

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Update on our Villages History project

Trip to Keld Chapel and Shap Abbey

Report on the launch of Cumbria Victoria County History at Rheged

CPLHS WEBSITE:

The CPLHS website is becoming increasingly popular and has been revised to show the latest on the Villages Project. The site also has a new 'Can You Help?' page where we can publish requests for information

UPCOMING EVENTS:

23 September: Bette Kissack 'The Life of Thomas Hayton Mawson

21 October: Sheena Gemmell 'Cumbria in the Dark Ages'

19 November: AGM

GROVE FARM

(situated between Ayside and Barber Green)



The following short article written by CPLHS members John & Carola Beckett is an example of a brief history of a Cartmel Valley farm. In it they have given us some information gleaned from OS maps and Census records which gives those of us interested in house history an idea of where to start.

Grove Farmc1900

According to the Ordnance Survey map of 1851, Grove Farm was then known as "Ramps Greaves." In the 1861 census it was listed as "Ramps Grove." Ramps is the Cumbrian word for wild garlic – does it grow in the wood on the opposite side of the road?

In 1851 Edmund Ray was living at Grove Farm, farming 34 acres, and he was also a carrier, employing two farm servants Jonathan Walling and Edward Fell and a general servant Margaret Gardner. Edmund had married Agnes Airey, 3x great aunt of local butchers Stephen and Martin Airey (Aireys of Ayside), in 1835. Between 1837 and 1858 Edmund and Agnes had eleven children, including twins Sarah and Elizabeth born in 1849.

After Edmund died in 1869, Agnes carried on with the farm, helped by two of her sons John and George, and a farm servant 14-year-old John Tomlinson.

Agnes later moved into Grange-over-Sands, probably about 1876 when John married Catherine Agnes Storey from Allithwaite. By 1881 John and Catherine had three children, and employed Thomas Battersby to work on the farm and Elizabeth Brockbank to help in the house. By 1890, however, John had given up farming and had become a seed merchant, moving first to Greenfield House, Allithwaite and then to Flookburgh,

In 1901 Grove Farm was occupied by Frederick Fishwick from Staveley-in-Westmorland, his wife Clara and her father William Atkinson.

Monkey-puzzle trees were introduced into this country from South America in 1795 and became a favourite of Victorian gardeners. Was it planted at Grove Farm at the same time as the house was built? It would be interesting to plot the distribution of monkey-puzzle trees in the Cartmel valley.

Carola & John Beckett (who would be pleased to receive information on monkey-puzzle trees on 015395 36388)

Grove Farm 2010



HOLKER HALL VISIT SUNDAY 16TH MAY



On Sunday 16th May sixteen of our members enjoyed a visit to Holker Hall where we were treated to a fascinating tour by Janet Nelson. Janet had previously given our society a talk about the families of Holker Hall last October which had been very well received. The visit was arranged as a follow-up.

Janet took us round the Victorian new-build part of the Hall, pointing out various details, such as one of the daughter's names carved into the panelling in the hall; the marble fire-place in the same hall, which has inserts of marble from the original (burnt down) building set into the design.

After a very detailed introduction, which took place in the ground-floor rooms, we were given plenty of time to look around the upper rooms—with the additional benefit of having been given so much information about the families who had lived there and the history of the hall itself.

A number of us, after the visit, enjoyed refreshments at the café and also a look around the food hall.

REPORT ON THE LAUNCH OF CUMBRIA VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY AT RHEGED ON SATURDAY 15TH MAY

Pat Rowland and Ruth Hughes attended the launch of the Cumbria Victoria County History. This is a new venture which has as its object the re-writing and upgrading of the famous Victoria County History Series for Cumbria. The VCH was founded in 1899, its aim to write the history of every English county and of every parish within each county; a huge task which was never fully completed, especially in Cumbria. Lancashire North of the Sands was completed but Westmorland was never published, the notes for the county being even now stored in London. Cumberland had two volumes out of four published, the notes for the second two being destroyed.

The new venture has high hopes of being able to utilise the skills and knowledge of local historians and history societies in its attempt to rectify the gaping hole.

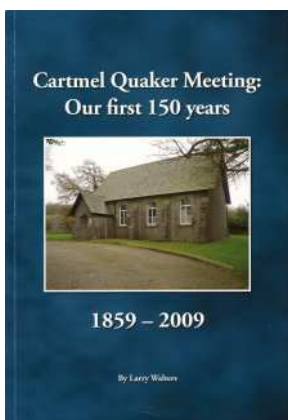
Initial funding has already been secured but match funding is still required to enable the project to begin and carry on for the next five years.

The main aim, at this time, is to produce the first new 'red book' within the first five years - what it will cover, and where will depend on available volunteers. We intend to keep in touch and to follow the project, hopefully adding our support to it, so please watch this space and contact either Pat or Ruth if you would like any further information.

Cumbrian Yeoman Farmers post Reformation

On the 17th June Chris Craghill gave us a talk about the changing experiences of the Cumbrian yeoman farmers; the time-span ranging from their emergence in the 12th century, with the creation of the parish and manor systems, up to the early 20th century when the term 'yeoman' could still be found in trade directories. Chris pinpointed the period c1550-1750 as 'the golden age of estatesmen', ie what have come to be known as yeoman farmers. She discussed how climate change, the black death, the cattle murrains (diseases) and the dissolution of the monasteries all affected the status of this group of cumbrian society, and led to a greater reliance on the yeoman farmer to farm the land in the absence, especially, of the once powerful monastic system. This was a very interesting talk backed up by a great deal of research. It covered an important period in Cumbrian history and left us with lots to think about and absorb.

Cartmel Quaker Meeting: Our first 150 years, 1859-2009 by Larry Walters



We do still have some copies of this book - contact Barbara Copeland if you would like a copy.

The book is £5 and if people want it posting this can be arranged at a total cost of £6.50.

We are not acting as agents or sellers of the book, merely as a contact through which the book can be purchased.

FESTIVAL FOR BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY:

17 JULY-1 AUGUST 2010

Please visit <http://festival.britarch.ac.uk/whatson> for details of what will be happening in Cumbria over the week.

There will be numerous events taking place such as Border Reiver Tours, Romans, Reivers and Railways (talks) and also archaeological walks.

On the site just select Cumbria, or wherever you may be interested in, and the search engine will bring up a list of activities which will be taking place in and around that area. It looks as though there should be something of interest for everyone!

UPDATE ON THE VILLAGES PROJECT:

NOTES FROM THE MEETING 19/4/10

A recap of the purpose of the Villages Project, its scope and expected outcomes were covered. It is a *work in progress* project and experience has shown that when researching village history one item of interest leads to another and it can be never ending. However we are aiming to have at least 5 village histories ready by our AGM in November 2010.

In our recent lecture by Andy Lowe he commented that the Cartmel Valley has numerous large houses and a variety of landscape which has had very little research. He seemed to be throwing us a challenge ! A good discussion of this subject revealed that we already know something about many of the houses but absolutely nothing about others. A start would be to list all the houses and collate anything already known. Perhaps those researching valley villages or the Broughton East House History Group (a CPLHS sub group) may wish to pick up this challenge.

Fred Perry reminded us of Cartmel Priory records held locally and in the Record Offices and of the work he is doing on mapping and recording (photos and narrative) of the gravestones in and around the Priory. Nigel Mills is aiming to provide a look up facility for all records held locally in the Priory. Both of these are long term projects.

The Villages Group would welcome more members who just wish to listen and contribute ideas or local knowledge rather than get involved in written work. For instance at the February meeting we swapped hints on the use of specific sites on the Internet, and uncovered new facts not known to the specific village researcher. Also John is to create a preliminary Bibliography for the project to help researchers.

The Villages Group is currently working on Field Broughton, Kents Bank, Grange-over-Sands, Allithwaite, Ravenstown and Meathop.

Please come along to our next workshop is on 19th July 2010 at 7.30 in Cartmel Village Hall Supper Room.

CARTMEL PENINSULA LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY.
PROPOSED OUTING TO KELD CHAPEL, SHAP ABBEY and SHAP
LOCAL HISTORY HERITAGE CENTRE: 1st AUGUST, 2010.



10.30. Arrive at Keld Chapel where our guide, Harry Hawkins, will meet us and show us round the Chapel. There is ample car parking beyond the Chapel which is immediately visible as you enter the village of Keld from the direction of Shap. The road leading to Keld is on the left off the A6 to the north end of Shap and signed "Bampton: Haweswater: Shap Abbey". Proceed along this road and take the left fork signed "Keld": proceed about 0.7 miles (it is a single-track road). The Chapel is at O.S. map ref: NY 553145.

11.00. Depart for walk to Shap Abbey (approx 0.6 miles): for those not wishing to walk there are spaces for only about 6 / 8 cars at Shap Abbey. It will be wise, therefore, to share transport and to take as few cars there as possible. To travel by car you need to retrace the route towards Shap and turn left at the point where you turned from this road to go to Keld, following the signs for Shap Abbey (approx. 0.7 miles: again a single-track road). Do not be put off by the road finishing at a concrete track going steeply downhill across a field! Proceed down that track which bears left, (past a house), over a bridge and to the car park on the right.

11.30. Arrive at Shap Abbey for guided tour by Harry Hawkins.

1.00. Opportunity to picnic in the grounds of the Abbey, after which those who have walked to the Abbey need to walk back to Keld to collect their cars and drive to Shap. Turn right onto the A6 (heading south) and park in the car park on the left-hand side of the road just after the Primary School for the Heritage Centre which is on the opposite side of the A6 (the rather old, "quirky" building by the road-side). The Centre is open from 1.00p.m. to 4.00p.m. Anyone not wishing to see the exhibition may return home and anyone not choosing to have a picnic can go straight to the Heritage Centre).

2.00/2.30. For those visiting Shap Local History Heritage Centre (in addition to other exhibits) there is an exhibition on Mardale (the village submerged when the Haweswater reservoir was created). Admission is £1.50 payable direct to the Centre. Members are free to look through the Heritage Centre at leisure and to depart for home when convenient to them.

Please contact S.W.Harling on 01539 536296 if you would like to go on this trip so that we can keep a check on numbers and also arrange car sharing etc.

Can You Help?

The Westmorland Gazette is looking for small pieces to be published in its Nostalgia pages. What they would like are pieces on childhood memories from anyone who has lived in the area during their childhood.

It could be that you have a story to tell about growing up in the area; something to say about your school days - perhaps your teachers or childhood friends. Perhaps it is about the way your village has changed over the years or about a particular character or building that you remember but which is now gone.

If you do have anything please do contact the Westmorland Gazette - they would be very pleased to hear from you - alternatively contact one of the society's committee members who would be pleased to help you if you wish to get your story into print but are not sure how to go about it.

**Please don't forget to visit our website
at www.cartmel-peninsula-lhs.org.uk**

Committee Members 2010

Chairperson:	Barbara Copeland (Tel: 01539533165)
Treasurer:	Nigel Mills
Secretary:	Ruth Hughes (Tel: 01539532591)
Committee Members:	Malcolm Arthurton Pat Rowland Stuart Harling Mike Hornung

We welcome letters and articles for inclusion in this Newsletter. If you have anything you would like to have published please contact the Newsletter Editor:

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