

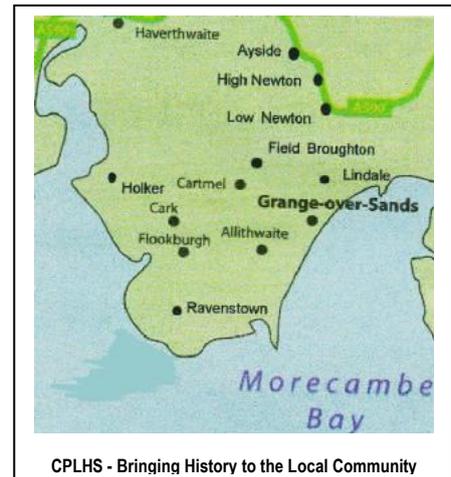
# Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society

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

## Magna Carta Special Newsletter: January 2016

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CPLHS - Bringing History to the Local Community

### Chairman's Message

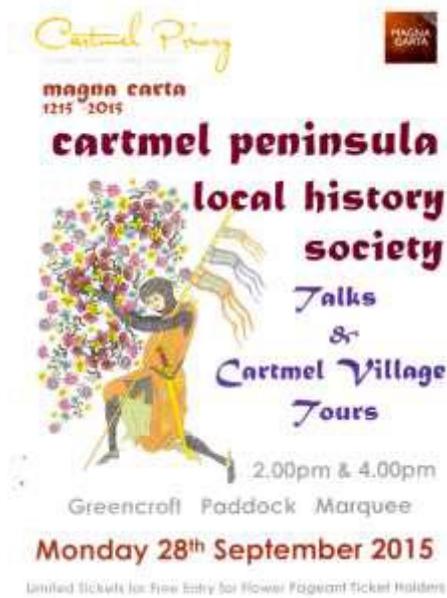
A very happy New Year to all and a warm welcome to this Newsletter which, as you will see, is a "Magna Carta Special", following a busy year of celebrations in 2015, not only for Cartmel Priory but through lectures and events arranged by this Society also.

Not content with one anniversary, we now embark on another – twenty years since this Society presented its first programme of lectures. The programme this year reflects some of the same topics covered in the lectures of 1996 and you will see the details of the first four on page 14. We are delighted now to have over 100 members to share these events. Our anniversary projects are progressing, with many members being involved. I shall report on these as the year progresses.

To those unable to attend the A.G.M. in November I am pleased to confirm that Phil Rowland has joined our committee and I give him a warm welcome. The contact details for all eight members are at the end of this Newsletter.

Looking back to this time last year, much progress has now been made with the Lindale Group which is flourishing and many members are undertaking interesting research of the Lindale area. The "Field Log Book" is proving a mine of information - perhaps more than ever anticipated - and it is hoped to publish extracts and consequential research before too long. So there is much of interest and plenty to enjoy. We welcome your participation and are always open to new ideas further to enhance our object of "bringing history to the local community".

## Magna Carta 800



William Marshall was one of the most significant of all knights and was given “the land of Cartmel” in 1185. In 1189 or 1190 he founded the Priory. He was closely involved with the negotiations prior to the sealing of Magna Carta in 1215 and took a

major role in subsequent years, being appointed Regent for the young Henry III when King John died in 1216. As part of the Magna Carta celebrations the Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society (CPLHS) were instrumental in arranging a lecture in the Priory by Dr Alan Crosby entitled “King John was not a Good Man” on 7<sup>th</sup> September. On 28<sup>th</sup> September we arranged for Dr Sarah Rose from Lancaster University to talk on “The Northern Barons”. This was followed by two “Talks and Walks” (or Talks and Tours as our publicist called them!) of Cartmel by members of the CPLHS. All events were well attended with over 200 at the Alan Crosby talk, 80 at Sarah Rose’s talk and a full house of 35 people for the Talks and Walks.

*Nigel Mills*

## King John was not a Good Man – Understanding Magna Carta on its 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

### Dr Alan Crosby



Dr Crosby began by pointing out that those involved in the development of the Magna Carta in the twelfth century could not have realized its true importance. There was a time when it looked as if it would become a footnote rather than central in the political history of Britain and other English speaking nations. Within 25 years of its sealing it was being used in courts and had become a key document. By the fourteenth century it had become symbolic and in the fifteenth century ordinary people were seeing it as offering freedoms and guarantees. In the sixteenth century England is seen as well governed compared to other countries and the

Magna Carta is considered an important factor. In 1630 Parliament turns to Magna Carta as a cornerstone of the rights of the individual. It becomes both symbolic and a practical charter in many British colonies and in the twentieth century it is used to support human rights.

Dr Crosby went on to discuss the personalities and processes behind Magna Carta and how it survived. King John has acquired a bad reputation over the centuries and Dr Crosby drew on historical texts to help paint a picture of his character. He was able, liked administration and was interested in the law but the records show him to have varied from being effective to incompetent. He appears to have been decadent, lazy, unpredictable, wayward and erratic. His behaviour was often shocking and he meted out savage punishment to his enemies. One historian said, 'Foul as it is, hell itself is defiled by the Presence of King John'.

Dr Crosby pointed out that the early twelfth century society was changing. England was now a unified kingdom with relatively strong central control and administration. There was rapid economic and population growth. The law was being formalized and becoming more complex. Ideas of government were evolving – what were the King's obligations, should the King consult? It is against this background that John became king. He was also an unexpected king as he was the youngest of four brothers. As the youngest he inherited few titles and little land, becoming known as 'John Lackland'. He came to the throne in 1199 following the death of his brother Richard I, the two older brothers having died earlier.

Soon after becoming King, John engaged in a series of wars with France and within Britain. The first French campaigns ended in defeat and the humiliating loss of Normandy. He successfully invaded

Scotland, Ireland and Wales but then invaded France again where his army is crushed. In 1204 he became involved in a damaging dispute with the church over the appointment of the new Archbishop of Canterbury, which resulted in a papal interdict. The barons had become appalled at the extravagant cost of the wars, the loss of lands in France, the disputes with the church and the lack of any consultation by the King. In 1214 a group of barons rose up against John and this led to civil war in 1215. Discussions began about how John's powers could be restricted which led, in June 1215 to the Magna Carta. It is unlikely that John intended to fully implement the agreement and a second civil war flared up in September of the year. John persuaded the Pope to annul the Magna Carta. The Barons became increasingly frustrated and invited Louis of France to come to England. John died from dysentery in 1216 and was succeeded by his son Henry III. Loyal barons defeated Louis and rebel barons in 1217. All the barons then united around the new King.

William Marshall is responsible for seeing the transition of power on John's death and eventually becomes Regent of England. He can be fairly said to be responsible for rescuing Magna Carta. The barons were thinking of themselves and their rights in Magna Carta but it soon gained wider relevance. It was reissued in the name of the new King in 1217. Copies were widely distributed and were read out at public gatherings. Further revisions and reissues took place over the next 20 to 30 years and by that time it had become a reference point in the law and when considering people's rights.

*Mike Hornung*

There is a study day given by Alan on the **Early Industry in the North West** at Lancaster University on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2016. See the Regional Heritage Centre Webpage for more information. *Editor*

# Magna Carta and the Northern Barons

## Dr Sarah Rose

Sarah's lecture was attended by about 80 people and was held in a marquee on a glorious, sunny autumn day which caused a bit of a problem showing slides on a screen.

Sarah explained that many of the Magna Carta events took place in the south of the country but the Northern Barons were very involved. Much resentment against King John was felt by the Northern Barons because of the way he imposed his followers and central government onto the north. She described how the King raised money by arbitrarily imposing fines and taxes on

military service from each Baron but because of the distances involved and the problems involved in travelling south the Northern Barons found it difficult to serve in overseas campaigns. The King therefore had to use mercenaries in his battles and he was defeated in France.



Stuart Harling; Dr. Sarah Rose; Rev Nick Devenish; Nigel Mills

people and removed their rights on land they owned. Magna Carta defined what was reasonable, and protected inheritance. However Magna Carta was initially written in French and it was not until the 16th century that it was translated into English.

The Northern Barons were the owners of large tracts of land in the north and they had more in common with Southern Scotland than Southern England. The Crown controlled little in the north and before John the King rarely ventured north. However King John came every year, perambulated the area, ransomed the Barons and appointed outsiders to important posts in the north, ignoring the established Northern families. The King demanded 40 days of



Of the 27 Northern Barons only 2 attended the sealing of Magna Carta at Runnymede in 1215 but there was reference to Scotland grievances in clause 59. King John had invaded Scotland in 1209 and demanded a payment of £10000. This was resisted by the new King, Alexander and led to clause 59. A security clause insisted on by the Barons was inserted because they knew King John could not be trusted and this resulted in a 25 strong Baron Council, included Barons from all parts of the country, being established to keep John under control. However John

succeeded in overturning Magna Carta a few weeks later and following a rebellion in 1216 some Northern Barons were captured and fined heavily. The 1225 Magna Carta issued by the now adult Henry III was a

document that was consensual and acceptable to both sides. Statues of 18 of the Northern Barons are on display in the House of Lords today.

*Pat Rowland*

## The Impact of Magna Carta on Cartmel since 1215



An extract (first part) from Stuart's talk given as part of the Magna Carta 800<sup>th</sup> Celebrations at Cartmel Priory on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 is presented here. The article covers "Why we celebrate Magna Carta here in Cartmel and gives a glimpse of the village in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century". Parts 2 & 3 of the talk dealing with "a brief idea of the enduring concepts of Magna Carta" and "showing the influence of those concepts on Cartmel by briefly indicating some buildings and sites" may be found in the full transcription on the website.

### What do we know of early Cartmel?

It is recorded by **The Reverend John Dickinson** (a scholarly historian who lived in Cartmel and wrote extensively on the village and the area, researching and writing in the second half of the twentieth century) that the Roman army, led by Agricola, drove the Brigantes over Morecambe Bay and entered Cartmel in the same year that Vesuvius erupted and buried Pompeii and Herculaneum: that was

79 AD. Egfrith, King of the Northumbrian Angles, granted to St Cuthbert in about 673 (677) AD "the whole of the lands of Cartmell with all the Britons in it" and it is likely that a church, therefore, existed here in the 7<sup>th</sup> century, possibly at Kirkhead, Kents Bank. That would have been only small & made of wood. We have no trace of it now. The derivation of the village name is Scandinavian and means "sand bank by rocky ground". The village has also been known as "Churchtown" and "Kirkby in Cartmell".

### At the time of Magna Carta.

**Sir William Marshall** was one of the most significant knights of the time and was given "the land of Cartmel" in 1185 when Richard I was on the throne. He married Isabel de Clare in about 1188 (she was an enormously wealthy lady) and he was made **Earl of Pembroke** in the following year. In 1189 (some say 1190) (possibly as a gesture of thanks to The Almighty for his good fortune) he founded **The Priory in Cartmel**.

**King John** reigned from 1199 and, following his accession, confirmed by Royal Charter the grant "to the Prior of Cartmel of the lands, the Church and the liberties of Cartmel". **The Priory** was built on flat land between two streams, one flowing north and one flowing south. The requirement for water was paramount - both for drinking and for maintaining a

plentiful supply of fish: proximity to Morecambe Bay was also important. The building was constructed from local stone (from Quarry Flat near Holker) and would have been undertaken by a travelling guild of stonemasons assisted by local labour.

**William Marshall** was closely involved with the negotiations prior to the sealing of Magna Carta in 1215 and took a major role in subsequent years, being appointed Regent for the young Henry III when King John died in 1216. **William Marshall is therefore the link between Cartmel and Magna Carta.**

The extent of Cartmel in 1215 would be little more than the extent of the Priory grounds at that time and it is likely that all houses would be made of wood. Again, we now have no evidence. The building of the Priory Church and the monastic buildings would have been gradual: there was no nave to the Priory Church at first. The monastic buildings were built to the south of the Priory Church but, following severe subsidence, they were reconstructed to the north side about 1400. The Priory Church was substantially reconstructed in the 14<sup>th</sup> century and building work continued right up to the Dissolution. During the Scottish Reivers' raids, including one by Robert the Bruce in 1322, Cartmel was laid waste and "nothing but the Priory was spared". On the **Dissolution** of the Monasteries, in the time of Henry VIII, in 1536 the Priory Church again survived as the Parish Church for the villagers was within the Priory Church itself (the Town Choir). Unfortunately, most early records are lost forever (unlike those of our neighbouring Furness Abbey). The

restoration of the Priory Church began in 1618.

### **Life in Cartmel.**

It is almost certain that **homes** at the time of Magna Carta would be very simple wooden buildings (or even, possibly turf?). Stone was tremendously expensive. Not until "the great re-building" in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries (here in the North West from about 1670 to 1720) did stone replace wood as a building material. We therefore have no evidence of what was here and know nothing definite of domestic buildings in this period: we can only surmise. Most local people would **work** in or for the Priory in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Most would be in agriculture (3 out of 4 would be what we would now call tenant farmers): land quality was poor: the area was remote. People would live in small hamlets. In 1215 the **route** from the south was over the sands of Morecambe Bay, with hazardous tides & quick-sands. The surrounding land was forested, making any land journey difficult. Roads or tracks would be in deplorable condition with a lack of bridges. There would have been few inns along the inland route and fords were the only means of crossing rivers and streams. **Transport** in the 13<sup>th</sup> century would be slow and on foot, with horses only available for a privileged few. There would have been little wheeled transport, either by carts or coaches - which would certainly be beyond the means of other than a favoured minority until well into the 1700s.

*Stuart Harling*

## Magna Carta 800: Cartmel Guided Walks – 28 September 2015

“Have you been to L’Enclume?”, “Why are there no wooden buildings left in Cartmel when in Suffolk we have loads of wooden buildings?” were two examples of the many and varied questions asked on the two guided tours that the Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society committee members led around Cartmel as part of the Magna Carta celebrations. The emphasis was on the listed buildings and what we could learn about the social history of Cartmel from such buildings.

35 people joined the walks, although a cap of 30 had been suggested, showing how popular the walks proved to be. Dodging traffic on a beautiful, warm, wind-free afternoon, the groups were guided from Priest Lane, onto Cavendish Street, through the ginnel “What is a ginnel?” onto Park View. From there we walked around Sticky toffee pudding shop “I have seen this in California” and onto the racecourse, where the picture of monks racing donkeys led to the fantasy that the Green Dragon pub (next to Tarragon on the square as stated by a local resident) was named because of a fight by the red and green dragons on the square... We moved on to the Methodist chapel, the Priory entrance and through the Flags to Clogger Beck.

The old Over-Sands signs led to explanations of the over-sands route and Nigel explained the ancient use of pounds and pinfolds which led to some in the group realising that they had streets and lanes named ‘Pinfold’ in their own local area. The return route via the Causeway was through Barngarth where Well Cottage led to one lady saying her friend also had a well in her cellar which was forever damp. A local man walking by suggested babies were baptised in Muddy Pool by the old Tithe Barn dwelling.



The groups included a couple of local people who added to the information but also said that they had learned much about their own village and people from Suffolk, East Anglia, Lancashire and nearer to home, Ulverston. We also learned that the ‘Yorkshire’ sash window, seen in a couple of places in Cartmel, is also found in Lancashire and East Anglia. Some people had been to Cartmel many years before and had fond memories of the village. The groups were intrigued by all the streams/rivers running through Cartmel, especially the one running south and the one running north and by the monks’ fish ponds, crossed by the causeway.

The walks lasted for about 90 minutes and at the end there were many more questions and thanks from the groups with one man stating it was the best day he had had in a long time, capped off by the guided walk. For the committee who were involved in organising and leading the walks it was a joy to lead people who were very much engaged in learning about the history of the village and thoughts about how we can use the information gathered to create a leaflet describing the walk for the village. **The walk will be repeated for CPLHS members in spring / summer 2016.**

*Barbara Copeland (images by Pat Rowland)*

## Cartmel Family Histories

Unusually within a space of a few days we received two enquiries that led us to try to find out more about medieval times in Cartmel. The following 2 articles have been submitted by the people who contacted the society to ask for help and advice with their research.

### The Bigland Family of Cartmel

Growing-up, I didn't have any interest in any sort of history, never mind family history. It was when I took early-retirement and looked back that I realised how little I knew about my family, especially my father. He was typical of that generation in that he didn't say much about his past. He was also quiet and a bit of an introvert, so other family members didn't know a great deal about him either. As he'd died in 1987, he wasn't there to ask now that I'd taken an interest, so I decided to do something about it.

There is only one place to start anything these days – Google. I was amazed that within an hour, I had found my grandfather's name, birthplace and year of birth. I soon discovered FreeBMD and that supplied a lot more information about family members. The next big step was joining Ancestry and, all of a sudden, I had more information than I could handle.

So, who was my father and what was his background. I was born and brought up in north east Wales, where my mother was born. My father, and at least 6 generations before him, were from west Cumberland; Bromfield, Crosscanonby, Embleton, Gosforth, Egremont. Way back, there were a couple of shoe-makers but most were agricultural labourers, so presumably fairly poor. Trying to find work, my grandfather travelled to USA where he worked as a miner. After 7 years he returned to Cumberland. In the mid-1930s, my father moved to north Wales looking for work. I don't think he was successful and shortly joined the RAF.

My interest in family history now extended to my mother's side. I made the usual enquiries and was making progress when I discovered that another relative had done extensive research in the 1940s. It turned out that my great, great grandfather owned a mill in Witherslack and then his son opened a shop in Ulverston. The Dickinsons appear to have become fairly affluent.

My great, great grandfather married Ann Bigland, who was born in Cartmel and my 1940s great uncle had traced the Bigland family tree back to the 1500s. I was very impressed and decided to make some of my own enquiries. With the help of Pat Rowland, I found references to the Biglands that took me back into the mid-1400s. There are relevant documents in Kendal and Barrow Record Offices, where I spent more time researching.

My favourite discovery was during my visit to Cartmel Priory. This had nothing to do with my family research; I was just interested in seeing a very impressive, old building. However, I found a number of floor memorials to Bigland family members and also the grave of my great, great grandparents. I think that I should point out that "my side" of the Bigland family (Bigland's of Cartmel) were "distant cousins" to the more well-known Biglands of Bigland Hall, near Backbarrow many hundreds of years ago.

In summary, I am from north Wales like my mother. My mother's paternal family are from north Lancashire / Cumbria. My father's paternal family have a long history

in Cumberland. Where did my parents meet? In Shropshire, where my father was based after the war and my mother worked as a teacher!

*Kev Sewell*

## James Shaw of Cartmel

James Shaw was a prominent and successful inhabitant of the town of Guildford in the final years of the reign of Elizabeth I. Four times mayor of the town, one of its Approved Men, a woollen draper, merchant, landowner, farmer and also owner of the 'famous' Red Lion Inn, (whose celebrated asparagus Samuel Pepys cut for his supper during his stay there, and thought the best he had ever eaten). Married three times, with grandchildren, Shaw's life suggests a dynamic and talented personality, a master of the complex and sometimes dangerous milieu of Tudor business, society and the intricate social and business infrastructure where family, kin and patronage were honed and manipulated for social advancement, influence and wealth. But who was James Shaw?

His will was written in early June 1594, a few days before his death, and among the usual bequests to the poor, was £5 (a magnificent sum for this time) "to the poore people of the parish of Cartmeale, county of Lancaster where I was born....." So James Shaw was not a native of Guildford, but from the wild and remote uplands of Cartmel. Although long, running to several pages, the will does not mention furniture or personal possessions as wills of this date often do - he rather impatiently bequeaths his last wife Alice, his "howsehold stuffe" giving an impression of a man with little time for leisure. We do however know that James owned a black mare, as he left her with tack, to his servant Miles. But Alice is also bequeathed forever "all that peece or parcel of my garden ...which lyeth from the corner of

the Angell orchard pt pale...the bowling alley there westward as the same is staked and bounded owte"

But back in Cartmel, the trail soon goes cold. No baptism has yet been found, but his first term as mayor was in 1572, and his first marriage, in Guildford, in 1559, suggest that he was born in the 1530's. Did he arrive in the town as a young man or as a child with his parents? His will tells us that two brothers, Edward and Miles, were resident in Cartmel; two other siblings, Richard ob. 1573 and Agnes were resident in Guildford. A James Shawe (possibly his father) was buried in St Mary's Guildford in 1555. We know that James was a wool draper, and that Kendal had a thriving wool trade ("Kendal Green"). Guildford was also a wool-town, known for its kersey, often dyed blue with woad ("Guildford Blue"), strongly suggesting wool was the economic thread that connected the Shaws to both towns.

But the story would not be complete without the political context, for the years around James' birth saw momentous events nationally which played out to tragic effect in Cartmel. Its priory was suppressed in 1536, and following the Northern Rebellion, the canons and ten laymen of the district were executed and the site of the priory and its land in the course of time granted out.

The area must have felt scarred by the events of these years, the impact of ten executions to ten local families in a sparsely populated area must have been deeply shocking and "the poor provision for divine worship by the new service in a

fragment of the roofless church cannot have been inspiring” By 1597 plague had swept the area.,

The questions are tantalising and the answers probably unknowable. Were the Shaws one of the yeoman families who benefited from the suppression and the division of the Priory land? Or did they leave the area out of necessity, perhaps as infants, with the older children remaining in Cartmel with relations? Could James’s father have been somehow involved in the events of the 1530s and found it prudent to leave the area (it is interesting to note that taxation related to wool was one of the economic causes of the Pilgrimage of Grace)? Or did James and his brother and sister set out for Guildford as a pre-conceived plan to establish a family wool dynasty straddling the entire length of the country between Cartmel and Guildford? The parallel with Richard Whittington,

another rural boy, is compelling. Both were from remote and wild areas (Whittington from the Forest of Dean), both dealt in wool (Whittington in broadcloth and other fabrics), both rose in spectacular fashion to become mayor four times.

But James remains a shadowy figure and we hear his voice directly only in his will – perhaps he can be glimpsed riding home from his ‘woollen drapers shoppe’ on his black mare, and relaxing in his garden, or perhaps enjoying a game of bowles or some of the fine asparagus of the Red Lion.

*Elaine Edge*

Cartmel at this time refers to the extensive parish. The full account will appear on the website. Ed.

## **The Flookburgh Fire, 1664, (NOT 1686 as suggested by Stockdale)**

According to Stockdale, “About the year 1686 a great fire took place in Flookburgh, destroying a considerable part of the town” This date has been accepted and repeated by several authors, including Sam Taylor and J.C. Dickinson.

However, it appears there was only one fire, which occurred on 17 May 1664. There are 2 relevant documents, one held in the Quarter Sessions records at Lancashire Archives, dated 1664, and one recorded by Stockdale, in 1870. This latter is undated, hence Stockdale’s phrase “about the year 1686....”.

Both documents record a major fire in Flookburgh on the 17 May, with 22 houses destroyed and 146 bays of buildings destroyed, so it is almost certain they refer to the same fire.

Evidence from other locations also point to 1664. The Parish Church of Thornhill in Yorkshire and the Parish Church of Smarden in Surrey held collections after a “brief” was issued, for Flookburgh, both collections dated 1665. It may also be significant that Charles II renewed the market charter for Flookburgh in 1665, possibly as a further means of relieving the distress.

Can anyone throw any light on the whereabouts of the Stockdale document?

*David M. Shore*

David has given references and sources which are very informative and worth reading so if you can help David with his research or would like a full copy of his paper with source references please contact me or see the full article on our website. *Editor*

## The Meathop Crashes of World War 2

Few may know of some of the aircraft crashes that occurred in the Meathop area during World War 2. However, research has shown that there were at least four such incidents.

The first was on 26th February 1941, when Fairy Battle L5011 of 6AACO was being flown from Kirton in Lindsay to Ringway airfield. During the flight the pilot had the misfortune to lose his map and later, when he flew into poor visibility, he became lost. Eventually, when running out of fuel he attempted a forced landing near Low Meathop but the engine cut out as he approached the selected field and the aircraft struck the ground heavily. The pilot was Pilot Officer Michal Eugeniusz Marczenko of the Polish Air Force and he was uninjured. Little is known about him other than he may have served in the Administration and Special Duties Branch of the RAF later in the war and that he survived the war.

The second incident is believed to have been on or around 4th April 1942 when an unidentified aircraft seems to have force landed near Witherslack, Meathop. Civilian visitors were apparently fined for visiting (or more likely entering) the military aircraft. Nothing more is known about this incident which may have been a mishap that was not recorded by the RAF at the time or the date may not be correct. If the date is incorrect, it could relate to the forced landing of Halifax W7668 in this area two months later.

The third Incident was on the night of 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> June 1942 when the crew of Halifax W7668 of 78 Squadron were undertaking an operational flight to bomb Essen and took off from Croft airfield at 23.12hrs. The crew released their bomb load over the target area from 17,000ft and made for

home. On their return a navigation error resulted in them ending on the west side of England and as the aircraft was using more fuel than normal the crew realised that they would not be able to make it back to base. The pilot selected a field to make a forced landing near Lindale in the Meathop area and made three dummy runs before lowering the undercarriage and landing. On touching down at 05.15hrs the undercarriage collapsed and the aircraft tipped up on to its nose.

The crew appear to have escaped injury and were; Wing Commander Arthur Henry Seymour-Lucas RAF, Pilot Officer Ide, Sgt Robert Kynnersley Frankland RAFVR, Sgt Edward Kenneth Davies RAFVR, Sgt Leon Harold Seal RAFVR, Sgt David Smith BEM RAF and Sgt James Roland Williams RAFVR. Sadly, just two weeks later, on the night of 19<sup>th</sup> to 20th June 1942, Sergeant's Frankland, Davies, Seal, Smith and Williams were flying together in 78 Squadron Halifax BB200 whilst undertaking operations to Emden. The aircraft crashed into the North Sea off Denmark with the loss of all on board. Sergeant Frankland's body was recovered and he rests in Kiel War Cemetery. The others have no known grave and are commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial.

Wing Commander Arthur Seymour-Lucas survived the war and remained in the RAF. He was promoted to the rank of Group Captain on 1st July 1947. Pilot Officer Ide was serving with 78 Squadron by June 1942 and appears to have left by September 1942. It is possible that he was Pilot Officer G E Ide (RAFVR) who also survived the war.

Halifax W7668 was delivered to the RAF from 24th March 1942. It first served with

78 Squadron and following this forced landing it was taken away by road and repaired. It later served with 158 Squadron, but crashed at Scampton airfield on 10th December 1942 on return from an operational flight to bomb Turin. It was again repaired before being passed to 1666 Heavy Conversion Unit based at Womblesdon where it saw out its days. It was struck off charge on 1st August 1944.

The fourth and final Incident was on 20th January 1943. Hawker Henley L3408 was being ferried from Rearsby airfield in Leicestershire to RNAS Twatt on the Orkney Islands, possibly to join 771 Squadron FAA who were based there. During the flight north the pilot had probably become lost and in poor visibility and while circling the Meathop area at a low speed to check his position the aircraft stalled while making

a turn. The aircraft crashed near Ulpha Farm, Meathop at 15.30hrs and caught fire. This was the first time the pilot had flown this type of aircraft.

The pilot was 2nd Officer Ramchandra Murlidhar Badhe of the Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA) and he was cremated at Golders Green, Middlesex. Previously, he was had been the pilot of Spitfire ES147 that crashed at Church Fenton on 16th November 1942.

To the best of my knowledge, the exact location of these incidents is not currently known but, no doubt, someone will have heard of them and will be able to add to these stories.

*Ade Harris.*

## Lecture Summary

### Victoria County History (VCH) What we have achieved and what we still have to do October 2015

Cumbria County History Trust (CCHT) is the body which supports the research done in Cumbria under the Victoria County History (VCH). Angus Winchester, who oversees this work in Cumbria, described the history of the VCH and the present research in Cumbria.

He explained how the initial private publishing of the research, commenced in 1897 Queen Victoria's Jubilee, was focussed on the aristocracy and clergy with topics such as natural history, monastic houses and forestry. The research done was in the Public Record Office in London as there were no local record offices.

The focus on local history changed in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century with economics,

community and social history taking the place of landowners and the clergy, and this was mirrored in the VCH research. Local authorities took over the funding and local record offices were opened.

The county of Lancashire including Furness and Cartmel was completed prior to 1914 with 8 volumes published, Cumberland had 2 volumes and Westmorland none. As the local authority funding collapsed early this century Cumbria now leads the way in using volunteers for research. From approximately 350 villages/townships in Cumbria, 35 have ongoing research. There is still much to do and the CCHT is always looking for volunteers.

*Barbara Copeland*

## New Book Published

**The Allithwaite Boys**  
**A commemoration of those from the parish who served and fell in the First World War.**

*By Mervyn Hull, Pat Rowland & Barbara Copeland, Edited by Charles Rowsell. Cost £5.*

Copies available at CPLHS meetings.

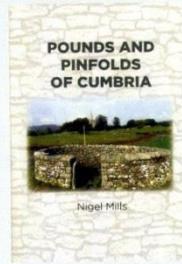
## Books available for Loan

The following books have been donated to CPLHS:

1. Parson and White Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland with Furness and Cartmel 1829 with a CD.
2. Bulmer's History and Directory of Cumberland 1901.
3. Bulmer's History and Directory of Cumberland 1911.
4. The Land of Cartmel by JC Dickinson. Please contact Barbara Copeland if you wish to borrow them.

## Book Review

The following review was published in the Summer / Autumn 2015 edition of the Friends of the Lake District magazine, *Conserving Lakeland*. **For members, the book is available from Nigel for the generously discounted price of £10.**



**Pounds and Pinfolds of Cumbria**  
**Author: Nigel Mills**

The Friends helped launch

Nigel into his interest in pinfolds and has taken an interest in restoring some of these sites over many years. Nigel has continued his interest in these remarkable features in the Cumbrian landscape, some of which may date earlier than many of the field boundaries.

This welcome book not only looks into the history of pounds and pinfolds, their management over the centuries, and how they were used but also includes a fairly comprehensive listing of known Cumbrian sites including, where extant, their state of repair.

The text is engrossing and the challenge is out to find more examples and to better look after some of our surviving examples of these important cultural landscape features. This is a book which no observer of the Cumbrian landscape can be without in their library. Now can we interest the author in researching washfolds? (Sheepfolds by becks where sheep would be pushed into water and washed!)

Reviewed by Ian Brodie

Publisher: Youcaxton, £12.99

## Website

The new CPLHS website is now live and contains all the previous information and data. There are also many new documents and reports, including a special page designated to the Magna Carta 800 celebrations.

Research articles added recently are:  
Aynsome by Anthony Varley  
Grange War Memorial & Tributes by Frances Limbrey  
Hazelwood Court by Anne Cowan  
Hurrock Wood (house history)

Phil Rowland is now the website editor. Thanks to Nigel Mills for his tremendous contribution as editor, for establishing and maintaining the website over many years.

The new website may be viewed at:

<https://www.cplhs.wordpress.com>

Please note that we plan to link the new website to the current url in the near future, although you may still be able to use the above link.

## Newsletter Articles

Members are encouraged to submit news items and summaries of research (1000 word max.) or snippets to the editor by the deadline indicated at the end of the Newsletter. We are especially looking for articles for the planned **Lindale Special Edition** of the newsletter for May 2016.

## Volunteers Required

The CPLHS committee are organising the 'annual' **Cartmel Village Quiz** at the Village Hall on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Please contact Stuart Harling if you are able to help on the evening.

## 'Our 20<sup>th</sup> Year' Lectures (19:30 @ Cartmel Village Hall)

**Thursday 4 February 2016 – Ken Howarth – Rocks, Lakes and Early History** - The lecture was originally given by Murray Mitchell in 1996, Ken will give us an insight into current thinking on these issues in respect of the Cartmel Peninsula.

**Thursday 3 March 2016 – Ian Boyle – Archaeology in the Duddon Valley** – Ian will tell us about the Ring Cairns to Reservoirs (R2R) project that Duddon Valley Local History Group was involved in.

**Thursday 7 April 2016 – Les Gilpin – The Development of the Furness Railway.**

Les is the Chairman of the Cumbria Railways Association and author of The Ulverstone and Lancaster Railway, Les was born and raised in Cark and has been fascinated by the local railway all of his life.

**Thursday 5 May 2016 - Dr Mike Winstanley - Roughts and Respectables: The pleasures and problems of leisure.**

Mike is a retired senior lecture from Lancaster University. His talk is about how Victorians entertained themselves, were entertained and how authorities responded.

## Contacts

### Committee:

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Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Nigel Mills, ([nigmills@btinternet.com](mailto:nigmills@btinternet.com))

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

New Website <https://www.cplhs.wordpress.com>

Copy deadline for the next newsletter **23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016**

### Memories of the Magna Carta Festival – Images by Pat Rowland



Minstrel



William the Marshall



Flower Festival



Son et lumiere