

Newsletter



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Welcome to the latest issue of the CCHT e-newsletter intended to keep you up-to-date with the VCH Cumbria project.

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Regional Heritage Centre Launch

Saturday 7 March will see the formal launch of the Regional Heritage Centre at Lancaster University. Members of CCHT and VCH Cumbria volunteers are very welcome to attend. The launch will include a drinks reception, some presentations on the work of the Centre and a light-hearted talk by the archaeologist Lindsay Allason-Jones OBE on her experiences as a consultant in the film and TV industries. It would be helpful if anyone else who wishes to attend the reception can let us know by 20 February 2015. Please email Sarah Rose s.rose@lancaster.ac.uk or the Centre Administrator Christine Wilkinson christine.wilkinson@lancaster.ac.uk

Campus in the City: A few days prior to the RHC launch, CCHT and VCH Cumbria will be represented at this year's Campus in the City event organised by Lancaster University. The Regional Heritage Centre and other heritage organisations we work with will be taking over a shop on Cheapside in Lancaster city centre on **Wednesday 4th March** to show off what we do. If you happen to be there (it's a market day), please come along and say hello!

CCHT AGM: a date for your diaries

We are pleased to announce that this year the CCHT AGM will be held at Lowther Castle near Penrith on the evening of Wednesday 22nd April at 7.30pm.



Winter at Lowther

Events at Lancaster

VCH Cumbria volunteers may be interested to know about a couple of Cumbrian-themed events coming up, which have been organised as part of the Regional Heritage Centre's study day programme.

On **Thursday 26th March** there is a study afternoon at the Friends' Meeting House in Lancaster, on 'Recent Work in Rural History in North-West England'. Dr Andy Gritt will be looking at the agrarian revolution from the perspective of Cumbrian smallholder Richard Latham (1699-1767), while Dr Derek Denman will examine the responses of landowners to the cultural value of the Keswick on Derwentwater estate, 1735-1836.

On **Saturday 25 April** there is an event focused on how to study the history of religion in local communities. Speakers include Professor Angus Winchester and Dr Sarah Rose, as well as two alumni of Lancaster's History Department, Dr James Mawdesley and Dr Jane Platt. This event will be of particular interest to VCH Cumbria volunteers who are researching a parish or township history.

For further details and information on how to book your place at either event, please visit <http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/users/rhc/event>

Looking further ahead, the History Department and School of Law at Lancaster University are jointly hosting the 2015 **Iredell Lecture on 6 May**. The topic is 'Magna Carta and the Victorians' and the guest speaker is Professor Miles Taylor from York University. All are welcome to this free event, but you will need to register: <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/iredell-lecture-2015-tickets-15567732507?aff=es2&rank=79>

Paul Cheesbrough

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Paul Cheesbrough. Paul had a great love of history and completed an MA in the subject at Lancaster University. It was while working on his thesis that Paul became a VCH Cumbria volunteer in 2010. A few years later he took on the job of drafting a VCH township article for Sedgwick, the village where he lived. Paul was a friend to many and he will be missed very much.

Jubilee Digests: Moving Forward

The Jubilee Digests, to which around 90 volunteers contributed back in 2012, provide concise summaries of historical information about each of the 344 places which will eventually be the subject of VCH parish or township articles. The CCHT steering group believe that they will form a valuable ready-reference guide if published in book form and Angus Winchester has begun the task of editing and revising them into suitable format for conventional publication. Watch this space.... Meanwhile, if you discover any errors or omissions in the Jubilee Digests published online, please contact Angus as soon as possible by emailing details to a.winchester@lancaster.ac.uk

Local History Surgeries

Sarah Rose will be available in the Kendal or Carlisle Archive Centres on the following days should you wish to speak to her about your research.

Kendal Archives:

19 February; 19 March ;
26 March

Carlisle Archives:

12th March (PM only);
9th April

Visit from the new VCH Director

In January members of the CCHT Steering Group met with the new General Editor of the VCH, Professor Richard Hoyle. Having taken up the post at VCH head office at the Institute of Historical Research at the University of London in October, Professor Hoyle is currently in the process of visiting the counties where the VCH is active. He was very impressed with our work: 'I am left full of admiration for what VCH Cumbria is doing'.

CONTACTS

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