

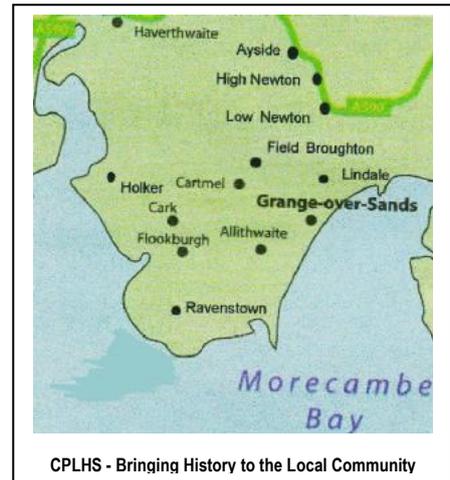
Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society

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

Newsletter : January 2015

Contents

Chairman's Message
Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group Report
Grange Institute
Sarah Losh of Wreay
Hulton archive saved
Cartmel Priory Graveyard Project
Laurence Binyon update
Yewbarrow
Palace Building School Project.
Lindale Village Research Progress Report
Cartmel Village Society
Website News
Beating the Bounds of Allithwaite Upper Parish
Dates for your diary
Subscriptions for 2015 now due
Lecture in May one week later
Forthcoming Lectures & Contacts



Chairman's Message

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2015. Many thanks to Frank McCall for editing the Newsletter for the past few years and welcome (and warm thanks) to Phil Rowland who has assumed the role of editor.

Looking back to 2014, we had a busy year - and not only with a varied programme of lectures, an interesting A.G.M. and the trips to Heron Corn Mill and Lowther Castle. The Lindale Village Group is now well-established and has a good number of keen participants. Research was completed and there is now a full record of the gravestones in the Churchyard at Cartmel Priory. For this the main thanks are due to Freddy Perry but two other members of our society assisted in recent years. The record of date stones is growing and the hard, but interesting, work of researching each one now needs attention:

any volunteers welcome! Work on "The William Field Log Book" continues, with much yet to be discovered.

For the future, we have a well-balanced programme of lectures of interest to all and trips will be arranged for the summer to Sizergh Castle and The Wordsworth Museum. Our group activities will continue as will the other research projects that are in hand. This year sees the celebration of the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta. Sir William Marshal who founded Cartmel Priory was one of King John's leading knights and his association with the Magna Carta means Cartmel is included in the national celebrations. The Priory is holding a five day festival of celebration between 25th and 29th September and our society is involved, although the final details have yet to be arranged. Further details will be given later in the year.

Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group Report

Vernacular buildings are the “home-grown” buildings constructed for a particular purpose from materials to hand, using local skills and traditions. Our County has a rich heritage of such buildings comprising houses, barns and “utility” buildings. Their construction and style contrasts with the “polite” buildings which are much grander and often architect-designed.

The Cumbria Group celebrated its first complete year in the autumn of 2014. Set up by June Hall following a series of workshops and lectures throughout the County in the spring of 2013, the membership is now in excess of one hundred. The Group aims to study and record examples of Cumbria’s vernacular buildings and to increase enjoyment and understanding of them through field visits, training, lectures, study days and walks. It also aims to create an archive of detailed records of such buildings.

A well-attended Study Day was held at Cockermouth in November on “*The Great Rebuild: how thorough was it?*” The first speaker was June Hall herself and she summarised the day’s topic for discussion as “the modernisation of Britain’s housing stock” largely during the period from the late-1500s to the mid-1600s, although in Cumbria and other northern counties the period was slightly later (mid 1600s to about 1720). The result was the construction of better houses of more permanent materials.

Reference was made by June and by the next speaker, Prof Michael Mullett, to the excellent book by W.G.Hoskins on “*The*

Making of the English Landscape” (first published in 1955) which gives a detailed commentary on the development of the countryside and the effect of buildings through the ages. It was in that work that the concept of “the Great Rebuild” was examined.

The talk by Michael widened the debate as he demonstrated the effect of the Black Death on reconstruction and the start of a long period of rebuilding, not only here but throughout Europe. He covered the effect of the dissolution of the monasteries on the release of capital to enable rebuilding to occur as well as the growth of awareness of the individual, the rise in literacy and the growth of dissenting religious groups.

Christine Craghill (who once lived in Grange-over-Sands) and Barry Harrison (from the Yorkshire Group) gave presentations showing examples of rebuilding, both in Cumbria and Yorkshire, suggesting that certain rebuilding may well have departed from strictly vernacular methods, moving into more planned development, using materials from further afield.

The day closed with an opportunity to look round the Market Place and Castle areas of Cockermouth and to visit Percy House and the sites of several mills.

Anyone interested in learning more of the Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group should speak to me or Nigel Mills. Reference should also be made to the website: www.cvbq.co.uk.

Stuart Harling

Grange-over-Sands Institute

Canon Henry Robert Smith became Vicar of St. Paul's Church, Grange in 1858 a year after the arrival of the railway and saw the town grow rapidly. Canon Smith perceived the need to supply the working men of the town with facilities for "rational recreation, social improvement and intellectual and moral advancement and in particular to supply lectures and readings on literary and scientific subjects and intellectual amusement."

He purchased, in 1866, a site in Main Street, from James Simpson Young of Abbot Hall, Kent's Bank. On it he built a block consisting of two shops with a large room above in which to hold meetings, he later acquired the whole building for the Institute, at a total cost of £800. Facilities for billiards and chess were provided together with an ongoing programme of lectures under the management of a committee. Canon Smith's eldest son, Henry Eden Smith later became President of the Institute, thus continuing his father's vision.

The Institute was the pioneer in establishing a cultural and social programme for the people of Grange but by 1900 recreational activities began to take precedence over cultural activities.



The Grange Lecture Society, the Grange Natural History Society, the Grange Photographic society and the Grange Literary and Scientific Society appeared in the late 19th and early 20th century, taking

the place of the cultural activities of the Institute and leaving only the Snooker tables upstairs for the use of Institute members and the two meeting rooms below.

Present Day

Formerly known as The Working Men's Institute, Grange Institute now offers Membership to all adults. There are 2 high quality snooker tables upstairs which are available to members and visitors. On the ground floor are 2 meeting rooms which are available for hire by local groups of up to 24 people. The meeting rooms' main users are U3A groups. Friendly Bridge group meets weekly and the rooms are also used for a local Crafts Group, "Canvas & Thread", Grange Drama Rehearsals and committee meetings by groups, such as the Prom Art Committee.

The meeting rooms have been redecorated and new carpets and curtains replace the old. Roof repairs have been undertaken and the beautiful, original stained glass windows have been repaired by a local craftsman, with the aid of grants from Neighbourhood Forum, Grange Town Council, The Lions and individual donations.

2014 has seen the installation of a modern central heating system to ensure more economical and reliable heating for all the rooms. Grants from "Awards for All", Bay Villa Trust, Hatfield Trust, Neighbourhood forum, Frieda Scott Trust and many personal donations have enabled us to complete this project, for which we thank all concerned.

Thanks to Professor Michael Atkinson (source British Library at Colindale) for the historical information above.

Peter & Janet Coomber

Sarah Losh of Wreay

Simon Jenkin's describes the church at Wreay (near Carlisle) as one of the most eccentric small churches in England. Consecrated in 1842 it was created by Sarah Losh, the daughter of an educated ironmaster. She described the style as early Saxon or modified Lombard. Internally the church is decorated with a magnificent collection of carved wooden and stone items from nature including many pinecones. I discovered the church a few years ago and I urge you to visit and explore it.



<http://www.visitcumbria.com/car/wreay-st-marys-church/> accessed 13 Jan 2015

I was offered the loan of a book that explored the life of Sarah Losh and her family and I eagerly read it to discover more about this fascinating lady. Its title is *'The Pinecone. The story of Sarah Losh, forgotten Romantic heroine, antiquarian, architect and visionary.'* It was written by Jenny Uglow and was published by Faber and Faber in 2012.

Sarah was born in 1786 and died in 1853. Her mother Isabella died in 1799 and her father John died in 1814. Sarah's uncle James was close to his niece and tutored her and greatly influenced her. He and his wife Cecilia lived in Bath, Bristol, Aldingham and finally settled in Newcastle. He was awarded the freedom of the city in 1830. In 1833 he was appointed Recorder of Newcastle but soon after he died of a stroke and his funeral procession was a quarter of a mile long. A memorial to him

inscribed 'friend of the poor' was erected. Sarah's home was at Wreay but she visited James and other family members around the country on a regular basis and travelled to Italy in 1817. The book is very detailed about many aspects of her life and about the creation of the Church. I recommend it.

I was very surprised to find a connection to Grange-over-Sands. Starting from information in the book I have researched the members of the family that were connected to Grange. Her father's brother James married Cecilia Baldwin of Aldingham in 1798 and following his death in 1833 Cecilia moved from Newcastle to live in Grange-over-Sands until her death in 1841. Several of her children came to live with her and her eldest daughter Cecilia (1801-1866) married William Gale of Aldingham. Her two youngest daughters also married local men. Margaret (1813-1894) married Edmund Townley who was a minister at Staveley, Newby Bridge. Jemima (1817-1901) married Richard Postlethwaite (1806-1872). Jemima and Richard lived at Woodhead (Grange Fell Road) which Richard had purchased in 1839 and were recorded there in the 1851 and 1861 census. Richard was described as a landed proprietor and a magistrate.



Woodhead, Grange Fell Road, Grange-over-Sands. Pat Rowland.

In 1871 they lived at Hardcragg (Grange Fell Road). In 1891 both Jemima and Margaret were widows and were recorded

in the census at Town Head, Staveley in Cartmel. In 1901 Jemima was back at Hardcragg. Jemima and Richard's only surviving child, also named Jemima, married Thomas Townley in 1867. Jemima and Thomas had a son in 1869 at Hardcragg and named him William Greetham Marshall Townley. He was credited with introducing the first herd of jersey cows to the Grange District and his chief dairy maid Mrs Jackson won a fancy butter competition at the 1898 Dairy Show in London. Beatrix Potter was a friend of the Townley's and visited them regularly. I would like to think Sarah also came and visited her aunt and cousins in Grange before her death in 1853.

Pat Rowland



Hardcragg Hall

<http://www.groupaccommodation.com/properties/hardcragg-hall-cumbria-lake-district>
accessed 9 Jan 2015.

Hulton Archive saved



A document written in 1418 by Prior John Till

In September when *Alan Crosby* gave a talk on Monasteries, his wife made a plea for donations to save the Hulton Archive which included a magnificent old document from Cartmel Priory which those who attended the lecture were able to view. I am pleased to report that the Friends of Lancashire Archives raised the £95000 needed to secure the archive and make it available for public access. A major donor

Pat Rowland

was Downton Abbey creator Julian Fellowes.

An extract from Wednesday 19 November 2014 Bolton News: County Archive Service manager *Jacqui Crosby* said: "A relative of Julian Fellowes living in France saw The Bolton News story online and got in touch with him about it. Julian Fellowes is a direct descendant of the Hultons. His great grandmother was Maria Isabella Hulton who married Professor John Wrightson, the founder of Downton Agricultural College near Salisbury in Wiltshire. Julian got in touch with us and made a donation and has raised the profile of our campaign by voicing his concern over the potential loss to the public of the family archive. He has been in touch with us and made it clear that Downton Abbey was inspired by his historic connections to the Hulton family."

Cartmel Priory Graveyard Project



Work to record the memorial stones in the Priory Churchyard is a project that Freddy Perry of Cartmel has dedicatedly coerced, or should I say encouraged, fellow members of the Priory congregation and friends to help him with over the past 10 - 20 years. Much was achieved in the early years but the initial enthusiasm of volunteers waned a bit as the size of the task hit home. Over 400 memorial stones are still standing with over 1200 names inscribed on them, not counting those undecipherable because of erosion. Nevertheless a lot was achieved by the first volunteers and Freddy illustrated each gravestone surveyed with extremely detailed and artistic drawings of each stone showing the shape and the intricate carvings on each memorial. These illustrations would have been an impressive record of the stones but guess what happened before the survey was completed. Freddy discovered the digital camera!

So, yes you have guessed it, we had to start again. This time Freddy used his "charms" on Stuart Harling and myself, and

together with wooden posts, coloured tape and a sledge hammer we taped off the unrecorded sections of the churchyard to enable Freddy to draw up maps ready for the detailed survey. We had some strange looks and not just from the local sheep! To cut a very long story short the project is now finished, so please do not mention the wall and floor memorials in the Priory itself to Freddy, or Stuart and I will have to emigrate!

With the kind permission of Freddy and the Rev'd Nick Devenish these records are now on our website and worth looking at even if you are not tracing your relatives. The epitaphs on the headstones give us an insight into life in Cartmel many years ago. If you wish to see paper copies of the records please ask at the welcoming desk in the Priory where the Steward will be pleased to show you them.

Nigel Mills



Laurence Binyon update

John Beckett provided further information relating to the article in the last newsletter.

He says re the piece about Laurence Binyon – “he was definitely not a Quaker, neither was his father, who was vicar of Burton-in-Lonsdale when Laurence was born. Alfred and Lucy Binyon had left the Quakers in 1836 following a major upset in Manchester, and the family was very much involved with the C of E subsequently – son Frederick was a vicar, and two daughters married vicars (the Remington brothers)”.

After submitting the article I also discovered that Laurence’s brother John, born in 1868, trained as a solicitor and was also living at Newlands, Church Hill, Grange, next door to Emily, with his wife Mabel in the 1901 census. Frederick, Laurence and John’s father, died at John’s house in 1900 (not at his sister Emily’s house next door) and was buried at Lindale Church. John had a law practice in Ulverston called Binyon and Chapman and he was the military representative at Conscription Appeal Tribunals held at Grange.

Pat Rowland

Yewbarrow

We were recently asked by Peter Connon, author, in connection with his third book on the *Aeronautical History of the Cumbrian Dumfries & Galloway region* about the houses called Yewbarrow in Grange-over-Sands. The properties he wanted to identify were Yewbarrow Hall (occupied by Leigh); Yewbarrow House (occupied by Michaelson) and Yewbarrow Lodge (occupied by Porritt).

Yewbarrow Hall and Yewbarrow Lodge are the same property. It is situated above the

Ornamental Pond with access from the main road through Grange. Yewbarrow House is on Hampsfell Road above Yewbarrow Lodge, Another Yewbarrow is Yewbarrow Cottage which is situated next to but before reaching Yewbarrow House.

The first reference to Yewbarrow Hall found was in 1890 and Evan Arthur Leigh who died when the SS Lusitania was sunk in 1915 lived at Yewbarrow Hall. It reverted to Yewbarrow Lodge when sold in 1919. In 1919 sales particulars for the Yewbarrow Estate, Yewbarrow Lodge was described as a mansion and Yewbarrow Cottage and House were described as villas. Yewbarrow Lodge was one of the first large properties to be built in the tiny hamlet of Grange and the earliest reference I can find to it was 1833 when the owner Benjamin Hall obtained a Game Certificate. I am researching and compiling information about the Yewbarrow Estate. Do you have any information you could share with me?

Pat Rowland

Keg and Kitchen Pub, former Palace Building

In October we were asked if we had an old picture of Palace Buildings for a school project on old buildings in Grange. We were able to find and supply a picture and an advert.



‘Boys will be Boys’, was showing at the Palace Cinema when this photograph by Dodgsons was taken. The times were the 1920’s. Originally films were shown in the Victoria Hall but the Nelsons erected this purpose built 600 seat Cinema in 1922. It was closed as a Cinema in 1963. Photograph from the Dodgson collection.

From John Marsh’s book *Grange, Cartmel and District in Times Past* published in 1988 by Countryside Publications Ltd.

Pat Rowland

Lindale Village History Group

We meet informally every 6 to 8 weeks in Lindale and talk about our findings and various aspects of this fascinating hillside village. Our collection of old photographs is building to form an archive and a memory jogger for the longer time residents of the village. Several interviews to capture memories of Lindale have taken place to give a more complete picture and to draw out the more, shall we say, interesting events that have occurred in the village. A long lost record relating to Lindale School has been discovered as have several old photographs not previously seen by members of the group. Discovering local history is I think largely a matter of linking information together and a member is extending what we already hold by recording the businesses that have advertised in the Grange Red Books since 1939 so that the Lindale businesses of the past can be identified. The picture of Lindale is slowly building and the Lindale link on our website is worth a visit. If you are interested in joining the group or being involved in a group for your village please get in touch.

Nigel Mills

Cartmel Village Society

The CPLHS is working with the Cartmel Village Society (CVS) in investigating the opportunity to build an online archive of historical documents (referred to as a digital history) which will be of interest to the local community. This is a fruitful relationship which could benefit both our Societies and John Batty of the CVS has written the following.

The Cartmel Village Society is keen to recruit new members. There is no membership fee and no obligation to become involved in any CVS activities or attend meetings (although of course anyone who is interested to help out with a CVS project

– such as “Digital History” – would of course be welcomed). Neither is residence in the village a requirement as the CVS already has members from the surrounding area. All that is required is an interest in the Cartmel community and a willingness to provide e.g. an email address so that you can be informed of local issues.

By way of example, the CVS is often asked to take a position representing the community on planning applications such as those at Firmary Field and Haggis Lane. They find this is best done by advising members of the particular application and canvassing views in order to obtain a representative opinion. So in such an event you could expect to receive an email which provided specifics of the case and asked for your views (without, of course, any obligation to respond).

Anyone interested to join the CVS should simply send a short email to that effect to cartmelvillagesociety@gmail.com

Nigel Mills

Website News

Remember you can keep up to date with news and events by regularly visiting our website. As research is completed it is added to the website and can be viewed by clicking on the relevant links. The Village History links are the most active at the moment and these are at the top of the home page. Please visit and let Nigel know what you think and what else you would like to see on our website.

Nigel Mills

Newsletter Articles

Members are encouraged to submit news items and summaries of research (1000 word max.) to the editor by the deadline indicated at the end of the Newsletter.

Beating the Bounds of Allithwaite Upper Parish

John Shippen and Sylvia Woodhead, members of CPLHS, have produced a new leaflet, which describes a walk around the boundary of Allithwaite Upper parish. Research involved use of old large scale OS maps in Barrow Record Office, to discover exactly where the parish boundary goes, and where it is 'centre of road' or 'face of wall', and investigation of the traditional Beating the Bounds ceremony.

Walking the route has revealed 'mark stones' at junctions or changes in the direction of the parish boundary, and possible 'gospel oaks'. Full details of the walk and background to the parish are in the leaflet, which is priced at £2 to cover printing costs. It will be on sale in Lindale Stores, Grange Now and Grange TIC. The walk was conducted last in 1998. It might be good to revive the ceremony in 2015?

Sylvia Woodhead

Dates for your diary

Allithwaite Boys Exhibition

The Allithwaite Boys exhibition will be on display in Grange Library from Tuesday 26 May to Thursday 25 June. On display will be information about the eleven Allithwaite soldiers who did not return from the Great War. CPLHS members Barbara Copeland, Pat Rowland, Mervyn and Carole Hull researched and presented the information in Allithwaite last year.

Allithwaite 150 Anniversary

Allithwaite are planning celebrations to commemorate 150 years since the consecration of their Church in 1865. *Pat Rowland* will be giving a talk on the history of the Church entitled 'Allithwaite Church - Mary Lambert's legacy' on Saturday 13 June. Look out for details closer to the event.

Talk at Kendal Library

EDWARD WAKEFIELD (1862-1941)

Kendal luminary, aviation pioneer, soldier, social reformer. A talk by John Gordon, his biographer (and descendant). To be held on Monday, 16th March 2015 at 7.30pm. Admission £1.50.

Contact: Kendal Library Tel 01539 713520

Email: kendal.library@cumbria.gov.uk

Fundraising Quiz

Would you like to be a member of the Cartmel Peninsula History Society quiz team at Cartmel Village Hall on Saturday 7th March? At least half of the takings go to the Village Hall Fund and last year over £400 was raised. The team will comprise of 6 people and the cost of entering is £8/person including food. Please let *Pat Rowland* know if you are interested in joining the team before 16th February.

Subscriptions for 2015

Our membership year runs from 1st November to 31st October so membership subscriptions of £8 for 2015 are now due. If you wish to join for 2015 please use the application form on the website Membership page, or contact the Treasurer.

May Lecture One Week Later than previously advertised!

Please note that the May lecture by *Howard Martin* entitled *A Soldier of the Great War* will be on 14th May 2015.

Forthcoming Lectures (19:30 @ Cartmel Village Hall)

Thursday 5 Feb 2015 – Lady Suzanne Tiplady - Grizedale Hall – a mansion fit for demolition.

Suzanne has 20 years of experience as an historical researcher and archivist. Of the 4 Grizedale Halls 3 would be classed as mansions, and the owners of all 3 decided they were only 'mansions fit for demolition'. The talk details the history of each building, their owners and usage, and the reasons for their demise.

have been investigating Sizergh Castle and its grounds.

Thursday 2 April 2015: Dennis Whittaker - SY Gondola

SY Gondola sails on Coniston Water. Dennis will tell us about the history of the Gondola and how it was restored to its former glory. He is an enthusiastic volunteer who has been involved in its restoration.

Thursday 5 March 2015 – Jamie Lund - Sizergh Castle archaeology and Dig in the Park Project.

Jamie is the National Trust regional archaeologist and with Levens History Society and other enthusiastic volunteers

Thursday 14 May 2015: Howard Martin - A Soldier of the Great War

More tales of local men who served in the Great War. Howard returns by popular demand after last year's successful talk about the local men who were killed in the Great War.

Contacts

Committee:

Chairman: Stuart Harling, (s.w.harling@gmail.com)

Secretary: Barbara Copeland, (barbara.copeland1@btinternet.com)

Treasurer: Nigel Mills, (nigelmills@btinternet.com)

Lecture Programme: Pat Rowland, (patrowland_uk@yahoo.co.uk)

Committee members:

Mike Hornung, (michaelhornung@btinternet.com)

Catherine Bottomley, (cnblever@hotmail.co.uk)

Publicity: Frank McCall, (frank_mccall@btconnect.com)

Newsletter Editor: Phil Rowland, (philrowland414@gmail.com)

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

Copy deadline for the next newsletter 24th May 2015