

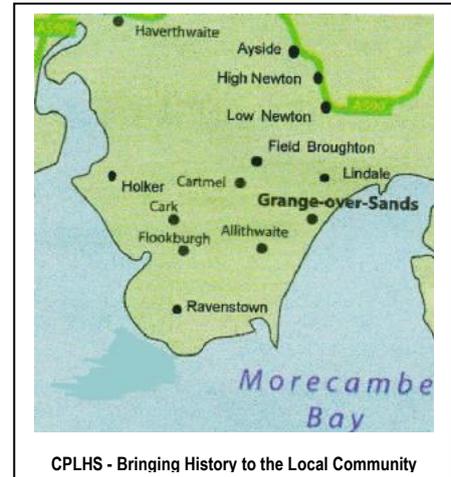
# Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society

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

## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Newsletter: January 2017

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### Chairman's Message

A very happy New Year to all and a warm welcome to this Newsletter which, as you will see, commemorates and records events in our twentieth anniversary year, 2016. Many of you will be as fascinated as I am to learn of the beginning of our Society which puts into context the achievements made over the last twenty years. Our various projects for this special year are outlined together with ongoing research. Might we be able to kindle enthusiasm to undertake research among those who have not yet tasted the enjoyment to be obtained from discovering a little more of our past, be it as to the development of local villages, social changes, house history or details of the lives of local persons ?

A well-attended Annual General Meeting in November learned that we are financially sound, with well over 100 members. We welcomed Lyn Prescott to the Committee, making nine members now.

The programme for the current year was detailed at that meeting. It is available on the website and details of the first four lectures are given within this Newsletter. In addition, we plan visits during the summer months and one which we shall undertake is a walking tour of High Newton, a village with a wealth of vernacular buildings. This tour will complement the talk by June Hall in March. A date has yet to be confirmed for the tour and this and details of a second outing will be given as soon as possible. We are always keen to welcome input from all members in order to fulfil our aim of "promoting an interest in local history within the area".

*Stuart Harling*

## The Early Days of Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society

In 1995 I enquired at Grange library if there was a local history society. The librarian said there were none at present although people had from time to time talked about establishing one. A few months later the librarian gave me Stewart Allen's phone number and said that he was trying to organise a local history society if there were enough people interested.

A number of people were interested and the first committee meeting took place on 13 January 1996 at Fairfield, Cartmel, Stewart Allen's home. Stewart had already organised a programme of lectures for 1996 with the help of John Slater from Grange.

The original committee were as follows:

Officers: Chair – Stewart Allen

Vice-chair-Dr.Malcolm Arthurton

Treasurer/Membership secretary – John Slater

Committee: Barbara Copeland, Janet Niepokjzoka, Peter Wain, Tom Sweeney volunteered to look after the projection.

The venue was to be Cartmel Institute but deciding on a date was fraught with difficulties – as Fridays were already booked, Wednesday was too noisy (bell practice),Thursday was not popular with the committee, Tuesday there were lots of other events so Monday it had to be. Summer field events were to be organised. Refreshments were served at the end of each lecture.

The name of the society was originally Grange and District LHS, then Cartmel and District LHS and then Peter Wain suggested Cartmel Peninsula LHS which has proved successful. Stewart suggested putting the society on the internet as it "might turn up something interesting". The membership annual subscription was £5 per year with non-members paying £1.50 for each meeting.

The society was hoping to attract 50 definite members for a healthy society.

20 years on and the society could be said to be in excellent health with over 100 members. Over those years the committee has had a number of enthusiastic, hard-working and informative members who have supported the society and moved it forward into the thriving society it is today.

The lectures and field trips continue as originally envisaged, and the internet has proved to be an informative tool with the society's website attracting global enquiries. Communication to members is done mainly now through email. Financially the society is doing well and has been able to purchase equipment such as the new projector.

As the society grew, Cartmel Institute proved to be too small and not easily accessible for some members. The lectures were held in different venues including the United Reformed church building in Grange until Cartmel village hall proved to be the most convenient venue. Monday evenings changed to Thursday evenings but the refreshments are now provided only at the AGM.

New initiatives include a newsletter, published 3 times a year and growing with each edition. The society is also building an accessible archive of old photographs, recent photographs and historical manuscripts to support local history research. Oral history is also starting to support our knowledge of local history. Working alongside and with the support of other groups such as Cartmel Village Society and Morecambe Bay Partnership local people are throwing a light on our more recent past.

In 1996 Stewart Allen envisaged the society would pursue local history

research, hoping that "Once we have a research programme underway others might join." One or two members did pursue their own local research but probably the most exciting development in recent years has been the undertaking of a growing number of research projects for the local villages. More members are now undertaking diverse research projects and the society, with an expanding knowledge

and archive, is able to support these projects.

The original committee would have been and are delighted to see the society thriving and growing and learning so much about the local history in the Cartmel peninsula.

*Barbara Copeland*

## Our 20<sup>th</sup> Year and Beyond.....?



As you know 2016 was the CPLHS 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. As well as wine, nibbles and biscuits which, judging by the amount of washing up done in the Village Hall kitchen late at night (which those more observant among you will have noticed I completely avoided) seems to have happened and been enjoyed on numerous occasions throughout the year.

We had several projects running which we decided to collate into one and name it our "20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project". The main project, "A Tapestry of Village Life" was a collection of images of everyday life in 2016. Our aim being that in 50 years-time members of CPLHS can look at them and say "It's life but not as we know it Jim" (Do you get it?). We received an impressive 272 images which are now being collated and indexed for future use and will be added to our archive. For this project we offered a prize and the winner was an image that represented the norm 30 years ago but is fast disappearing from life today. (See later in Newsletter) The winner was

awarded free membership of CPLHS for 2 years, yes, can you believe it two whole years!

The Villages Project was another project included and as you will have seen in our Newsletters and on our website we have during 2016 added considerably to our research body for the villages in the peninsula. Some of the research articles are a bit, can I say quirky or idiosyncratic, (don't you love big words!) but I hope you found them interesting. They all tell us something interesting about the places or people who came before us to live in this area. You will hear more of our plans to expand our village research in the coming months.

Being so busy running around taking photographs of strange happenings did mean that the committee and you the members did not make much progress on the other two areas in our Anniversary Project, namely the Church of England Priests (see the report below) and Dated Buildings in the peninsula. Some progress was made and you will hear more about the Date-stones later in the year.

Look forward to seeing you in 2017.

*Nigel Mills*

## Oral History at CPLHS

The Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society is reviving and looking to expand a special interest group dedicated to collecting the oral histories of its local residents in the villages and hamlets of Cartmel Peninsula.

The older generation of our community has a wealth of knowledge and stories waiting to be told and unless we manage to record these stories a way of life and a local perspective to both regional and national change will disappear without any records for future generations. Interestingly modern technology has made collecting these stories so much easier than when some local history society's first embarked on collecting oral histories.

### What is Oral History?

Oral History (OH) is a recognised and accessible social science research tool which many local history societies have successfully employed. Its principal aim is to capture the lived experience from the participant's point of view. OH approaches are not only interested in facts but in the participant's perception of what is true.

This biographical research can add both breadth and depth to our understanding of the lived experience. In addition, OH is interested in viewing events, actions, norms and values of the people who are being studied.

OH is carried out through in depth interviews which combine structure with flexibility. In practice this means the interviewer will have a series of topics or even questions planned before the interview but needs to be flexible to adapt the course of the interview to allow the interviewee's voice to emerge and to be ready to respond to any new perspectives or topics which emerge from the interview. An interviewee's initial responses are seen as be-

ing at surface level and the interviewer will probably use follow up questions to obtain a deeper and fuller understanding of the participant's meaning, reasons, feelings, opinions and beliefs. Through such interviews, we can better understand major social shifts as experienced by individuals and families; such an example might be how the the coming of TV changed family life.

Cumbria is very fortunate in having a number of well-established local history groups which have been actively collecting OH and they have both experience and good practice which we can refer to and draw on. Elizabeth Roberts whose archives are at Lancaster University Regional Heritage Centre undertook in the mid 1970's to collect OH of the social life of Barrow and Lancaster and later Preston. About the same time the Ambleside OH group was established with the Kendal group starting in the 1980's. Smaller groups such as the Lorton and Derwent Fells created the Three Valleys OH in 1999 and the Windermere Group started collecting OH in 2014. All these groups have a web presence where much of their work is freely available.

Fortunately, for CPLHS one of the founding members of our society : the late Malcolm Arthurton and Denys Vaughan a keen local historian were also interested in collecting OH and the society has a number of newly digitalised recordings with transcripts which were collected in the 1990's. The Cartmel Village Society (CVS) has also been actively collecting OH from residents with Cartmel connections and some of our current CPLHS members are cooperating with CVS to add to these archives. In addition, a few CPLHS members are working with the Morecambe Bay Partnership to collect the experiences of those men, women and children who were involved in all aspects of the fishing industry which took place in the

villages around Morecambe Bay. However, there are still people in the many villages and hamlets within the Cartmel Peninsula who would all be very interesting points of departure for OH.

Creating an oral history archive involves both 'front of house' volunteers who carry out the interviews but it also requires the 'back room team' who need to patiently spend time listening to digital recordings in order to accurately transcribe what has been said to create a digital record. Increasingly transcriptions will be embellished with digital data such as maps, photos, and even audio visual files to create multimodal transcriptions. So any volunteers with word processing and desk top skills would be essential members of an OH special interest team.

The Cartmel Peninsula like many other areas of what is today Cumbria, has, in the lifetime of some of its older residents, undergone significant social and economic changes. The area was until the coming of the railways in the mid 1850's isolated by its geography. Its residents were primarily involved in agriculture with some coastal villages involved in fishing and shipping along with those involved in a number of rural industries based on the area's natural resources. With the railways came increased industrial and economic activity and influxes of people. It also brought tourists of all social backgrounds from the industrial towns of Lancashire and Yorkshire. OH will reveal these aspects of migration through asking where someone was born or when and why and from where they or

their parents or ancestors came to the area. This combined with census records can begin to create a snapshot of life gone by.

OH can be structured around themes, for example, the 2015 floods which the Kendal OH group have started to collect or the Foot and Mouth epidemic of 2001 which Lorton focused on. Equally individuals can be interviewed because of their longevity and long term residence in one particular village in 'the way we were' type OH. Such interviews can be broken down into specific themes such as childhood, family life, school, pastimes and working life . Alternatively individuals can be interviewed because they have had attachments to certain economic activities, such as a local teacher or they lived through and experienced a particular event, such as life in WW2 or OH can even focus on smaller events such as market day. The data collected can be used to illustrate presentations combining the qualitative biographic data with more factual documented history to create local presentations. Again the Ambleside OH group and Windermere have examples of talks that they have created with audio clips from people they have interviewed.

Anyone interested in getting involved with any aspect of OH in their villages should get in touch with Rose Clark and Barbara Copeland.

*Rose Clark*

## CPLHS & Ecclesiastical Research for VCH

The Victoria County History (VCH) Project aims to write the history of every town and village in England. All the research is carried out by volunteers and the Cumbria project has been directed by Professor Angus Winchester (recently retired and now the editor of VCH) and Dr Sarah Rose at Lancaster University. Our involvement started in 2012, with committee members Barbara, Nigel and Pat together with Tiffany Hunt, making significant contributions towards the Diamond Jubilee revision of the history of the Parishes of Cartmel Township (The Cartmel Peninsula).

On the Cumbria County History website there is a Volunteers Handbook containing specific guidance on 'Writing a Parish History'. The guidelines indicate that Section 2 of the Parish History will focus on Religious Life and a key part of this is to try to discover something of the careers and biographical details of the clergy. As part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CPLHS, a project was initiated to compile the biographies of our local Church of England Priests. In time these biographies will form the basis of developing the ecclesiastical history of the Cartmel Peninsula for the VCH, especially for the section from 1840, in the early years of the evangelical revival, to present day. I have found researching the clergy in Allithwaite fascinating and the CPLHS committee hope that other members will be interested in this subject. The research for each clergy member may also uncover the developments at the church, types of worship and the wealth and status of the incumbents.

From the biographies recently published on the website, below is a brief synopsis of the clergy and the development of church life in Allithwaite in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.



St Mary's Church Allithwaite

Before 1850, villagers from Allithwaite will have worshiped at the Priory. From a report on Queen Victoria's coronation celebrations, it appears that there was an Allithwaite Sunday school, probably held in Cartmel, in 1837. In 1854 the Priory Church funded a chapel / school in the village (latterly known as Allithwaite Institute) and the Rev Remington (latterly of Cartmel) conducted the inaugural service in November of that year. The death of Mary Winfield Lambert in 1857 revealed in her will that she had bequeathed land and money for a church and parsonage, which was eventually built and in 1865 the consecration service was conducted by Canon Hubbersty from the Priory.

It was not until March 1866 that Rev Robert Townson was inaugurated as the curate in the newly established parish of Allithwaite with a salary of £210pa. Robert, from a farming family in the nearby Crosthwaite, Westmorland, was educated at Oxford University. He was a member of the outlawed Oxford Ritualistic Movement, whose followers emphasised the rituals and ceremony of the church, in particular the use of incense and the placing of candles on the altar, and of vestments and wafer bread in the Holy Communion. He appears to have been quite wealthy too and his wife helped to run a family

business selling their patent medicine 'Venos Vegetable Syrup'. Robert, together with his choirmaster Walter Winson, established a Reading Room for the locals at the Institute.



Rev Robert Townson

Robert moved to the ancient parish of Gedding in Suffolk in 1881 after successfully bidding for the 'living' and exchanged parishes with Rev John Hammersley. John became very much involved in the life of the parish, and together with his organist and choirmaster William Lamb, established the church at the centre of village life. William Lamb's musical entertainment, often performed in Allithwaite Institute, was legendary, and was also much in demand throughout the deanery.

When John retired with ill-health he was replaced by Rev James Gilbertson in 1907. During the first few years of Rev Gilbertson's incumbency, the parishioners donated funds for a new organ, and some of the other features such as the lectern and the oak reredos which are still evident in the church today. After the war, the Great War Memorial East Window was installed designed by Morris & Co.



East Window – St Mary's Church Allithwaite

However when the window was delivered for installation, it was discovered that the window was not to the design submitted. It was only after protracted correspondence between the vicar and Morris & Co. that a new window was manufactured to the satisfaction of the Church Council. James died in 1930. Both Rev John Hammersley and Rev James Gilbertson are affectionately remembered on plaques in the chancel. During the first 64 years of St Mary's Church, there were just 3 incumbents!

Researching the biographies is a golden opportunity to research the life of the church and social history of the period. To complete the picture for the locality, there are opportunities in the other churches in the Peninsula. The starting point for each church is to compile a list of the clergy and then from this build up the basic biographical details from a variety of sources just like researching family history. For the period from the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Crockford's Clerical Directory is a good starting point for the research. If you are interested in contributing to the Church of England biography project please contact either Nigel Mills or myself.

*Phil Rowland*

## The CPLHS 2016 Photographic Competition

In order to add to the Image archive, which has been created as one of the Anniversary projects, it was decided to ask members to go out and take photos and enter them in our competition. Whilst we were looking for images which were pleasing from a photographic point of view, it was the local history angle which was our main driving force.

Many of us take photos for personal reasons recording people, wildlife and places but a local history photo almost asks us to record what is so ordinary that we can easily overlook what we see everyday. For example, since I have moved to the area, the mobile library has stopped circulating. Who knows if in 20 years, the libraries themselves will have closed. These are the

kind of photos that a local history image archive would want to collect. Without photos to embellish the words, the picture of life in the Cartmel Peninsula in the second decade of the 2000 will be less rich.

At the turn of the 19th century, photos were taken primarily in a studio of the family for a special occasion. Camera ownership was I imagine the preserve of the rich but with technical advances it is no longer seen as a luxury item and by the 1950's the box brownie became for many of us a part of family holidays. Today nearly every mobile has a camera and the majority of us have a mobile. However despite the widespread availability of photo taking equipment, the ordinary and every-day is not a common theme for a photographer.

### The winning photo by CPLHS member Jennie Bleakley



A closer inspection of our winning photo reveals names on the bottles, I remember as a child each local dairy would have its own bottles with stylish lettering. Today although we still have our local milkman or milk-lady, the bottles are more likely to be Dairy Crest or as is the case here Lancaster Dairies. The gradual disappearance of the milkman is evidence of the dynamic nature of the social and economic fabric of life. Without an understanding of milk bottles and milkman who will ever understand the jokes about the milkman!

Other entries for the competition, focused on trades and services, delivery vans, hay

making, local events such as the charity walk to Chapel island, the disappearance of the trees at Tricketts Field in Grange, amusing roads signs and even selfies. But it was the milk delivery that caught the judges eye and took first prize. If any members would like to send the society more photos of the changing everyday, attachments can be sent to:  
cplhsphoto@gmail.com

*Rose Clark*

### **William Field's Log Book update**

If you have been a member of our Society for a few years you will know something about William Field's Log Book. We acquired this handwritten record of local news kept by the Field family of Cartmel from about 1760 to 1890 in 2013. It has taken three years for Barbara Copeland, Margaret Brandon and Pat Rowland to read, decipher and transcribe 360 pages with a total of 75000 words but at last we have completed the task. Unfortunately that is only the end of the beginning as it now needs other people to look at the manuscript to check the accuracy of the transcription and decipher words that we failed to decode first time around. New member Sue Jones has volunteered to undertake this task.

Now we have to decide what to do with the digitised book.

How should we make it available to those interested in our local history?

How should we share researched information based on some of the fascinating entries?

What should we do with the original book? It is in very poor, fragile condition and should not be handled.

If you have any views please get in touch with the committee. Details are on the Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society website - [cplhs.wordpress.com](http://cplhs.wordpress.com)

*Pat Rowland*



## Edgar Gilkes: famous in Middlesbrough, anonymous in Grange over Sands

Edgar Gilkes died, aged 73, on 18<sup>th</sup> December 1894 at his home, Westholme on Fernleigh Road, Grange over Sands. He was buried in Grange cemetery where his grave is marked by a headstone with a simple inscription. There is no indication of the triumphs and tribulations of Edgar's life; his rise to become one of the ironmasters of Middlesbrough, Mayor and Alderman, or his links to the Tay Bridge disaster.



Edgar Gilkes 1863/64 (C/O Middlesbrough Reference Library)

**Edgar's career on Teeside.** Edgar Gilkes was born on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1821 in Nailsworth, Gloucestershire. He was one of seven children born to Benjamin Gilbert and Marian Gilkes. After completing his schooling, he trained as an engineer with Messrs Barrel, Exall & Andrews in Reading. By 1839 he had moved to the north east of England and was an engineer with the Stockton and Darlington Railway (SDR) based at their Shildon works. Mr Gilkes' older brother Oswald also moved north and became manager at Shildon in 1840. In 1843 Edgar Gilkes was transferred, as manager, to the new SDR branch works, known as the Tees Engine works, which was established at Middlesbrough. This works focussed on the

repair of SDR rolling stock. In 1844 Edgar joined with Isaac Wilson to establish the Gilkes Wilson Engineering Company and take over the Tees Engine works. Jeans (1875), in his book, 'Pioneers of the Cleveland Iron Trade' states that 'it may be said of these works that they pioneered the engineering trade of the Tees'. It was expanded to both repair and build steam locomotives; some 250 locomotives were built at the plant. The company worked closely with Robert Stephenson & Co in making the locomotives used in the North of England. They were also involved in the construction of the famous Deepdale and Beelah viaducts between Barnard Castle and Kirkby Stephen.

Edgar Gilkes' business interests grew rapidly, including both engineering works and iron furnaces, and he becomes one of the key 'ironmasters' who led the expansion of the iron industry and engineering in Middlesbrough. The company later became Hopkins and Gilkes and, at this stage had its own blast and puddling furnaces and was manufacturing a wide range of iron products including rails, pipes, and stationary and moving engines for customers across Britain and overseas.

Gilkes became an important member of Middlesbrough's commercial and social societies. He was one of the original members of the Council Board which established the Borough, became a member of the Corporation, Mayor (the tenth) in 1863, and later an alderman and borough and county magistrate. He was an important benefactor in the area, sponsoring schools, helping establish the cottage hospital and a range of other civic initiatives, and there is a street in Middlesbrough named after him. Jeans, in the book referred to above, states that Mr Gilkes was 'connected more or less

intimately with nearly every society, association and institution in the town’.

**The Tay Bridge Disaster.** In the 1870s one of Edgar’s companies, Hopkins Gilkes, was involved in the construction of the ill-fated Tay Bridge, which collapsed in a storm on the 28<sup>th</sup> December 1879 as a train was crossing the bridge. All 75 people on board were lost. The bridge had been designed by Sir Thomas Bouch but was built by Hopkins Gilkes who also provided all the ironwork. The inquiry held after the disastrous collapse, identified problems with the design but also placed part of the blame for the collapse on substandard ironwork. The ruling of the inquiry had a major impact on the reputation of the Hopkins and Gilkes company. The Long Recession of the 1870s had already damaged the company and this added to the loss of reputation resulted in the company being wound up.



A contemporary illustration of the Tay Bridge Disaster  
(From Wikipedia – open access)

**The Gilkes Family.** Edgar had married Emma Hutchinson in 1847. They eventually had five children, four daughters and one son. In 1861 the family were living in Southfield Villas in Middlesbrough. The Villas were built in the 1850s and were a row of 10 large houses built on the edge of Middlesbrough as it then was. When built, the villas would have had splendid views towards the North York Moors. The style and size of the houses conveyed the status of the inhabitants. The family had live in servants and the children were educated at

home by a governess. The family moved to Stockton in 1882 and at about this time Edgar’s health began to fail and he gradually withdrew from public life. His health continued to deteriorate and in 1887 Edgar, Mrs Gilkes and their daughter Emma moved to Grange over Sands and took up residence in Westholme on Fernleigh Road. Over the last few years of his life Edgar was an invalid.

The Gilkes’ oldest daughter Emily also moved to Grange and ran a small private school at Sunny Brae on Rockland Road. It is not certain when she took over the school. She was still living at the family home in Middlesbrough in 1881 but is at Sunny Brae at the time of the 1891 census. It is likely that she moved to Grange around the same time as her parents.

After Edgars’s death in 1894, Mrs Gilkes remained at Westholme with her daughter Emma until 1902 or 1903. She then moved to Clare House with daughter Emma and remained there until her death, aged 89 in 1915. Emily Gilkes joined her mother at Clare House after leaving Sunny Brae School and she died in 1913, aged 64. Mrs Gilkes was buried with her husband Edgar in Grange cemetery and is commemorated on the headstone. Either additional text was added to the headstone at this time or a new one was put in place. The headstone also commemorates the Gilkes’ son Edgar Louis who died in November 1916 in Coolgardie, Western Australia and is buried in Coolgardie cemetery. Emily Gilkes is buried in a separate grave that is located adjacent to that of her parents.

**The link to Gilbert Gilkes & Company of Kendal.** During the late 1850s a Gilbert Gilkes, a nephew of Edgar, was apprenticed to the Gilkes Wilson Company in Middlesbrough. Gilbert had been born in Dublin but had come to Kendal at some time and attended Stramongate School. Between 1865 and 1875 Gilbert worked as a railway engineer for Gilkes Hopkins,

another of his uncles companies. In 1866 Gilbert was engineer in charge of building the iron bridge over the River Dee at Kirkcudbright. In 1881, he bought Williamson Brothers engineering company in Kendal and changed the name to Gilbert Gilkes & Company. The company

purchased the water power business of James Gordon & Company in 1928 and the company became Gilbert Gilkes & Gordon Ltd.

*Mike Hornung*

## **CPLHS Website**

Full versions (with references) of articles that appeared in the October 2016 CPLHS Newsletter have now been published on the Website. There is also an updated article by Pat Rowland on John Wilkinson's Method of Improving Moss Land. The *Latest News* website page contains links to all the Research Articles organised in the order of publication date.

## **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. The next edition, to be published in June 2017, will focus on the villages in the Peninsula. The aim is to publish research articles or overview articles of the smaller villages from the Cartmel Peninsula (ie anywhere except Grange-over-Sands, Lindale and Allithwaite which have been featured in recent Newsletters). The theme for the October 2017 newsletter will be House histories. This will provide an opportunity for those in the Research Group to publish the results of their recent research, and for others who have completed their research to complete the write-up!

## Forthcoming Lectures (19:30 @ Cartmel Village Hall) & Events

**Thursday 2 February 2017 – Claire Asplin - Lindale Cave Excavation.** Claire's family owned the land where the cave is situated. She was involved in its excavation with local archaeologist Chris Salisbury in late 1980's and early 1990's which revealed finds that proved Ancient Britons lived in the area.

**Thursday 2 March 2017 – June Hall – Cumbria's Vernacular Buildings: the evolution of traditional local buildings.** June is the chairman of the Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group which was set up in 2013. She will talk about how and why traditional local buildings have evolved the way they have.

**Thursday 6 April 2017 – Simon Williams – Matchless Disaster of 1894: Morecambe Bay's worst boating disaster.** Simon is the chairman of Mourholme Local History Society, covering Carnforth, Arnside and Silverdale area. He has written two books about accidents on Morecambe Bay. His talk is about a local boating disaster that has been forgotten.

**Thursday 4 May 2017 – at Cartmel Priory – Kelley Sproston-Heath – The Hidden Heritage of Fell Foot.** Kelley is the National Trust Volunteering and Community Involvement Officer for the area and her talk is about the history of the Fell Foot Estate at Staveley in Cartmel.

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**Copy deadline for the next newsletter 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017**