



LANCASHIRE LOCAL HISTORY FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO.5 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2013

=====

LLHF NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Mrs M. Edwards.

Telephone: 0161 256 6585 email: m.edwards309@btinternet.com

***DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: JANUARY 14TH, 2014**

=====



Levenshulme Library, a Carnegie Library begun in December 1903 and opened in 1904, is no longer under threat of falling into disuse after closure originally planned for June 29th by Manchester City Council as part of £80 million cuts. Up to that point, the Levenshulme Library was the oldest community library still in service in Manchester. Fortunately, it is still serving its community.

The *Manchester Evening News* of June 14th reported that the library was to be taken over by Levenshulme High School, which had been searching for extra space for provision of daytime lessons and evening homework sessions. The library will be used by pupils in the mornings but will be open to the community from 2.30 to 6.30p.m. on weekdays, and from 10a.m. to 1p.m. on Saturdays.

English Heritage Listing of Carnegie libraries in general does not include examples built after 1900. A Wikipedia internet page provides a useful list of such libraries. The unlisted status of the Levenshulme library would have left it vulnerable; however, it is a special piece of architecture in a township where, apart from buildings exhibiting interesting terracotta work, little notable historic architecture has survived.

M.E.

Photos by M.E.

Via Wikipedia

The fate of library buildings which are closed is uncertain. It depends partly on heritage listing. The British system of designating [listed buildings](#) has tended to favour pre-20th century such buildings, with the result that at the beginning of the 21st century some Carnegie libraries are unprotected and thus at the mercy of the developer once they are no longer required by the local authority. Over the years some Carnegie libraries have been demolished..... On the other hand, new uses have been found for other Carnegie libraries, e.g. [Pontefract's](#) Carnegie library is now a museum.

**NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONTACTING
FEDERATION SECRETARY**

JOHN WILSON has now retired and can be contacted as follows:

Telephone: 01524 261594

email: j.r.wilson@cantab.net

Postponed AGM 2013: SEE DETAILS OPPOSITE

**The postponed Federation AGM will now be held on the evening of
Thursday, 21 November.**

Lancashire Archives have kindly offered to host this event allowing members the chance to see behind the scenes. There will be tours of the strong room to look at how records are stored, demonstrations on how documents are repaired and conserved and an exhibition of some of the interesting archives held in the collection. This event is free to members of the Federation but booking is essential as places are limited on the tours. See booking form for further details. **Zoë Lawson**

**IMPORTANT NEWS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
Subscriptions 2014**

After two years of free membership, the Federation will be charging a subscription again from January 2014. The fee will be £8 for societies and £5 for individual members, the same as in 2011. The membership secretary, Zoë Lawson, will be contacting all members towards the end of the year with the details for renewal. It is hoped that all current members enjoy the benefits of being part of the Federation and will continue to support it.

Notice for Societies

As the Federation supplies only one copy of the newsletter per society, please can the person who receives the copy make sure they circulate it among their members.

Thank you.

LEARNING LATIN

Did you learn Latin at school ? If not, read on.....

If you'd like to learn Latin, which will help you to read and interpret some of the documents at Lancashire Archives, there is an exciting new opportunity this autumn.

Lancashire Adult Learning will be running a 5-week Latin course in the lecture room of the Record Office building starting on **Monday 23 September. The sessions will run from 2-4pm. The cost for all 5 sessions will be £58. For further details see the website: www.Lancashire.gov.uk/adultlearning**

Places can be booked by phone from 1 Aug. on 0845 600 1331 (course reference 3AMC5463A) **Bob Dobson.**

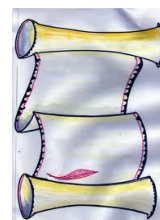
ACCRINGTON STREET NAMES

For some years, a card index has been maintained by the staff and interested volunteers in Accrington Library which lists street names and suggests why they are so named. At present, a friend and I are working on getting the information put onto a database and on preparing a printed list (75pp) for use in the library. We propose to update the database and list every six months, and to input onto the cards as and when any new information comes to hand. I am researching the names most weeks, and have been working with John Simpson in the library on the research and on the database. We are a few weeks away from launching.

There is a great deal of local history value in this index. I doubt that there will be any town in Lancashire which has an index to match Accrington's. **Bob Dobson**



**Lancashire
Local History Federation**
in association with
Lancashire Archives



Explore your archives
(including LLHF AGM)

on Thursday, 21 November 2013
at Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE

This is an opportunity to look behind the scenes of the Lancashire Archives with guided tours of the strong room, demonstrations of archive conservation and an exhibition of some of the interesting documents within the collection.

Programme

4.30 - 6.00: Welcome to L.A. - tour of strong rooms, conservation demonstrations and documents exhibition

6.00 - 6.30: AGM

6.30 - 7.30: Hotpot supper

This event is free for members of the LLHF but booking is essential as tour places are limited.

There is limited car parking but the train station is a short walk away from the venue.

Booking for 'Explore Your Archives'

Please complete and return to: Zoë Lawson, Roselea, Mill Lane, Goosnargh, Preston, PR3 2JX

Telephone: 01772 865347

email: zoe.lawson@talktalk.net

Name(s)

Address

Postcode

Telephone.....email.....

Number of places.....

Choose from the following options:

Beef hotpot

Veggie hotpot

Gluten-free hotpot

Lancashire & Cheshire Antiquarian Society

After surmounting several difficulties, the Society published its Transactions (2011) this summer. The volume has a new format, size measuring 5½ by 8½ inches, and appears in an attractive card cover, the issue coming pleasantly to hand. Any non-member interested in purchasing a copy is invited to write for details to: The Membership Secretary, Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, The Portico Library, 57, Mosley Street, Manchester. M2 3HY

Below is the new volume's list of contents.

The physical growth of New Mills and the development of roads and bridges, c.1760s - 1880s
Derek Brumhead

From radical to Liberal Unionist: the political metamorphosis of Peter Rylands
John Dunleavy

Pomona Gardens: a Victorian theatre of dreams
Terry Wyke

Admiral Smith: a Cheshire link to King George III's malady
Timothy Peters

Cultivating kin in Lancashire: the Stansfields of Long Clough, Littleborough, 1697-1861
Robert E. Stansfield

Some new Peterloo sources
Michael Powell

Greater Manchester farms in a Roman enigma
Robert M. Ramsden

A newly-reported Roman milestone from Ribchester
David Shotter and Patrick Tostevin

(This note is dedicated to the memory of Ben Edwards, F.S.A., Lancashire County Archaeologist 1963 - 1995.)

Review article: Ancoats: from industrialisation to regeneration
Alan Kidd

=====

Science and the Dead

In *English Heritage's* most recent issue of its *Research News* (Spring 2013, Number 19, ISSN 1750-2446), Simon Mays drew attention to *E.H.'s* new document entitled *Science and the Dead*, published in January 2013.

It is a useful guideline for 'clergy and others responsible for burial grounds', who are receiving an increasing number of requests to exhume historic burials for research purposes. It treats matters relating to the destructive sampling of archaeological remains for scientific analysis, **covering 'legal, ethical and scientific considerations involved'**. This will be especially useful to those responsible for curating such remains (i.e. staff in museums, archaeological field units and universities).

***Science and the Dead* is available as a free download. See:**

<http://www.archaeologyuk.org/apabe/>

LLHF SPRING DAY SCHOOL, 2014
VERNACULAR BUILDINGS IN THE NORTH WEST

Haslingden Cricket Club, Saturday, 22 February, 2014



Speke Hall

Arrangements for the **Spring Day School** are now complete, and programmes will be available shortly. The theme of the day school is 'vernacular buildings in the north west' – much in Lancashire, but with some trespassing over county boundaries.

There are, as usual, four speakers.

The first of these is **Kevin Illingworth**, who initiated the choice of subject for the day and has done much towards producing the programme. His talk will be entitled '*Vernacular buildings in and around Lancashire: architectural features and building materials*'.

Kathy Fishwick, who lives in Rossendale, will talk about '*Weavers' cottages*'.

Mike Nevell, head of archaeology at the University of Salford, will talk about '*Halls, farmhouses and cottages in Lancashire south of the Ribble*'.

The fourth speaker will be **Andy Lowe**, whose talk will be '*Bank barns, boskins and bee boles*', describing some of the farm buildings to be seen in upland areas, including Cumbria.

The venue of **Haslingden Cricket Club** is a new one for the Federation. We have booked a pleasant meeting room and lunch will be available if required. There is free car parking. **Lunch** is a choice of meat and potato pie with peas, or cheese and onion pie also with vegetables. You may bring your own packed lunch if you prefer, and hot drinks will be available, included in the cost of the day school, which is £8.00 without or £12.00 including lunch.

So put the date in your diary, await circulation of full details during the autumn, and don't forget to let us know – the earlier the better – what subject you would like for your day school next year!

Diana Winterbotham

AND.....given Diana's reference (above) to Cumbria, and the Federation's commitment to studying historic Lancashire.....

Our readers may well be interested in reading a paper, by Daniel W. Elsworth, which appeared in the *Transactions* of the Cumberland & Westmorland Antiquarian & Archaeological Society (Third Series, Volume XIII, pp 67-72, published Summer 2013). It carries the fascinating title:

Low Tide and a Red Horse: St. Cuthbert's Relics and Morecambe Bay.

In it, the author presents a case for considering the Morecambe Bay area (and not, as traditionally interpreted, that of the Solway Firth) as the location of the travels of the monks bearing the Saint's relics, after a storm forced them to abandon their intended journey to Ireland and return to Workington. The principal source for this episode in history has been Symeon of Durham; however, Daniel Elsworth explores how his writings, especially the linking of the story of the relics with Whithorn, could well have been motivated by weighty political and ecclesiastical interests.

(See Dan's note on excavations at Swarthmoor Hall, and photo, later in this issue. Editor.)

Birley Fields, Hulme, Manchester

Current Archaeology, Issue 282, September 2013, published a detailed and well-illustrated feature on this project focused on a brownfield site, one involving **MMU, Oxford Archaeology North, Salford University Centre for Applied Archaeology, South Manchester Archaeological Society and local residents**. Arising out of a MMU 2009 planning application, it was to make an effective exemplar of a community archaeology project. Investigation bringing together history, archaeology, oral history and community involvement, began in February 2012; OAN produced the final report dated that same year.

The writer of the feature was Dr. Faye Simpson, our former Finds Liaison Officer for the Portable Antiquities Scheme, now Lecturer in Community Archaeology at MMU. Faye showed how the archaeological work, compared with historical evidence, revealed (i) important differences in C19 houses which all appeared the same on maps of the period; (ii) vital responses to crucial pieces of legislation producing social improvements; and (iii) intriguing evidence of the footprint and materials of Holy Trinity Church (1843), a yellow-brick elaborate church having a tower and stained glass windows. Unfortunately it was reduced to foundations level during the bombing of WW2.

No-one reading Faye's report could fail to appreciate the very considerable social value of such a project to those who were involved in it and linked to the area and its excavated sites; they felt welcome to take part in whatever way they could and their contributions of what they knew and remembered about life there were greatly valued. **M.E.**

Laid to rest in Worsley, Greater Manchester.

The Society of African Missions: Autumn 2013 *Mission News*, received September 11th, 2013, reports that the mortal remains of RC Archbishop William Porter, who died aged 79 in 1966, were recently laid to rest in **St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, Worsley**, after the holding of a Re-burial Mass.

Archbishop Porter (b.1887) hailed from a devout Anglican family of **Halsall, Lancashire**, was received into the Roman Catholic Church in December 1905, and ordained Priest in 1918. His distinguished work in the Missions led to his appointment as Prefect Apostolic of Northern Nigeria (1930), nomination as Bishop of Cape Coast in Ghana (1933), and (in 1951) Archbishop of Cape Coast.

In 1960, Archbishop Porter retired to **the African Mission seminary which had been set up at Dutton Manor, Lancashire. He died six years later, and was buried there.**

That property, however, returned to private ownership in the 1970s, and the Archbishop's grave remained the only grave on the site. In subsequent years, **priests of the SMA were buried at St. Mary's, Worsley; and recently it was decided that Archbishop Porter's remains should be moved from Dutton Manor and re-buried there.** **M.E.**

North West Industrial Archaeology Panel, Salford Local History Forum and Manchester Region Industrial Archaeology Society

RECAPTURING THE PAST OF SALFORD QUAYS

A one day conference at Ordsall Hall, Salford; Friday, 18th October, 2013

2014 will be the 120th anniversary of the opening of the Manchester Ship Canal, and it is 30 years since the closure of Manchester Docks. This conference aims to illustrate and explain the history and archaeology of the docks and to discuss their transformation to Salford Quays. There will be talks on the Old Port of Manchester; the building of the canal; ships and cargoes; dock warehouses; and the heritage of the Quays.

Tours of the medieval Ordsall Hall will be available at lunchtime and a choice of guided walks in the area of the Quays will take place in the afternoon.

The price per head of £25 includes tea and coffee on arrival, and a buffet lunch with hot and cold drinks. Free on-site parking will be available for 50 cars. The nearest Metro-Link tram station is Exchange Quay on the Eccles line.

For further details and booking please contact: Tony Wright, MRIAS, 9 Perth Close, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire. CW4 7JH (email: admin@mrias.co.uk)

.....
RE-CAPTURING THE PAST OF SALFORD QUAYS:

A one-day Conference at Ordsall Hall, Salford: Friday, 18th October, 2013.

I enclose a cheque for place/s at £25 per person; total amount £.....

NAME(S) (Please print).....

FULL ADDRESS including post code:

.....

.....

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER

email address

Please tick ONE box for preferred afternoon guided walk.

A Ordsall District (short, easy walk)

B Ordsall, Pomona Docks etc (medium distance)

C Salford Quays environment (longer walk)

D Salford Quays industrial archaeology (longer walk)

Please submit to:

Tony Wright (MRIAS), 9, Perth Close, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire. CW4 7JH

Looking for a place to visit? Look no further...



.....St. James, Altham, might be just the place.

Set at the end of a long graveyard, well back from the main Blackburn to Burnley road, this church is so well hidden by the summer trees that even the observant passer-by sees only the summit of its tower, and most people would miss it altogether but for the lych gate on the road side. In winter it becomes a little more obvious, but those who notice it rarely turn aside to seek a closer acquaintance, and very few of the inhabitants of the nearby towns guess what a neglected jewel is in their midst.

As long ago as the 12th century the people of Elvetham (now Altham) were expected to travel to the parish church at Whalley to worship. This would have involved crossing the ford over the river and in bad weather this could become treacherous. To resolve the problem it appears that a monastic cell was established on the bank of the river to give assistance to travellers and to serve as a place of worship when circumstances prevented attendance at Whalley.

In the church you will see much evidence of worship and life over past centuries.

Worship in a church before the days of electricity involved making use of as much natural light as possible. The windows are good examples of this, ranging from early leaded plain glass, early stained glass and highly decorated memorial windows to modern day projects. Walking around the church you will see evidence of re-ordering and updating at key moments in the church's history.

- Stone masons' marks on pillars ensuring fair payment for work done.
- Paintings and photographs showing changes to the outside of the building.
- Relics from the church yard, re-instated inside the church, such as the tympanum and witch stones, having survived the rampage of Henry VIII's men,.
- Memorial plaques relating stories of past incumbents, lords of the manor and local characters.
- Tales of knights, home from adventure in foreign lands, ending their days here and buried in the church yard. Their stone coffin lids now grace the church as interior window and door lintels with the carved sword and dagger decoration still visible.
- Hatchments depicting the heraldic origins of notable local families, with even a heraldic pun (for the really clever ones to spot).

Altham has had its share of sadness, too, with loss of life in both wars and the Moorfield Colliery disaster which claimed the lives of many local men and boys. There are many records and memorials to this in church and on the lych gate alongside the war memorial at the top of the path.

**Visits are by appointment and guided tours with light refreshments can be arranged.
Please contact Mr. Les Moore, 01254 883023 or Mrs Sue Tinker, 01282 774828**

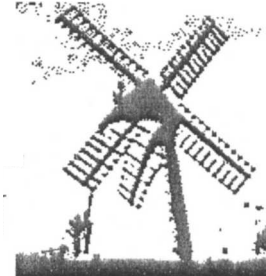
The church is also open from 11:30 to 1:30 on most Tuesdays and Wednesdays during the summer. Why not bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the view? You might even get a cuppa!

If you are looking for a quiet place for a meeting or retreat we have a small meeting room (holds about 12 people) at the back of church available for hire and simple refreshments could be arranged. We are also situated next to the Walton Arms for those wanting something more substantial.

The FYLDE HISTORY NETWORK

in partnership with

The LANCASHIRE LOCAL
HISTORY FEDERATION



CHURCH and SOCIETY - from CONFORMITY TO TOLERATION

A conference to be held on Saturday, November 2nd, 2013

Frank Cranmer

Honorary Research Fellow at the Centre for Law & Religion at Cardiff Law School and
Fellow of St Chad's College, Durham.

Religious Toleration: Governance and the Church of England from the Reformation to 1920

Michael Mullett

Emeritus Professor of History, University of Lancaster

'Distinguished by their Zeal': The Great Ejection (1662) in the Mirror of History

Alan Rose

Author and Methodist Archivist for the Manchester area;

former Editor of the Proceedings of the Wesley Historical Society

The Influence of Methodism in North West England 1750 to 1850

Peter Shakeshaft

Author and Co-Founder of the Fylde History Network

St Cuthbert's Church, Lytham, 1536 to 1834 - the patronage of the Clifton family

Conference and buffet lunch: £18

Conference only: £10

To book: www.fyldehistorynetwork.co.uk

Email mc.storey@btinternet.com tel. 01253 885167

***** IF NEEDED, PLEASE FIND BOOKING FORM
OVERLEAF.**

FYLDE HISTORY NETWORK BOOKING FORM

Please return to Mrs C Storey, 77 Arundel Drive, Poulton-le-Fylde. FY6 7TE
Cheques should be made payable to the Fylde History Network

Please reserve place (s) for the **Conference on Sat Nov 2nd 2013**
I wish to bookplace (s) for **lunch**.
I enclose £..... in payment.

PERSON MAKING THE BOOKING:

Name _____

Email (please print) _____

(For economy & convenience email will be used whenever possible)

Address _____

Postcode _____

PLEASE ADD THE NAMES OF ANY OTHERS INCLUDED IN YOUR BOOKING

Name _____ Name _____

Name _____ Name _____

Dietary requirements _____

=====

ST HELENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meetings: Friends Meeting House, Church Street, St Helens

Usually Mondays, 7.30p.m.

September 16	<i>Knights Templar</i>	Mark Olly
October 21	<i>Remembering Trafalgar</i>	Charles Esdaile
November 18	<i>Lees Tapestry Works</i>	Colin Simpson
December 16	6.30 for 7pm Pre-Christmas Gathering	

2014		
January 20	<i>Liverpool's Ferries and Overhead Railway</i>	Ron Martin
February 17	<i>The Deadly 'Flu</i>	Tony Sweeney
March 14 FRIDAY	6.30 for 7p.m. ANNUAL DINNER	
March 17	<i>Edward Kemp - Landscape Gardener</i>	Elizabeth Davey
April 21	<i>Recent Discoveries in Rainford</i> (Frank Pope Memorial Lecture)	Samantha Rowe
May 19	7p.m. A.G.M.	
	Followed by lecture: <i>The Office of Coroner</i>	Arthur Jennion
June 18	6.30 for 7p.m. SUMMER PARTY	

CONTACT: The Secretary - Mary Presland 01744 23141

=====

SUMMER HOLIDAYS 1936

I currently have in my possession an ordinary cloth-bound exercise book like those which used to be handed out to pupils at school – except that this one does not have an impressed school badge on the cover, or other distinguishing feature. The first page is headed 'DIARY [underlined]/ for/ Summer Holidays/ 1936 [underlined]', with, at the foot of the page, the name 'K. Hendley/Form 111A'.

Pasted onto the inside front cover is a sheet of guidance notes headed 'Diaries'.

These ask the pupil to

'make an entry for every day, even if it is only a note of the weather, and give the date. Describe your excursions, the books you have read, the friends you meet; in fact, anything that interests you. Put in as many sketches and photographs as possible – whether they are original or not. Describe, if you like, one uneventful day in full; but never put in such an entry as: "Got up in the morning, had breakfast, dinner, tea and supper and went to bed". Enter any verses or stories or plays you write; you may use a second book if you wish. Neat writing and setting out are very important. Leave a blank line between one day and the next. You will receive your diaries back, and you and your friends will enjoy them very much in the future. Keeping a diary may be the beginning of making an author of you.'

So how closely did K.Hendley follow this advice? What sort of summer holiday did he have?

I'm sure the writer is a male – see the entry for 11th August ! All the entries are written on the right- hand page only, except for two instances, and the instruction to 'leave a blank line between one day and the next' is observed. The entries cover July and August.

When the diary opens he is still at home. (I have not altered the spelling or the punctuation).

Friday July 24 Rained all day, and the wind battered the flowers all over the garden.

Saturday 25 Better weather than yesterday, with occasional showers.

Sunday 26th Sun shone all day, making the flowers pick up wonderfully after their battering.

Monday 27th July The sun was shining in the morning, but it rained in the evening.

Tuesday 28th July Worked in the garden most of the day. Typical gardening weather.

Wednesday 29th July. Gorgious day. Packed etc. for my holiday which is to start tomorrow.

Thursday 30th July All set for a fine holiday we boarded the "Thames-Forth Express" at Carlisle in lovely weather. It was a nonstop run from Carlisle to Hellifield but we were held up by signals two or three times before we got there. We changed at Skipton and reached Nelson about 2 o'clock where it was raining.

Friday July 31st. Went for a walk in Victoria Park at night and at 7 o'clock heard a talk on the Radio entitled "A Day in the Navy".

Saturday 1st Aug. Did nothing but pour down all day. I did not do anything worth mentioning.

Sunday 2nd Aug. Went to Colne in the afternoon But there was no break in the rain all day.

Monday 3rd Aug Much rain again went to the pictures in the afternoon to see "Guv'nor".

Tuesday 4th Aug nice weather in the morning rained in the afternoon.

Wednesday 5th Aug. The weather picked up a lot so we went and played tennis in the morning.

Thursday 6th Aug. very dark day this caused the lights to be put on at 7-30 instead of 9 o'clock.

Friday 7th Aug. Very nice weather went to play tennis in the morning.

Saturday 8th Aug.. lovely weather watched cricket match which resulted in a draw Constantine Hitting up 69 his batting at one time was 4.4.6.1.2.6.4.4.4.4.4.6.4.

Sunday 9th Aug. Thundery but remained fine so I went for a walk along the canal bank in the direction of Barrowford.

Monday 10th Aug. Fine weather today Played tennis for 1 hours.

Tuesday 11th Aug. ['Very' appears first but has been struck through] The sun shone brilliantly went to see a football match in the afternoon ENGLAND v FRANCE. (a ladies match)

Wednesday 12th Aug Rained in morning cleared up at night. Went to Towneley Museum. It was very large and was really [the second 'l' has been struck through] an old mansion. The old kitchen had been preserved, also the main dining room, and the private chapel. The seats ['table' was first written but has been struck through] in the dining room were long, thick, and very high benches including this they were very narrow. The table was very much like a modern table that has tressles under it but [new page] The legs on this were fixed on by thick wooden pegs which serve as nails. It was also much thicker and much heavier.

Thursday.. 13th Aug Went into the park in the afternoon to write a letter home. The sun shone all day.

Friday 14th Aug. Rain was in the air all morning but it manage to keep fine until after dinner.

Saturday 15th Aug. Rained all day very hard and in the end the cricket field and the Bowling green were covered with water.

Sunday 16th Aug. ['It' – crossed out] Fine day, decided to go for a walk out in the country so we went to Colne via Brierfield, intended to go to chapel but arrived back too late.

Monday, 17th Aug. We were obliged to stay in all day as it rained heavily. It was the sort of day that makes one grateful [originally given as 'grateful', the 'e' crossed out] for the inventive skill of men like Marconi who gave us the secret of wireless.

Tuesday 18th Aug Today was beautifully fine and so we were enabled to go for a walk, or one might say a climb for the road lay altogether uphill. and ['at', crossed out] which led eventually to Pendle Hill which we did not climb. Most of the way led through fields but somehow it seemed to lack the beauty ['of', crossed out] and freshness of the Cumberland fields. At night we got a shock, for on returning home we found the door, which we carefully closed, to be wide open and a dog standing at the door as if it had been left on guard. Investigation discovered the cause to be a faulty lock and not burglars.

Wednesday 19th Aug. Rain again This seems to point a moral, to take something with one in the nature of a hobby to occupy the time on wet days.

Thursday 20th Aug. The weather seems to take turn and turn about for today again was fine. This time we went for a walk along the main road known principally as Manchester Rd. There were all the usual features of a main road, but the outstanding thing was an enormous 8 wheeled lorry.

Friday 21st Aug. According to our alternative reckoning it should have been wet today but proved gloriously fine, we went a walk towards Brierfield of course being a manufacturing district there is no special scenery but I noticed a sports goods factory and a Jam factory

Saturday 22nd Aug Today is another wet day but who cares for later on we are going to blackpool. Here we are on the way and now finally we reach Blackpool. What a crowd of holiday makers and what money must change hands. We went to the pleasure Beach and found our pleasure in watching others enjoy themselves. From there went to the tower and there heard Bertini's band and later R. Dixon on the fine organ in the Tower Ballroom. Scores of automatic machines had their special temptation but cash was not sufficiently plentiful.

Sunday 23rd Aug. Not getting to bed till three a.m. so there was no question of early rising. Besides it rained heavily and so there was no temptation to turn out. We ranged all over the country and Europe on the wireless.

Monday, 24th Aug. Wet again, ['a' crossed out] a pointless day.

Tuesday, 25th Aug. ['w'crossed out] The day was fine and very hot we were out all possible but there's no special feature to note

Wednesday 26th Aug Today I saw something new As I had not been along the canal tow path before. It had its interest but the nearly stagnant water and the various dead dogs and cats spoiled the appeal of it's novelty.

Thursday 27th Aug We were fortunate in having another nice day. We went for a long walk by the Nelson Golf course. This course runs along a hill that has some claims to beauty, but the effect is marred by a quarry.

Friday, 28th Aug. This promises to be the hottest day of the holiday. In the afternoon we walked to a place called Haggate from which you can see the whole length of the valley in which stands Nelson, Colne, and Brierfield. Cotton mills are dotted along the valley uninteresting in themselves but at night when lit up they take on a special beauty.

Saturday 29th Aug An end comes to all things and here we are at the end of our holiday. We travelled home via Skipton on what was formally called the midland route. we would like to have stayed a while at Skipton for there is an interesting castle, and the Grammar school has its appeal, for besides being a very old school, an old Aspatrian and Nelsonian is a master there, we reached home about teatime and were glad to be home.

Sunday 30th Aug [not underlined] Here we are back to the old routine, we went to chapel morning and evening. Whilst we have been away the chapel has been renovated and partly refurnished and looked very nice.

Monday 31st Aug [~~'The'~~ crossed out] The every day round. a few off jobs, a little reading and that made the days round.

Wednesday 2nd Sept [~~'of'~~ crossed out] Appered no change from Tuesday's routine.

Thursday 3rd Sept This afternoon we went to Maryport to see the carnival procession it was about a mile long and some of the dresses and decorated lorries were very striking. The cotton Queen, Miss Howe, of Bolton was present, and so much interest had been aroused, that the Maryport cottage Hospital should benefit very much from the carnival.

Friday, 4th Sept. Nothing outstanding but if it be true that "The daily round and common task Should furnish all we ought to ask" then days like this have their [~~final 'e'~~ crossed through]value.

Saturday 5th Sept Went for a walk with the idea of brambling I had for company a Workington schoolboy and one [~~'who hopes'~~ crossed out and bracketed]of our own boys, but the sum total of our brambling didn't help the larder much.

Sunday, 6th Sept. Went to chapel. In the afternoon we watched a procession of the Sunday Schools in commemoration of Band of Hope Sunday. Before starting down the street the temperance Queen of Workington laid a wreath on the Sir Wilfrid Lawson Memorial.

Monday 7th Sept Rained nearly all day today, but we managed a walk in the afternoon down Whinbarrows. Note. Must try and find out the origin of the name Whinbarrows

Tuesday, 8th Sept. It was very hot today but I went a very long bike ride in the morning and to the park in the afternoon., Where some splendid amusements have been fitted up by the Miners Welfare Committee

Wednesday, 9th Sept. Again a [~~'s'~~ crossed out] nice day so went for a bikeride to Allonby.

Thursday, 10th Sept. Spent a little time in the garden and helped mother at least I thought I did.

Friday 11th Sept Went brambling with a friend I think we got about 1 lb.

Saturday 12th Sept A friend brought his Hornby and we made a big layout in the empty room and had an interesting day.

Sunday 13th Sept. Went to chapel in the morning.

Monday, 14th Sept. Spent most of my time with my friend, and were shooting with his airgun. In the afternoon there was a most vivid flash of lightning and the crash of thunder which followed almost immediately terrific. I have not heard of any but I think it must have done serious damage.

Tuesday 15th Sept. School tomorrow and so today has to be given to preparing such as hunting up books and various requirements. This comes to a close my first summer holiday at the Nelson School. It has been full of interest and happiness but somehow one looks forward to starting school.

+++++

There the diary, written in ink, ends. There is a page devoted to Fountains Abbey, with quite a good drawing of it and some notes; but the following pages, written in pencil, and not easy to read, give times (e.g. 11.30) and may be notes from a field trip into Cheshire, near Macclesfield, with teacher's comments. These are not reproduced here.

Morris Garratt.

Note: The author of the diary clearly lives in Cumberland. If anyone reading this transcript knows what happened to Mr. Hendley, or can put a descendant in touch with me, I would be pleased to return the original exercise book to them.

=====

BARNARDO'S PHOTO ARCHIVE

As Jenna Pudelek reported on July 25th, 2013 (*Third Sector Online*), a rumour that the Barnardo's important photographic archive might be destroyed was played down by a spokeswoman.

It turned out that, according to the spokeswoman for the charity, the rumour's source was a 'well-intentioned volunteer', who worked on preparing the archive for digitisation and was keen that the images should not be left lacking a place in a safe repository after digitisation was completed. Suddenly a petition calling on the support of the Culture Secretary appeared on a website, carrying an explanation that in the next few months, **Barnardo's will be having its entire photographic archive digitised in Manchester**, after which 'the company will then destroy the images unless an archive or museum can be persuaded to save these important historic documents!' Things developed from there and some 600 signatures were accumulated.

The archive holds some 500,000 original photographs, dating back to the 1870s. Some of them were taken by Thomas Barnardo himself of the destitute children who were taken into care. It also includes 300 films about the charity's work and history. The images were all stored at the charity's head office, which is in Barkingside, east London, and is being redeveloped. The spokeswoman said the new offices would be too small for the archive, and the costs of extending and creating a climate-controlled store for them would be too high. Hence the fear that the archive would be destroyed.

She went on to point out that "Our photographic archive is unique..... To allow researchers and academics continued access, we have decided to digitise the material. We hope this will give more people a chance to study these historic images". The charity plans to look for alternative storage at the end of spring 2014, once the images are stored in digital format, and is confident that the collection will be relocated.

M.E.

New tricks for old dogs.....

September 2013 sees the opening of a 3-month consultation period in which to examine and weigh up the government's proposals for re-organising English Heritage. *Current Archaeology* for September 2013 reported on the new scheme, also giving Simon Thurley's reactions in his capacity as EH Chief Executive and those of Mike Heyworth, Director of CBA. (Readers should bear in mind that EH's state grant was cut by 32% in 2010.)

1. The government's 2013 spending review has led to the division of EH into two parts, each new part handling one of the institution's two main functions.

A. Still called '**English Heritage**', this part will be a new and self-financing charitable trust and it will manage the National Heritage Collection, i.e. 420 historic sites and monuments (until now under EH guardianship). It will be launched by 2015 and allotted a 'one-off £80m endowment from the Government'. (However, in that same year, 2015-2016, English Heritage's 'overall state funding for the year' will be reduced by 10%.) It will be answerable to Commission, as EH is at present.

B. Temporarily called the '**National Heritage Protection Service**', this part will carry out the present EH responsibilities concerning listed buildings along with advising on planning and heritage protection matters. This includes allocating grants; looking after the Public Archive; and compiling the register of Heritage at Risk. It will be answerable to **Commission**, as EH is at present.

2. **Simon Thurley** reportedly viewed the new structure very favourably (nay, being effusive in his praise and claiming that this proposed level of investment reflects the government 'recognising that in the past we have not been properly funded'), seeing the development as 'evolution' rather than 'revolution'; and he insisted that it was not imposed by the government but had been requested by EH. He thinks it will bring greater flexibility to heritage management as well as the opportunity to increase income from commerce and philanthropy. The new system, however, in his opinion embodies a strong element of continuity backing all this.

3. **Mike Heyworth** is not opposed to the new 'model' put forward, but he is less sanguine that it will be properly funded, as no firm business plan backing the way forward has been made public. This presents the possibility that, further into the new way of operating, the heritage might be put at risk. The **new charitable division** is going to have to be self-sustaining - how will the need for ongoing conservation be met? And the **NHPS division** will be wholly dependent on the government. (As the *Current Archaeology* reporter reminded readers: in 2013, the overall budget for the Department for Culture, Media and Sport was cut by 7%; and grants for museums and arts bodies were cut by 5%.)

Clearly 2015 is going to be a very significant year in more ways than one! M.E.

=====

And the forecast: 'MAY BE BLEAK'.....

On June 5th, 2013, the *Independent* reported that three museums of national importance, and of great economic importance to the north of England, might have to 'charge for admission or even close'. This was the message just ahead of the government spending review due that month. Of the three, the museum naturally heading our concern was the **Museum of Science and Industry at Manchester**, which attracted 641,960 visitors last year. A special sound of alarm was coming from the Science Museum Group (it includes the Science Museum in London), warning that it was having to face 'all options' in view of an expected 'significant' deficit in 2014-15. (It had reduced the wage bill by £2m as well as making other substantial cost reductions.)

At the time of going to press, a member of the Publicity Department of MOSI has been able to assure me that, although the museum's final funding details are not yet available, the cut following the review is less than was feared and there is no question that MOSI will have to close. M.E.

Think about it.....

1. Museums and digital technology

'A History of the World in 100 Objects' was a highly successful British Museum venture, one in preparing and presenting which the BM pioneered a means of setting up access to different types of information grounded in the facts compiled when an object is catalogued. Previously those facts had to be reproduced in different forms, and by hand, to fit in with any specific planned venture, perhaps an exhibition catalogue. But now the BM was able to draw on its new information bank and facilities, and deliver, as appropriate, to 'its own website, websites of partner institutions, radio and YouTube'.

All this was explained by Nick Poole, writing in *Museums and Heritage* magazine (Summer 2013).

He is the Chief Executive of the Collections Trust and is enthusiastic about 'COPE', which stands for 'Create Once, Publish Everywhere', coined in USA by Daniel Jacobson (who directs application development for National Public Radio) and describing an approach which is receiving growing attention world wide. Poole's article explained how museums have responded to the development of digital technology, and it made excellent reading. Creating 'rich on-line social and mobile experiences' has become 'core business for museums'. They have had to learn to move from a *modus operandi* based on 'stability, authority and bricks and mortar' to one that is 'inherently fluid and adaptable'. As he points out, very soon 'the museum visit will begin at home, through content delivered via high-definition internet TV and while on the move through hand-held, mobile and wearable devices'. In fact, the museum user will have experiences which 'blur the boundaries between culture and retail, leisure, entertainment and education'.

As Nick Poole reported, Diane Lees, the Chair of the National Museum Directors Council, and also the Director General of the Imperial War Museum (which has a northern branch in Manchester), claimed when addressing a gathering on board *HMS Belfast* : 'On line is now the front line for our museums'. M.E.

2. THE CENSUS: value for money???

The national press has printed reports of the government's interest in replacing the current 10-yearly Census with a cheaper alternative. The 2011 Census cost £500 million and employed 35,000 people in handling the forms. The Office of National Statistics is at present beginning a 3-month public consultation regarding alternatives, the two of most appeal to the government apparently being (according to a report in the 'i' of September 4th, 2013):

- i. a modernised census, internet-based;
- ii. a rolling annual survey of 4% of the population supplemented by administrative data 'such as education or health records'.

Those opposed to such changes argue that the replacement of the current Census would remove 'a vital early warning system for social change', as well as having 'implications for the way a large amount of policy is decided'. The Census shows up nation-wide evidence for ethnicity, occupations, quality of housing, mortality rates, and how many people live here.

Our readers will doubtless have strong and clear views on the current proposals. M.E.

Friends of the Manchester Centre for Regional History

The Friends of MCRH talks have been moved from their old Thursday evening slot to **Wednesdays** and their venue moved from the John Dalton building to the **Geoffrey Manton Building**. The start time is the same, **6.30pm**. **Dates for 2013-2014: Wednesdays** 16th October 2013 , 13th November, 11th December .

2014: Wednesdays 15th January (AGM), 19th February, 19th March, 16th April, 14th May.

THE SEASON STARTS ON Wednesday 16th October at 6.30pm. ALL WELCOME! **For info. about topics of talks, please email Fiona Cosson, f.cosson@mmu.ac.uk**

CBA Festival of Archaeology 2013

Third Season of Excavations at Swarthmoor Hall, July 19-21

Three features were to be excavated:

1. a trackway running across the meadow to the north;
2. a bank in the gardens to the east of the hall;
3. the remains of an extension to the 'Great Barn', discovered in the previous year's dig.

The trackway was located immediately below the turf and was 3m wide approx., thin and composed of loose cobbles and gravel. A post-medieval date was suggested by associated finds. This fitted with cartographic evidence.

The bank in the east garden was formed by a spread of stone rubble, which included two pieces of unexplained dressed sandstone. Further investigation is planned.

The main excavation, which extended work carried out in two previous excavations, revealed the base of a drystone boundary wall, corresponding to one indicated on early mapping, and below it the line of an earlier wall. Adjacent to this, and inside the cellar discovered in an earlier dig, was a circular feature which had a clay lining topped with stone incorporating a slate-lined channel. Removal of a fill of C19 rubbish revealed that the sides had been formed against an iron-banded timber vat, the removal of which had left only an impression. A second tank was connected to the first one to form a figure of eight. Such pits, fed by a stone trough, and set at cellar level, echo the arrangement of fermentation vats recorded in known brew houses. Sarah Fell's late C17 account book holds entries which had already, at the time of previous work, given rise to speculation that the building now being excavated was a brewhouse. Finds from previous years had suggested a late C16 or C17 date. No further dating evidence for the structure was obtained in 2013.

M.E. from information kindly supplied by Daniel W. Elsworth, of Greenlane Archaeology, who was Excavation Director.

Evidence of brewing? The vat as excavated.



The Manchester Group of the Victorian Society, in conjunction with the Lancashire & Cheshire Antiquarian Society, has arranged a coach trip to Liverpool for Saturday, 21st September, 2013.

There is an excellent programme. **Unfortunately, however, my inquiry revealed that, although there were seven places still available, the deadline for booking pre-dates (just) the deadline for this Newsletter's receipt of copy and publication.** This would inhibit the exchange of mail involved in booking and in receiving directions and other information.

The focus of the event is *Lost Libraries of Liverpool: the buildings of Thomas Shelmerdine*, with John Tiernan, Chairman Liverpool History Society and public library historian, and Mark Watson. A selection of these charming buildings will be visited. **The schedule sent out included the following details:**

...on arrival in William Brown Street we will visit the new **Central Library** where, after a short illustrated presentation on Shelmerdine, we will inspect the magnificently restored Grade II* **Hornby Library** (Shelmerdine 1906) and **Picton Library** (Cornelius Sherlock 1879). It is hoped that we will then make a brief visit to **Liverpool Town Hall**, where the Council Chamber was extended and restored by Shelmerdine, 1899-1900 (described by Sir Charles Reilly in 1927 as 'in the best saloon bar style'. Following lunch..... we aim to visit the following libraries (time permitting): **Kensington** (1890, extended 1897, Grade II), **Sefton Park** (1911, Grade II), **Garston** (1906, Grade II), **Everton** (1896, Grade II, closed), **Lister Drive** (1905, Grade II, also now closed), and **Toxteth** (1902, Grade II), before returning to Manchester, where we are expected to arrive by 6.30 pm.

The event is noted here for the sake of the record. M.E.