

CCHT training sessions
Carlisle Archives Centre
10.00 - c3.30

Dr Mike Winstanley
Retired Senior Lecturer in History, Lancaster University

Tea and coffee will be provided. Please bring your own lunch.

Friday 15 February 2013

The Poor Law in Cumbria

Until 1929 funding and administering relief of the poor was a local responsibility, primarily through townships or parishes. However, quite a few areas of Cumbria formed into unions from the late 18th century and after the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 Poor Law Unions with Boards of Guardians, consisting of JPs and elected township members, which provided increasingly complex systems of indoor relief for various categories of paupers. This system survived until 1929.

The morning session will outline the major changes in the administration, funding and operation of poor over this long period and some of the major sources available for studying the provision of poor relief at township and union level in both the county and national archives. After lunch there will be an opportunity to explore catalogues and resources for Cumbria, and to analyse them with assistance. Volunteers can, subject to CAS staff availability, request items related to their own area of interest.

Those interested in attending might find it useful to explore the excellent website by Peter Higginbotham, The Workhouse, www.workhouses.org.uk which outlines and illustrates workhouse provision across the country, particularly after 1834. However, there have are few detailed studies of local provision at either township or union level for Cumbria.

Friday 12 April 2013

Education in Cumbria before 1944

Until the 19th century schooling, at whatever level and for whatever purpose, was largely provided by charitable endowments, religious bodies and private enterprise. Provision was patchy, dependent on local initiative, usually at parish or township level. After 1833 national government began to take an increasing interest in both the provision of schools and curricula which they provided, setting up inspection and linking state funding to results. From 1870 elected school boards were created to 'fill the gaps' in local provision and after 1902 local government took increasing

control and funding of all schools. County and borough councils also established specialist forms of educational training from the late 19th century.

The morning session will outline the major changes in the administration, funding and operation of schooling up to the Education Act of 1944 and some of the major sources available for studying it at local level in both county and national archives. After lunch there will be an opportunity to explore relevant catalogues and resources for Cumbria, and to analyse them with assistance. Volunteers can, subject to CAS staff availability, request items related to their particular area of interest.



The project is supported by the Rural Development for England, for which Defra is the Managing Authority, part financed by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas.