

150 Years

Cumberland and
Westmorland
Antiquarian and
Archaeological
Society

1866-2016



Anniversary
Programme

2016

Welcome from the President

In 2016, the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society celebrates its 150th Anniversary, an event that only a few other societies can match.

In 1866, societies like ours, often used 'antiquarian' in their title, but we were one of the very first also to use the word 'archaeological'. Today, our name may sound long-winded and 'quaint', but it tells an important story about changing practices – and language as well. The Society has also changed through these years but has always remained at the forefront of research into the archaeology and history of Cumbria, creating an unrivalled archive about how our wonderful county evolved.

We are celebrating this important Anniversary with a wide array of events, to which you are most cordially invited. Thanks to your ongoing support, we have entered the 21st century with a good membership base, but to keep our Society vibrant and healthy for another 150 years, it is important that the next generation of people interested in our past is recruited – and what better occasion is there than this to encourage new members? So come along to as many of these events as possible, and use the year to recruit at least one new member! I look forward to seeing you.



Rachel Newman, President of CWAAS

Acknowledgements

The Society is deeply indebted to those individuals and organisations who have so generously contributed to the Anniversary year programme of events.

The Society in 1866

The Society met for the first time on 11 September 1866 at the Crown Hotel, Penrith. The meeting was attended by around 50 gentlemen and 'several ladies'. The Society's purpose was defined as 'investigating, describing and preserving the Antiquities of Cumberland and Westmorland'. Membership was to be at an annual subscription of one guinea, ladies having 'the privilege of membership' for 10s. per year. The founding members numbered 84 men and they went on to listen to papers from the Revd James Simpson on 'The present position of antiquarian research in Cumberland and Westmorland', and the Revd William Greenwell on 'Recently opened tumuli in Westmorland and Cumberland'.

At the second meeting at Carlisle on 7 November 1866 a pattern of activities was established. A paper was read, a site visit followed, exhibits were shown, and a dinner was held, perhaps followed by a 'conversazione'. By the end of the year there were 115 members, including three women, drawn from across the two counties, with a handful coming from further afield. Although members of landed families and the clergy dominated, considerable interest was also shown by the urban middle class.

The Society was established and the rest is history!

Rob David, 150 Years Co-ordinator

The Society in 2016

The Society, with almost 800 individual and institutional members, combines the continuation of its longstanding traditions with features appropriate to the 21st century. As a membership organisation, it arranges events, sends out a *Newsletter* three times a year, and annually publishes the *Transactions*, containing articles of scholarly interest and significance in the archaeology, history and antiquities of Cumbria. The publications programme has been greatly expanded, and there is a website giving news and weekly updates for members. The Anniversary year will be marked by celebrations that include the digitisation of the *Transactions*, making available and searchable every article published since 1874, and with the intention that this publication will in the future be available both digitally and in hard copy format. The Society remains true to its origins, committed to the public benefit, and outward looking for the future. It particularly welcomes new members, wherever they are based.

Marion McClintock, General Secretary

Excursions 2016

Full details and booking forms for these excursions will be posted on www.cumbriapast.com during January 2016 and will be mailed to members in March.

Saturday 30 April 2016: Newland Furnace and Cunsey Forge (Ulverston/Windermere area)



Newland Furnace when working

This two-site trip will be led by Warren Allison, Eleanor Kingston and Jean Turnbull in conjunction with the Newland Furnace Trust. Newland Furnace was built in 1747, one of eight charcoal fired and water powered iron furnaces that produced charcoal iron throughout its life, finally closing in 1891, almost a century after the rest of the country had converted to coke fired furnaces. This is an opportunity to see the many facets of the site and the

restoration work that has been carried out over many years and continues today. Cunsey Forge which was a bloomforge (water-powered iron smelting furnace) and has its earliest reference in an agreement in 1623 to purchase woods for the supply of charcoal. In 1750, the site returned to the control of the Backbarrow Company but was never worked again and was demolished in 1800. English Heritage's regional Inspector of Ancient Monuments agreed to offer a substantial grant for rescue investigation, and recording and consolidation of the building continues. *****No booking required*****

Saturday 21 May 2016: Ravenglass and Muncaster Walk

Mark Blackett-Ord will lead this walk. We will meet at the pay-car-park at Ravenglass, now a small pretty Georgian fishing hamlet on the estuary of the Esk. In Roman times this was the principal port for the Wall and for lead, silver and iron from the Lake District, and in still earlier times for polished-stone axe-heads. We follow the beach southwards and find in its shingle, coarse-ware from the camp called Glannoventa, behind which we find the ruins of its bath-house, considered one of the highest Roman structures standing in Britain. Thence we proceed uphill through parkland and shrubbery to Muncaster, which no doubt developed as a stronghold when the town by the sea proved indefensible. There is a visit to the Anglo-Saxon cross shaft in the churchyard of the small parish church, followed by lunch and a special Anniversary treat in the Castle grounds. After lunch we inspect the exterior of the Castle, which has been in the Pennington name since the 13th century; the pele tower is 14th century, later much enlarged, and the whole remodelled well by Salvin later in the 19th century. From it we walk through pleasant countryside to Muncaster Mill station where we catch the Ravenglass and Eskdale narrow-gauge steam-railway back to Ravenglass. *****No booking required; fare payable*****



Roman bath-house at Ravenglass

Excursions 2016

Saturday 23 July 2016: Penrith and Eamont Bridge urban and rural walk (with support from the Penrith Regional Group)

We shall be led by Michael Mullett, Sydney Chapman, Rachel Newman, Tom Clare and Gill Hey, and the itinerary will take us to the site of the Society's first meeting in September 1866 at the Crown Hotel where we shall learn about an early member Dr Michael Taylor, the early medieval monuments in St Andrew's churchyard, the places of worship along 'God's Alley', Mayburgh and King Arthur's Round Table at Eamont Bridge. A special feature of part of the day will be parallel presentations at some locations in which the sites will be described as at the time of the Society's first visit there, as well as being described as they are understood in 2016. It is hoped to complete the day with a Victorian-style afternoon tea.

****No booking required****



Monday 1 August 2016: Visit to Low Borrow Bridge Roman Fort & Vicus

The Society's first excavation took place at this fort situated near Tebay in 1883. Since 2011 the Lunesdale Archaeology Society has returned to the site and, with financial support from our Society, has carried out a number of investigations which have added to our understanding of the fort and vicus. This visit to the site, which is being hosted by the Lunesdale Archaeology Society, will provide an update on what has recently been achieved. ****No booking required****



Thursday 13 October 2016: Study Day at Burgh-by-Sands

This is a joint event with the Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group. Both CWAAS and CVBG are proud to be associated with Dr R.W. Brunskill, and this day will reflect his contribution to the study of vernacular buildings in Cumbria. The study day will focus on an examination of the natural resources available to Cumbrian builders in the past. Not only will the main constructional materials of stone, clay and timber be considered, but there will also be a focus on the often forgotten natural products to be found in the county which contributed to the fabric of buildings, and enabled them to function. All the speakers are experts in this field, and the day will include a level walk of about one mile around Burgh-by-Sands where we shall be able to view a variety of building types. ****Booking essential****



Regional Group Lecture

Professor Angus Winchester

'Investigating, describing and preserving' the past: 150 years of CWAAS

This lecture will be delivered at the following venues:

Kendal Affiliated Group Monday 1 February 2016, 7.30pm
(Kendal Historical & Archaeological Society)

Venue: Shakespeare Centre, Highgate, Kendal

Penrith Affiliated Group Monday 14 March 2016, 2pm

Venue: Friends Meeting House, Drovers Lane, Penrith (parking available)

Carlisle Affiliated Group Friday 14 October 2016, 7.15pm

Venue: Tullie House Museum Lecture Theatre

South West Affiliated Group Saturday 19 November 2016, 2pm
(SouthWest Cumbria History and Archaeological Society)

Venue: Supper Room of Egremont Market Hall



In all cases there will be a small charge to members of CWAAS who are not members of the regional groups.



CWAAS outing to Furness Abbey, September 1895

Then and now....



Some CWAAS members at Kirklington, June 2015

Museum Displays

Venue	Treasure 1	Treasure 2	Treasure 3
Carlisle Archive Centre	Archives from the founding and early years of the Society		
Kendal Archive Centre	Archives associated with an education project about WW1 supported by CWAAS		
Barrow Archive Centre	The Society and Furness Abbey		
Whitehaven Archive Centre	A display of archives from west Cumbrian used in the research of ground-breaking CWAAS members (Revd WM Slater Sykes, Mary Fair, W N Thompson, and Dr John Todd).		
Keswick Museum	The Thirlmere Bronze Age bangles	The Lord Island ash pit collection excavated by Society members in 1902	
Kendal Museum	The Watercrook Roman Fort face pot	A collection of Neolithic stone axe roughouts from the Central Lakeland Fells	
Ruskin Museum, Coniston	A display about W. G. Collingwood and some of his contemporaries		
Armitt Library and Museum	RG Collingwood and the excavation of Ambleside Roman fort	Artefacts from the fort and Beatrix Potter's paintings of Roman finds	
Senhouse Roman Museum	The CWAAS Centenary excavation (and the CWAAS supported recent excavations)		
Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery, Carlisle	The role of women in CWAAS: The Birdoswald pin	A Bewcastle food vessel	The Cumwhitton Viking burial
The Dock Museum, Barrow	The Skelmore Axe Head	The Furness Viking Hoard	
The Beacon Museum, Whitehaven	The Spedding Wheel	Sample of 'Kidney' Haematite	
Penrith Museum	A focus on members of CWAAS prominent in the development of the collections at Penrith Museum (Dr M. Taylor, Col. J.F. Haswell, and C. Roy Hudleston and others).	Artefacts to include the elephant tooth found in Penrith Castle moat and recently carbon dated with a CWAAS grant.	
Cumbria Library Service (Carlisle Library)	The diary of Isaac Fletcher and a range of CWAAS publications		
Cumbria Library Service (Kendal Library)	Prominent Kendalians associated with CWAAS and a range of Society publications.		

The banner and display at Kendal Museum have been created under supervision by students on the Diploma in Cultural Heritage course.

Museum Displays

Friday 8 January – Saturday 13 February	Carlisle Archive Centre , Lady Gillford's House, Petterill Bank Road, Carlisle, CA1 3AJ
Friday 19 February – Saturday 26 March	Whitehaven Archive Centre and Local Studies Library , Scotch St., Whitehaven, CA28 7NL
Friday 1 April – Saturday 7 May	Kendal Museum , Station Rd., Kendal LA9 6BT
Friday 13 May – Saturday 18 June	Carlisle City Library , 11 Globe lane, Carlisle, CA3 8NX Kendal Library , Stricklandgate, Kendal, LA9 4PY
Monday 24 June – Saturday 23 July	Penrith Museum , Robinson's School, Middlegate, Penrith, CA11 7PT Kendal Archive Centre , Kendal County Offices, Kendal, LA9 4RQ
Monday 29 July – Monday 5 September	Tullie House Museum , Castle St., Carlisle, CA3 8TP Senhouse Roman Museum , The Battery, Sea Brows, Maryport, CA15 6JD
Friday 16 September – Saturday 29 October	Armitt Museum and Library , Rydal Rd., Ambleside, LA22 9BL Ruskin Museum , Coniston, LA21 8DU
Friday 4 November – Saturday 10 December	Keswick Museum and Art Gallery , Station Rd., Keswick, CA12 4NF Barrow Archive Centre and Local Studies Library , 140 Duke St., Barrow in Furness, LA14 1XW
Friday 16 December – Monday 16 January 2017	The Beacon Museum , West Strand, Whitehaven, CA28 2LY The Dock Museum , North Rd., Barrow in Furness, LA28 2LY

The Anniversary Displays

A significant part of the Anniversary celebrations will be the display that will be touring around the county during 2016. The Society invited museums, archive centres and libraries to each design a banner and create a small exhibition around the theme of the Society's contributions to their collections. Each location has chosen one or more treasures with a connection to the Society from its collection. During the year each participating venue will host the display of banners and will create a display of artefacts and documents related to the themes that it chose to highlight on its banner. The collection of banners will travel the county but the related exhibitions will vary at each location. This means that if you visit the exhibition at different locations what you see will be different. Please note that for reasons of space it may not be possible to display all the banners at some of the smaller locations.

The Society has created three generic banners:

- The Origins of CWAAS
- The work of the Research and Grants Committee
- The Society's Publications

The themes selected by the various venues are as follows:

Anniversary Weekend 9-10 September 2016

The Society met for the first time at the Crown Hotel, Penrith on 11 September 1866. The 150th Anniversary weekend will be on 9 and 10 September 2016. The Society will again be meeting in the Penrith area, but as the Crown Hotel no longer stands, at other venues. Council hope that many members will be able to celebrate the achievements of the Society at either or both of the events planned for that weekend.

Anniversary Dinner



© Roundthorn Hotel, Penrith

The Anniversary Dinner will take place at the **Roundthorn Hotel, Penrith** during the evening of **Friday 9 September 2016**. The Society's Guest of Honour will be **Professor Dame Rosemary Cramp D.B.E., M.A., B.Litt., F.S.A., F.B.A.**, President of the Society in 1984–87 and our senior Past President.

During the evening the Society's Anniversary book *Revealing Cumbria's Past: 150 years of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society* will be officially launched.

Accommodation in the Penrith area during the Anniversary Weekend

We anticipate that many members will want to stay in the Penrith area during the night of Friday 9 September 2016. During January 2016 a list of accommodation in the area will be placed on our website, and in March that information will be circulated with further details about the events and the booking forms to all members as part of the Spring Newsletter mailing.

Anniversary Weekend 9-10 September 2016

Anniversary Conference, Rheged, 10 September

Exploring the Society's contribution to research and scholarship in Cumbria over 150 years.

Programme

0945 **An Enduring Passion for the Past: CWAAS 1866–2016.** *Angus Winchester* (Professor of Local and Landscape History at Lancaster University and a Past President of CWAAS).

1015 **Evidence and Imagination: Writing Cumbrian Prehistory.** *Mark Edmonds* (Professor of Archaeology at the University of York).

1100 *Coffee break*

1130 **Antiquaries and Archaeologists on Hadrian's Wall in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century.** *Richard Hingley* (Professor of Archaeology at the University of Durham).

1215 **Saints, Swords, and Sculpture: CWAAS and the Study of Early Medieval Cumbria.** *Matthew Townend* (Reader in English at the University of York).

1300 *Lunch*

1400 **Towards a History of the Norman North-West: Charters, Castles, and Coins.** *Hugh Doherty* (Lecturer in Medieval History at the University of East Anglia).

1445 **A Republic of Shepherds, or Just Another Part of England? Cumbria and the State in the 16th and 17th Centuries.** *Jonathan Healey* (Lecturer in English Local and Social History at the University of Oxford).

1530 *Tea*

1600 **Spinning a Yarn: the Rediscovery of Cumbria's Lost Textile Industries.** *Michael Nevell* (Head of Archaeology and Senior Lecturer in the School of Environment and Life Sciences at the University of Salford).

1645 **Looking Forward: the Next 150 years** *Rachel Newman* (current President of CWAAS and Senior Executive Officer: Research and Publications at Oxford Archaeology North).

1730 *Close*

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The Anniversary book

Revealing Cumbria's Past: 150 years of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society.

The Society has undergone huge changes since it was founded in 1866. The number of members has increased dramatically and their social profiles have been transformed. Its interests have reflected the emerging preoccupations of both the historical and the archaeological professions, embracing new areas of research, and diverse sources and techniques of excavation and analysis. Its initial modest publication programme from the 1870s has expanded exponentially, from short runs of early *Transactions* through to the digital age. Throughout its long history it has been a pioneer of research into Cumbria's past, opening new fields and making the results of research available to its members and the wider public.

This illustrated volume explores and evaluates these changes over the past century and a half. It incorporates an extended history of the Society and individuals associated with it, its diverse range of publications and their contributions to a number of fields locally and nationally: archaeology from the prehistoric through the Roman and into the early modern period; industrial history and archaeology; rural society; traditional housing; folk lore; traditions; and local history in all its forms – social, economic, political and cultural.

Contributors: Adrian Allan, David Breeze, Ian Caruana, Alan Crosby, Rob David, Antony Dickson, Fiona Wooler, Rachel Newman, Richard Newman, Ian Whyte, Angus Winchester, Michael Winstanley, Bill Wiseman.



A complimentary copy of this volume will be given to all who are members of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society during the 150th Anniversary year in 2016. The book will be launched during the Anniversary weekend of 9 and 10 September 2016 and will be available to those attending the Dinner and Conference during that weekend. Other members will be sent their copy with the Autumn Newsletter.

Michael Winstanley, Ian Whyte and Rob David

Digitisation of CWAAS *Transactions*

CWAAS has recently completed a major project to make its *Transactions*, published annually since 1874, available in full, online. Members of the Society have free access to every volume via the Society's website, Cumbria Past. In 2016, non-members will also be able to view and download *Transactions* but a fee is required for access to volumes from the most recent 10 years. Abstracts of articles from the more recent volumes are however available without payment.

In this its Anniversary Year, CWAAS is releasing the digitised *Transactions* for general use. CWAAS members gained access to this resource in the summer of 2015.



The digitisation project presented a considerable challenge – technology is changing fast and companies offering digitisation services vary greatly in expertise and range. A small working party was set up in 2013 and its brief was to produce an archive quality copy of every volume of *Transactions* which could also be available to

members and the wider public in a web-friendly, searchable version. Funds from the Aurelius Charitable Trust were secured in the recognition of the important work of education and public access that the project represented. This and a donation from the Sandringham Bequest, for which CWAAS is most grateful, have enabled the dual objectives of archive quality and wide dissemination to be achieved.

UKArchiving were chosen after bids were invited and test scans were submitted from a number of digitisation companies. UKArchiving offered very high quality image capture using cameras and non-destructive methods. They worked very closely with the CWAAS working party to secure a high level of accuracy and the best possible images from some very challenging material.

Access to the volumes is through the CWAAS website, and the collection is hosted by ADS based at the University of York. In this Anniversary Year, the Society aims to share the rich and wide ranging resource of its *Transactions* as widely as possible among everyone interested in Cumbria's past. Demonstrations of how the digitised volumes can be explored are being held at various events around the county and elsewhere. If your society, school or group would like a demonstration, we would be happy to discuss how this can be arranged.

Pat Garside, Chair, Digitisation Working Party

The Library

From its early days the Society acquired a library, based around the journals exchanged with other county and national societies. Without a base of its own the library relied on the support of Tullie House Museum and Library, where the Society library was part of the reference collection. After Carlisle Library moved in 1990 the journals passed into the care of Carlisle Museum and then to Cumbria College of Art and Design, now part of the University of Cumbria where the library remains. The library began to receive donations of books which enhanced its coverage of archaeology and Cumbrian history. It is back in the Brampton Road campus but access has to be arranged through the librarian at the Fusehill Street campus where books will be made available for readers. Early reports in *Transactions* refer to documents in the Society collection but these have all been absorbed into the Jackson Library in Carlisle. For access contact: Claire.Stewart@Cumbria.ac.uk

Ian Caruana, CWAAS Librarian

Hadrian's Wall Pilgrimage 2019



Every 10 years the Society organises, together with its sister society, the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne, a 'Pilgrimage' along Hadrian's Wall. The first Pilgrimage was held in 1849 and organised by John Collingwood Bruce who later became the leading authority of his

day on the Wall. The Pilgrimage alternates between starting in Carlisle and Newcastle and today the Pilgrims do not walk but travel by bus. The purpose is the same, though, to learn about the most recent work on this famous Roman frontier in the field as well as the study, and in this they are supported by the publication of a handbook. The next Pilgrimage will be held in 2019.

David Breeze, Past President

Recording the history of the Society



Chancellor Ferguson



William Jackson



Clare Fell



Mike Davies-Shiel

The 150th Anniversary of the Society has spawned a project to locate, list and, so far as feasible, bring together the archives of the Society, both to assist those researching its history and to ensure their preservation for the future. Since 1965 Cumbria Archive Service has been the recipient of the Society's core archives, including the minutes of its Council and AGM from 1866, as well as the programmes of meetings. Also now held at Carlisle Archive Centre are the archives of the Society's affiliated Carlisle Regional Group, dating from 1949, the Kendal Archive Centre holding the archives of the affiliated Kendal Historical and Archaeological Society for the period from 1952. With the ready co-operation of Carlisle Library and Tullie House Museum, archives of the Society and its members (including the scrapbooks of Chancellor Ferguson, the Society's President 1886–1900, and the correspondence of some of the Society's committees which had been deposited with them), have been transferred to Carlisle Archive Centre.

Besides these archives there are the records of many individual members, to be found in various repositories. They range from individual albums recording excursions to extensive research to other papers concerning local history and genealogy (papers of William Jackson (1823–90) and Roy Hudleston (1905–92)), prehistory (papers of Clare Fell (1912–2002)), and industrial archaeology (papers of Michael Davies-Shiel (1929–2009)).

From 2016, lists of the archives of the Society, its affiliated groups and its members, wherever they are deposited, will be accessible on the Society's web pages at cumbriapast.com; these lists will be periodically updated to record future accessions and additions to existing deposits. Besides documenting the history and influence of the Society and its members, these archives provide material for future research.

Adrian Allan, CWAAS Membership Secretary

CWAAS Calendar 2016

8 January	Museum display commences at Carlisle Archive Centre
1 February	Kendal Affiliated Group Lecture, Professor Angus Winchester
19 February	Museum display commences at Whitehaven Archive Centre
14 March	Penrith Affiliated Group Lecture, Professor Angus Winchester
1 April	Museum display commences at Kendal Museum
9 April	AGM, Senhouse Museum, Maryport
30 April	Industrial history event at Newlands Furnace and Cunsey Forge
13 May	Museum displays commence at Carlisle and Kendal Libraries
21 May	West coast walk from Ravenglass to Muncaster
24 June	Museum displays commence at Penrith Museum and Kendal Archive Centre
23 July	Penrith and Eamont Bridge urban and rural walk
29 July	Museum displays commence at Tullie House and Senhouse Museum
1 August	Visit to Low Borrow Bridge Roman Fort and Vicus
8 September	Westmorland County Show
9 September	Anniversary Dinner and Book Launch
10 September	Anniversary Conference
16 September	Museum displays commence at the Armitt Library, Ambleside and Ruskin Museum, Coniston
13 October	Study Day at Burgh-by-Sands
14 October	Carlisle Affiliated Group Lecture, Professor Angus Winchester
4 November	Museum display commences at Keswick Museum and Barrow Archive Centre
19 November	SW Regional Group Lecture, Professor Angus Winchester
16 December	Museum displays commence at The Beacon, Whitehaven and the Dock Museum, Barrow

Full details of events will be posted on the CWAAS web site during January 2016: visit www.cumbriapast.com All members will receive details on flyers with the March Newsletter.