and intimate knowledge of this iconic building.

Publisher: Palatine Books, 2022. ISBN: 978-1-910837-42-9



Lancastrians - mills, mines and minarets: a new History by Paul Salveson

Paul Salveson's new book on Lancashire history and identity was published this summer. This popular history explores the cultural heritage and identity of Lancashire, stretching from the Mersey to the Lake District. It charts the county's transformation from a largely agricultural region noted for its religious learning into the Industrial Revolution's powerhouse, as an emerging self-confident bourgeoisie drove economic growth. This capital boom came with a cultural blossoming, creating today's Lancashire. The book is available locally at Daisy Roots Books and Beach Hut Gallery Kents Bank. Paul is giving a talk on the book to Grange Photographic Society on Monday October 16th and he is happy to give similar talks to groups in the area. He can be contacted on 07795 008691 or paul.salveson@myphone.coop.

Publisher: C Hurst & Co Publishers Ltd, 2023,. ISBN: 978-1787389335.

RESEARCH

Hands on History

As a keen watcher of Time Team and similar TV programmes over the years I am fascinated by the process of archaeological investigation and when I spotted an opportunity to take part in the Roman dig at the Carlisle Roman Bathhouse, discovered in 2017 at Carlisle Cricket Club, I didn't need to think twice. The Cricket Club were planning to build a new Pavilion in 2017 when the archaeological investigation prior to the development discovered a Roman Bath House.



Two friends decided to join me, we then had to choose what to volunteer to do - visitor guide, digging, finds washing, wet sieving or metal detecting. I spent the first part of the day metal detecting on the spoil heaps being dug out of the site then had a go at finds washing. I didn't manage to find anything significant (see finds tray with pottery, tiles, bones and glass), but did enjoy being involved and would certainly volunteer again. On arrival we were given hi-viz jackets, then had a site tour and induction by senior archaeologist Frank Giocco. Some volunteers had been involved for a long time but many like us were there for the first time.



During the 6 weeks of the dig this year two large Roman monumental heads and many other finds including dozens of intaglios (gems lost from signet rings) were discovered.

There is an exhibition of finds - Digging Deeper: Uncovering Roman Carlisle at Tullie House in Carlisle until 11th November 2023 – <https://tullie.org.uk/events/digging-deeper-uncovering-roman-carlisle/> It has also been announced that a further dig on this site will take place in 2024 when volunteers will be able to take part. There is a Facebook page with regular updates - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/thediggerscarlisle>

Whilst not within our local area this is a type of experience I would recommend to others as an opportunity to be hands on rather than only learning from books and documents. If interested in more local archaeological projects Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society publish an annual report in their Transactions on archaeological projects in Cumbria: https://cumbriapast.com/cgi-bin/cwaas/cp_main.pl The Portable Antiquities Scheme can be searched for items found in England and Wales: <https://finds.org.uk/> Greenlane Archaeology, based in Ulverston, publish reports of many of their projects on their website: <https://www.greenlanearchaeology.co.uk/>

Lyn Prescott

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

Local Research

An Australian Connection



A recent enquiry from Australia revealed some interesting information. Helen asked about her great, great Grandfather who had lived at Kents Bank.

Meet Robert Delhi Dugdale who was thought to have been born in India because of his middle name. However, my research, using census and parish records and digitised newspapers uncovered the story of a man with an amazing name and an interesting history.

Robert was born in Lancaster in 1857. His parents were James Robinson Dugdale and Elizabeth. James was a successful

joiner and builder before becoming the licensee of the Commercial Inn in Market Street, Lancaster. James became known for creating effigies of Tsar Nicholas and Alexander during the Crimean War which were burned in front of Lancaster Town Hall during celebrations of British success during the campaign.

In an exuberance of patriotism (or was it a drunken bet?) he announced, when his son was born in Nov 1857, that he would be named Robert Alma Inkerman Balaclava Sebastopol Lucknow Delhi (battles in Crimea and India 1854 and 1857). He was baptised at the Garrison Chapel in Preston but the entry in the register only shows Robert Delhi as his names. Did the Vicar or mother refuse to accept the long list of names? He was always referred to as Robert Delhi Dugdale.

Father James died in 1859 and Mother Elizabeth and family moved to Carnforth, where she ran the Refreshment Rooms at the Railway Station. Robert went to Australia in 1876 but by 1883 he was back in Carnforth where he married Alice Wilkinson. Robert was a printer and publisher of Carnforth News as well as a spiritualist and Robert, Alice and family lived in Carnforth for a few years then in Yealand Redmayne. In about 1894 they moved to Kents Bank where they lived until 1903 at 4 Kentsford Terrace. Their oldest child Richard attended Cartmel Grammar School. Possibly his sister Mary attended one of the private day schools in Kents Bank. Their youngest two children Agnes and Elizabeth were born at Kents Bank and perhaps they too attended the private day school. In March 1903, Robert and family sailed to Freemantle, Victoria, Australia on the ship named Orontes. Robert was still described as printer and publisher, but records show that he had a variety of jobs in Australia, including miner, prospector and clerk, before he died in 1930.

Helen told me that Robert and Alice initially managed a newly built Government hotel called Caves House, Yallingup, close to Ngilgi Caves and some fantastic beaches in Western Australia. The area was remote and undeveloped and the newly discovered caves plus the beaches were attracting visitors so the Government built a hotel to encourage the development of the town and tourist facilities.

Helen visited Kents Bank many years ago and cannot understand why anyone would want to move away to the isolated, rugged bushland of Western Australia where the heat and the flies in summer make life so difficult.

Pat Rowland

Cartmel Agricultural Show 3 August 2023



CPLHS looked after the Cartmel Agricultural Society memorabilia tent again this year. The first show was held in Cartmel one hundred and fifty years ago in 1873, but this year's show was not the 150th one as several shows have been cancelled because of war or disease in both animals and people.

It was a very wet morning and soon the field was a very muddy mess. However, it did not deter people and there were plenty attending the much-loved event. We had many visitors to the tent and lots of interesting conversations.

One hundred and fifty years ago the weather was just as bad, but crowds were attracted especially in the evening when the weather had improved and the leaping took place.

One hundred years ago, one of the special attractions was swill making. This craft is very special to our area and Owen Jones was demonstrating it at this year's show. There is more information about him and the craft on his website www.oakswill.co.uk

Pat Rowland



Cartmel Crosses



In the last few months, the Pinnacle and Fish Slabs in The Square, Cartmel have been undergoing renovation. The archaeological report confirmed that little was known about these items and there is no information about when they were placed there. However, an article written in 1903 and published in 1904 in the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society Transactions about Ancient Crosses of Lancashire by Henry Taylor states that the cross appeared on the 'Remigius Hogenbergius map dated 1577'. Hogenberg was a Flemish refugee who engraved maps and today we know the map as Christopher Saxton's Map of Lancashire. However, I have not been able to identify a cross. It has been suggested that the Medieval cross shaft was destroyed by the Roundheads. They also caused considerable damage in the Priory when they camped there overnight in 1643. It is not clear if it is the market cross that is being referred to.

Renovation of the crosses at Cartmel is not new.

Our Society has transcribed William Field's Log Book and these are two entries from it:

1780 'The new cross was built at Cartmel Town.'

1794 ' Feby 17 Cartmel Cross knocked down by John Atkinson'

Another cross, located on the edge of town, is known as Headless Cross. This was renovated in 1914. A report appeared in Soulby's Ulverston Advertiser on 28 May 1914. Mr Hibbert 'purchased a little plot of land thereby enabling the cross to be re-erected on its original site as well as minimising danger to road traffic.' Mr J F Curwen, architect of Kendal, drew a plan for the restoration and Mr Frank F Birch, monumental stone mason of Lindale, carried out the carving and setting up of the cross. The original base of Yorkshire grit stones were reused and similar stone was used for the shaft and cross. In June Cartmel Parish Magazine commented 'The presentation of the old base stones, through the interest of the late Mr William Field, has not been in vain.' In 1936 this cross was listed as being of historical significance. It was described as having a medieval base and a 19th century cross. Renovation does not affect the historical significance of the object and the inspectors did not seem to be aware that the cross was only 22 years old.

The reference to Cartmel Town in the 1780 log-book entry suggest to me that it was Market Cross that was built then because Headless Cross location was outside the town at that date. What we now refer to as Cartmel was at that time three separate groups of farms and houses known as Church Town or Town, Town End and Headless Cross. In the Parish registers Headless Cross was a location as early as 1724.

Pat Rowland

Hill Mill, Cartmel and Vertical Integration in the textile industry.

Especially in the 18th century, the shortage of yarn was the bottleneck in all textile production. The Spinning Jenny speeded up output a little, using up to 8 spindles, but it was estimated that one handloom weaver required six spinners to supply him. In 1771, Richard Arkwright in Cromford in the Peak District, perfected his Water Frame which mechanised the spinning of cotton. He built a spinning mill and once people saw the results, entrepreneurs around the country licensed the technology to build and equip their own mills. His son, Richard became the richest non-royal person in Europe. It appears from research that Hill Mill near Cartmel was one of these cotton spinning mills, operating between 1787 and 1793. The mill was originally a water powered corn mill with malt kiln and drying kiln and was purchased in 1787 by Thomas Robinson, a cotton spinner of Halton, Lancaster who built the cotton spinning mill.

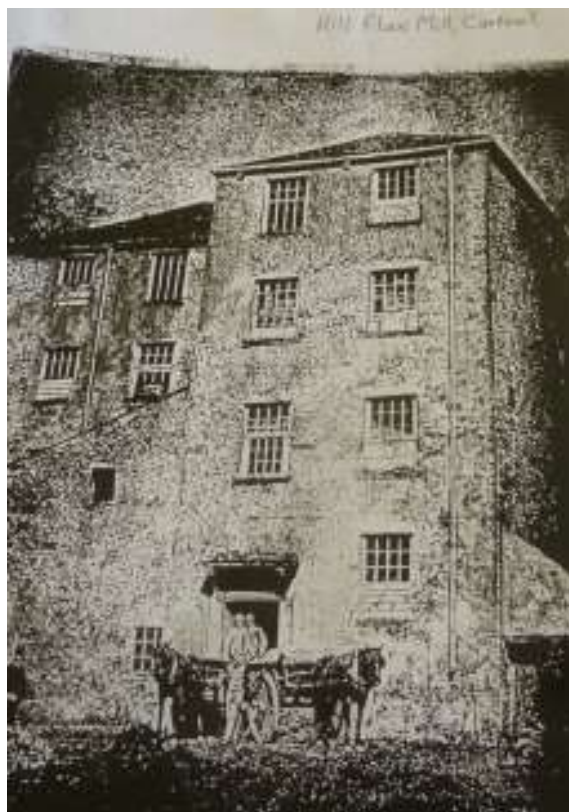
Flax manufacturers tried to mechanise the spinning of flax. Twenty years after Arkwright's invention, Matthew Murray and John Marshall perfected such a machine. They built a mill in Holbeck, in Leeds, in 1791. The Holbeck mill was a 4-storey water powered mill, with a large warehouse, a counting house, stables, a dry-house and shops for smiths and joiners and some cottages. They quickly abandoned water and used a 20 hp Boulton and Watt steam engine which was very successful. Increased demand for linen was spurred by the French Revolutionary wars. Britain began military preparations in late 1792 and armies needed uniforms which were made of hard-wearing linen.

Isaac Hall of High Newton spotted an opportunity, and he got a licence to convert Hill Mill cotton spinning mill into a flax spinning mill, powered by water because in 1793 he purchased it and set up his flax spinning business there. When the kilns were converted to 2 cottages is not clear but they had been converted by 1813 when he sold the site and it became a corn mill again. Isaac died in 1815. There was 'an auction sale in 1818 at Gill Head, of machinery used in spinning flax and tow, belonging to the late Isaac Hall - Spinning Frames; Roving Frames; Carding engines etc necessary for spinning.'

Other large-scale producers, such as the Birley family and other linen producers at Kirkham, on the Fylde, were importing flax from the Baltic and other places but we have found very little evidence of Isaac doing that but perhaps the documents no longer exist. He had been able to buy more land locally suitable for flax growing following the enclosure of Cartmel common land. He was also a noted botanist and had been involved in flax growing trials. The purchase of a spinning mill meant that Isaac Hall had control of all the operations required for the production of linen, from cultivating flax in the field around High Newton, the processing of flax into line, spinning the line into long lengths of yarn, the weaving of yarn in the weaving sheds in High Newton, and the finishing process in Barber Green. This could be the first example of Vertical Integration in the textile industry.

The important history of Hill Mill needs researching and if anyone would like to take this forward we would be pleased to share what we know about it.

David Shore and Pat Rowland



Hill Flax Mill from Mike Davies-Shiel papers at Cumbria Archives (Kendal) ref WDMDS/175

Roadside Heritage

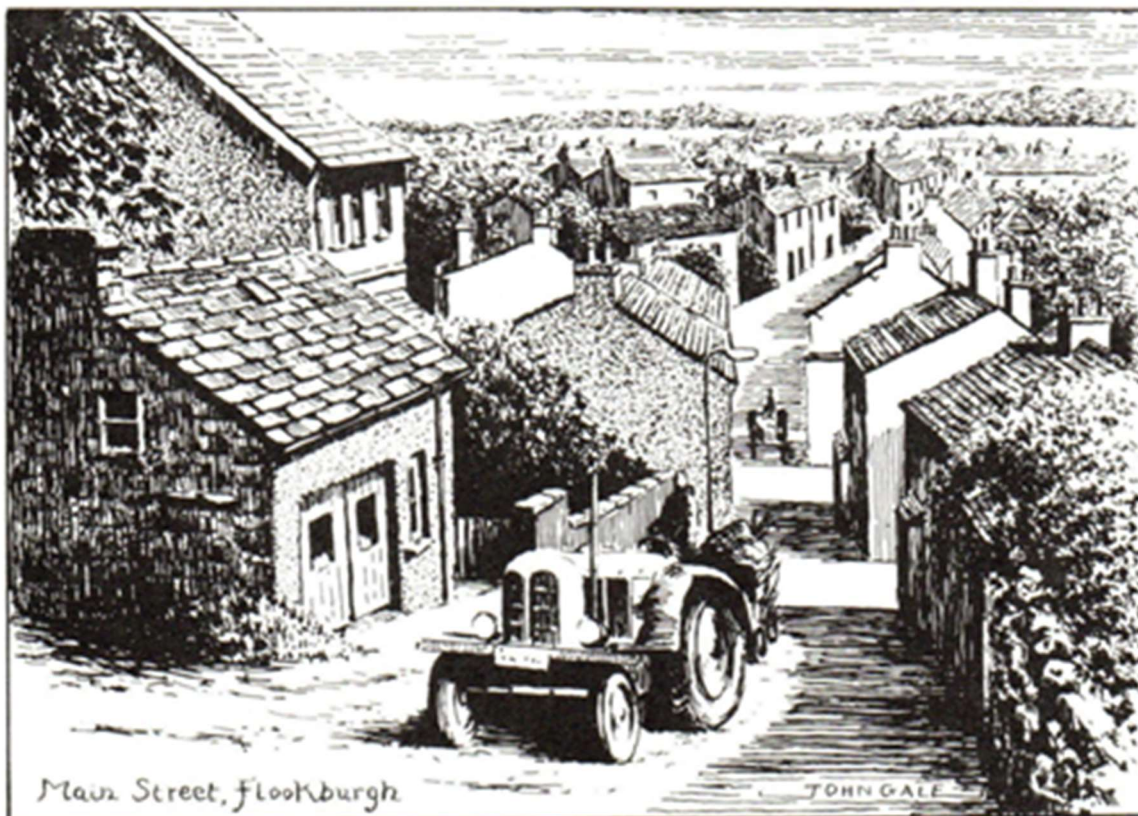


Bill is from Keswick and interested in Roadside Heritage, milestones, sign posts etc. There are interesting differences in style in the former counties of Westmorland and Cumberland. He was wondering if any of our members has a similar interest and know of examples from the Furness area of Lancashire. He will be staying in Grange over Sands early next year and exploring by cycle. Please contact me and I will pass on your message.

Pat Rowland

What do YOU collect?

Everyone collects something surely! For me, gone are the cigarette cards, chewing gum cards, bottle tops, beer mats and dinkies but I can't stop. Now that I think that I am an adult it is the post card that attracts my collecting instinct. Not any old postcards but local scenes and those with an artistic flair such as scenes created with pen and ink or by the etching process. I can't tell the difference but I don't care because they are miniature works of art and generally only cost a few pounds. I appreciate the work that has gone into creating them as well as what they might tell me about the history of life in the Cartmel Peninsula.



I have just purchased one by John Gale which depicts Main Street, Flookburgh. It would be asking too much to identify the tractor drivers, unless you tell be differently, but if you can please let me know what date it might represent, the names of the houses and people who lived in them and of course who is or was John Gale. I ask this just for the fun of it but if you would like to come to our discovery meeting in the Supper Room on 2nd November at 10.00 a.m. that would be great or just drop me an email with any thoughts you might have.....and tell me what YOU collect!

Nigel Mills

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)

Meeting Programme

Discovery meetings take place in the Supper Room at Cartmel Village Hall. There will be a Discovery Meeting on Thursday **2nd November 2023** at the Cartmel Village Hall 10:00 am. The aim of these meetings is for members to hear and discuss the latest discoveries relating to the local history of the Peninsula. The topic for the November meeting is Datestones, Plaques and Dates. We hope to hear some of your stories associated with this topic, (5-10 minutes), or just come along to learn more of the findings of CPLHS members.

Talks are held at 7.30 pm in Cartmel Village Hall. If you have any questions about meetings, please contact Rose Clark.

➤ **30th November 2023**– Annual General Meeting (Supper Room)

The 2024 programme will start in February. Details will be announced at the AGM.

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: 31st December 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 has now grown to 154 members, with increasing posts and discussions.

Geoff Beeson

Website

New Research Articles

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

- The history and ecology of Allithwaite
- Schools on the Cartmel Peninsula v2

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