

Newsletter

No. 15

April 2014

Welcome to the fifteenth issue of the CCHT e-newsletter intended to keep you up-to-date with the VCH Cumbria project. **Happy Easter!**

Cumbria County History Trust's AGM

The fourth CCHT AGM was held on the morning of Saturday 5th April at Lowther Castle. There was an excellent turnout by members of the Trust. Reports were delivered by the Chair, Bryan Gray; the Treasurer, John Garside; and the Director of the VCH Cumbria project, Angus Winchester.



G © Toplist Lowther Lowther Castle 2010

Tributes were also paid by the Trustees and members to Richard Brockington, who stood down as Secretary of the Trust after four years. Richard was also one of the driving forces in the establishment of CCHT and the VCH Cumbria project. After his several years of hard work on behalf of the Trust, we would like to repeat our thanks and wish him well for the future. Taking over from Richard as CCHT Secretary is Tiffany Hunt, who has been a Trustee of CCHT since 2010.

After the formal business of the AGM was completed, presentations were made by Sarah Rose and Angus Winchester. Sarah's talk focused on her experiences as a VCH drafter over the past year, particularly her work on Helsington. It was intended that this would be followed by a site visit to nearby Lowther church. But owing to the gloomy weather, Angus Winchester instead provided a virtual tour of this intriguing building and its adjacent mausoleum, described by Hyde & Pevsner as an 'architectural monsterpiece'.

VCH Volunteer Training Event

We have a couple of places left on the 'Researching the Clergy' training event on Friday 2nd May 2014, 10.30am – 1pm at Carlisle Archive Centre.

This training opportunity follows the recent launch of the latest task for VCH volunteers, to gather the names of Anglican clergy for each parish. This free event is therefore aimed to support volunteers in this task, as well as those pursuing further research into the religious history of their township/parish.

The session will be run by Dr Jane Platt, who is herself a VCH Volunteer and editor of *The Diocesan Book of Walter Fletcher, Chancellor of Carlisle Diocese 1814-46* (forthcoming 2015), which will be published jointly by Surtees Society and CWAAS. Dr Platt will provide an introduction to researching Anglican clergy from the eighteenth century to the present day. Particular attention will be paid to the type of records available and where you can find them. This includes information in the church and grave-yard; in parish and diocesan records; and material available online. Examples of difficult cases will also be discussed from Dr Platt's own research.



Incumbents of Kendal Parish

Although emphasis will be given to the Diocese of Carlisle, those working on townships/parishes belonging to the Diocese of Chester before 1856 should still find this session useful. After lunch, Dr Platt will be on hand in the archive search room for those wishing to stay and look at some original records.

Refreshments: Those wishing to stay for the afternoon in the searchroom are advised to bring your own lunch. Alternatively, there are shops near the archives. There will be a break for lunch at 1pm.

Booking: Places at this event are limited and so **BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**. If you would like to reserve a place, please email Sarah Rose: s.rose2@lancaster.ac.uk

New Online Resources

OS 6" Maps now available online

The National Library of Scotland has made available online zoomable colour images of the Ordnance Survey's six-inch to the mile (1:10,560) mapping of England and Wales. This is the most detailed OS topographic mapping covering all of England and Wales from the 1840s to the 1950s. It was revised for the whole country twice between 1842-1893 and 1891-1914, and then updated regularly for urban or rapidly changing areas from 1914 to the 1940s. The easiest way of finding sheets is through a clickable graphic index using their 'Find by Place' viewer: <http://maps.nls.uk/geo/records/>

This allows searching through a gazetteer of placenames, street names, postcodes and Grid References, as well as by zooming in on an area of interest with smaller-scale locational mapping as a backdrop. The sheets are also available via county lists: <http://maps.nls.uk/os/6inch-england-and-wales/counties.html>

For further information, please see the links on the CCHT website: <http://www.cumbriacountyhistory.org.uk/os-6-maps-cumbria> or go direct to: <http://maps.nls.uk/os/6inch-england-and-wales/info1.html>

Themes Page Updates

We have added two new resources on the CCHT website's Themes section in the past month. The first is a page devoted to lime kilns in Westmorland. The information has been kindly supplied by David Johnson, together with an essay by introducing the subject. As well as accessing lists of all lime kilns in the baronies of Kendal and Westmorland, you can also view pictures of them.



Lime Kiln at Crosthwaite

Also on the themes page is a section devoted to hospitals in Westmorland. This includes an article by VCH Volunteer Paul Cheesbrough, which covers the history of the Ethel Hedley Orthopaedic Hospital and Kendal Memorial Hospital, which was replaced by the Westmorland County Hospital.

'Campus in the City' Event Success

On Saturday 29th March the VCH Cumbria project was represented at Lancaster University's 'Campus in the City' event in Lancaster City Centre. The day focused on research projects based on Lakeland heritage. There were almost 300 visitors to the event in just five hours, which also hosted representatives from the Wordsworth Trust, the Lakeland Arts Trust, and the Spatial Humanities project based at Lancaster University.



Local History Surgeries

Sarah Rose will be available in the Kendal or Carlisle Archive Centres on the following Thursdays should you wish to speak to her about your research. **Please note** that Sarah will only be available in Carlisle once a month until further notice.

Carlisle Archives:

15th May and 12th June

Kendal Archives:

8th May, 22nd May and 5th June

Forthcoming Events

Local and Regional History Seminar Series, Lancaster University, Wednesday 30th April.

Dr Jonathan Healey of University of Oxford will be giving a paper *on* Economic crises in north-west England, 1600-1750. The seminar will take place in FASS Building, Meeting Room 2/3 from 5 p.m. Entry is **free** and everyone is welcome!
<http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/fass/history/event>

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