

Newsletter

No. 42 Autumn 2021

Welcome to the CCHT e-newsletter. Keeping you up-to-date with the VCH Cumbria project.

Supported by



CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND
ANTIQUARIAN AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Apologies for the delay to this newsletter – and (for those who noticed) the lack of a summer one. This issue includes an agenda and reports ahead of our AGM in November.

We are happy to report that after being delayed by Covid, our historical research skills training programme for the Furness area will start this autumn. We have also recently held our first face-to-face meeting with VCH volunteers in over 18 months, in the form of a field trip to Cliburn.

Dates for your diaries

The CCHT AGM will be held via Zoom on Tuesday 9th November, at 7.30pm. After the formal business of the meeting, Bill Shannon will give a talk about tithe maps. You may have seen the information about tithe maps that have been added to the township pages of the CCHT website.

We are pleased to announce that there will be a lecture for CCHT members by Roland Jackson on Wednesday 8th December, at 11am. The topic will be the 19th-century Irish physicist John Tyndall.

Zoom links for these events will be circulated closer to the time. We plan to record both of these talks as part of a plan to increase the video content on the CCHT website.

New Membership Secretary and Trustees

We are delighted that Pam Cronin has accepted the role of CCHT Membership Secretary, with Lorna Mullett staying on as Secretary to the Trust. Pam is originally from Newcastle but has lived most of her life in and around Brampton, and currently lives in Walton. Along with husband Paul, Pam has been a volunteer with the VCH for several years, researching the parishes of Upper Denton, Kingwater and Waterhead.

CCHT would also like to extend a warm welcome to its three new Trustees: County Councillor Roger Bingham, representing FoCAS; Dr Ruth Lawley for CLHF; and Eleanor Kingston for LDNPA.

Membership Renewal

This is a gentle reminder to please pay your CCHT membership subscription for 2021. Please check and, if you need to, make a payment by the 31st December 2021. We are happy to accept either banker's orders or cheques. To help us plan for the future of this long-term project, we encourage our Standard members (£25 p.a.) to covenant for five years. Payment can be sent to Pam Cronin at 7 Woodleigh, Walton, Brampton, CA8 2DS. Email ppjcronin@btinternet.com

Field Trip to Cliburn

On 1st September, several VCH volunteers attended a field trip to Cliburn - our first in-person event since 2019! Cliburn is a small village and ancient parish some six miles south east of Penrith. A draft VCH article was recently completed by James Underwood. He and another local resident, Louise Wilson, served as our guides for the day. Both had a wealth of knowledge about the buildings and the people who had lived there.

We met at the Village Hall, which was built with a Heritage Lottery Grant and opened in 2002. It replaced the old village hall which had been brought from Hawswater, where it had housed workers constructing the dam. Our tour passed two former pubs, the Wesleyan Methodist chapel, and Cliburn's first school house, which was latterly used as reading room. At the south of the village lies Rectory Farm (the original rectory), next door to which is St Cuthbert's church.



The volunteers at St Cuthbert's

Sitting on a raised plateau, the church was first recorded in 1133 and was included in a list of churches dedicated to St Cuthbert in 1416. During building work in 1886/7, the 12th century doorway was reset in the south wall, and two inscribed Roman stones were found, now embedded in the wall of

the porch. Several other medieval features survive, including a 13th century lancet window in the chancel. To the east of the church lies Cliburn Hall, which originated as a 14th century pele tower built by the lords of the manor. Rebuilding work by Richard Cliburn in 1567 is commemorated in an inscription near the main entrance. Close by is the River Leith, which forms the parish boundary, as noted in a plaque on the bridge.



After lunch, we drove north along the 'tithe road', passing Cliburn school (closed 1983), the former rectory (a large mansion complex built in the mid 19th century), and Cliburn Station, which in fact lay in Brougham parish. The station building is now a private house and the signal box stands in the garden. We continued along this road to reach Winderwath, a detached portion of Cliburn parish. Our final destination was Winderwath House, which is medieval in origin and was largely rebuilt in the 17th and 19th centuries. The owner, Jane Pollock, kindly gave us tea while we explored the delightful gardens, which are open to the public.



Winderwath House and Gardens

You can now read the full draft history for Cliburn on the CCHT website:

https://www.cumbriacountyhistory.org.uk/sites/default/files/cliburn_full_draft_history.pdf

Township in Focus: Barbon

Barbon is one of the eleven townships in Lonsdale Ward that will feature in our first 'Big Red Book' and a complete draft of the article will soon be sent to VCH Central Office for comment. One of the things I found most interesting about Barbon was the fact that it had its own school by the late 16th century, located at the chapel. The will of Oliver Bainbrigg, proved in 1560, included a bequest of £7 for the use of the school and the priest, and a schoolmaster was recorded in the visitation of 1578. One of Barbon's schoolmasters, Samuel Gibson, corresponded with the antiquary Thomas Machell. In 1692, Machell reported that Gibson, then aged about 24, had some five years previously travelled to the Holy Land and had come back with both arms tattooed. A new school room was built adjoining a new chapel in 1815. In 1867, another new school was built to the south west of the village, which closed in 1982.

The Roman road between the forts at Burrow and Low Borrowbridge passed through Barbon. Recent Lidar imagery shows the line of this road depicted on OS maps to be incorrect, for it passed to the west rather than directly through the remains of a settlement at Howrigg. This has contributed to a reassessment of the settlement as being Iron Age/Roman rather than medieval in date. Although the Sedbergh–Greta Bridge turnpike bypassed Barbon village, the inhabitants were successful in their petition to have a station on the Ingleton Branch Line of the North-Western Railway. Barbon Creamery utilised the line before switching to road transport. The line closed to passengers in 1954 and tracks were lifted in 1967. The nearby Barbon Inn, once known as the Station Inn, still remains.

Recorded as 'Berebrun' in 1086, the township takes its name from Barbon Beck, which along with its headwater, Barkin Beck, flows westwards to the River Lune. The name Barbon likely derives from the Old Norse bjórr-brunnr, 'beaver stream'. Barkin Beck cuts through the steep-sided and scenic valley of Barbondale, the northern side of which rises over 500m. The valley owes its steepness to the Dent Fault, which separates the Carboniferous limestone of the Yorkshire Dales from the older sandstone hills of Middleton Fell and the Howgills.



Sheepfold by artist Andy Goldsworthy on the road to Dent through Barbondale.

To the northwest of Barbon village, on the northern slope of Barbondale, lies Barbon Manor. Designed by E.M. Barry, it was built in 1862-3 as a shooting lodge for the lord of the manor, Sir James Kay-Shuttleworth (1804-1877), who had changed his name on marriage to the Shuttleworth heiress. The Shuttleworths have been lords of the manor since the late 16th century. In the Middle Ages, the manor was held for several generations by the Lascelles family, who established a park there and in 1278 made an agreement over the boundary with Dent. In the 1840s, however, Barbon's boundary with both Dent and Casterton were in dispute, with neither being settled in Barbon's favour.

Barbon Continued...

Barbon village was home to the poet Catherine Grace Godwin (1798-1845), whose father was the Casterton-born physician and natural philosopher, Thomas Garnett (1766-1802). You may remember Prof. Robert Fox giving a talk about him for CCHT in 2019. A men's reading room was built in the village in 1884 and the Village Hall in 1926. The latter is still used by Barbon W.I., which was founded in 1920, making it one of the first branches in Westmorland. Barbon hosts the annual Barbon Manor Speed Hillclimb and sheepdog trials.



The carved stone figure above the porch is that of St Bartholomew.

The new Anglican church followed a few years after the Wesleyan Methodists built a chapel in the village, though there had been a congregation long before that. The chapel celebrated its centenary in 1987 and closed in 2008. Permission to convert it into a dwelling was granted in 2018; it was still for sale when this picture was taken in 2020.



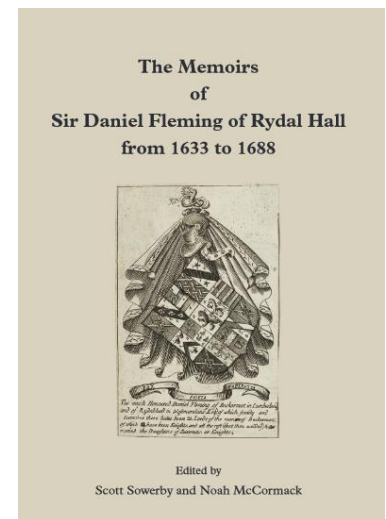
The township had a medieval chapel of ease, possibly as early as the 12th century. This was rebuilt in the 17th century and again in 1814-15. It was abandoned when the present church, dedicated to St Bartholomew, was built on a new site just to the south in 1892-3. There was reportedly a St Bartholomew's Day Plum Sunday Fair in the 17th century (if you have any information about this, please get in touch).

Exploring the medieval Anglo-Scottish Border

On 16th September we were treated to an online talk by Jackson Armstrong about his prize-winning book *England's Northern Frontier: Conflict and Local Society in the Fifteenth-Century Scottish Marches*. Focusing on the English side of the border, it explores the 'rhetoric and reality' of life on the frontier. You can watch a YouTube video of Jackson introducing his book (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9tJ65qNjku>), which is due out in paperback at Christmas – an excellent gift idea!

The Memoirs of Sir Daniel Fleming of Rydal

Sir Daniel Fleming's propensity to hoard documents is one of those quirks from which many historians have benefitted (his papers fill over 100 archive boxes). His memoir though was misplaced for over 200 years until its rediscovery at Carlisle Castle in 2001. After making the chance find, Scott Sowerby spent two decades, together with Noah McCormack, editing the manuscript, which was recently published by CWAAS. It provides an immensely vivid insight into the local context during a turbulent period in British history, as well as the dramas within Sir Daniel's private life, as an overbearing father to thirteen children and a champion feuder. Priced £60, copies can be bought from CWAAs direct, or in store and online via Bookends.



Research Skills Training

By the time you read this, our historical skills training course will be underway. Working in conjunction with Morecambe Bay Partnership (MBP), the six-week course aims to engage with people in the Furness area who are interested in local history. It is hoped that their new skills could be utilised to contribute to the current work of the VCH. Among those contributing to sessions are Fiona Edmonds, Bill Shannon, Sarah Rose and our very own VCH volunteer, Ruth Lawley, who will give some insights on her experience of the project and acquiring skills in local history research.

After a long delay in launching the course due to the pandemic, it was a real delight to see that it booked up so quickly. For those who were unable to book a place this time around, please note that the course will run again in January/February 2022. Keep checking the MBP website for details.

Penrith and the POTUS - update

The Spring Newsletter included a piece by Michael Mullett about the Haydock Bible used at the inauguration of Joe Biden as president of the United States. This was also published on the CCHT website (<https://www.cumbriacountyhistory.org.uk/penrith-and-potus-background>), where it came to the attention of Preston film maker, Gary Cunliffe, who has made three short videos about the Cottam and the Haydock families. The third film features the Haydock Bible - and involves a screen grab of our now-famous Interesting Fact about Penrith and the POTUS. You can view the video here: <https://vimeo.com/578874292> (skip to 18 min. 39 sec. for the CCHT reference).

CONTACTS

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CCHT Secretary: Mrs Lorna Mullett, Tel. 01768 840903; wastwater@talktalk.net

CCHT Treasurer: Richard Platt, 9 The Abbey, Carlisle, CA3 9TZ; dick.platt@gmail.com

CCHT Membership Secretary: Mrs Pam Cronin, ppicronin@btinternet.com

CCHT AGM AGENDA

1. Welcome and to note number of members present
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the last meeting. As there was no formal AGM held in 2020 there are no Minutes. The Minutes of the 2019 AGM were circulated with papers for the postponed May 2020 meeting.
4. Annual Report – attached
5. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2020 – attached
6. Membership Report – attached
7. Director's Report – attached
8. Election of Officers and Trustees.

The current Officers have agreed to serve for a further year if elected:

Chair Bryan Gray

Treasurer Richard Platt

Secretary Lorna Mullett

The current elected Trustees have agreed to serve for a further year if elected:

Marion McClintock

Jane Penman

James Underwood

Angus Winchester

Tim Sykes

Following the resignation of John Garside there is a vacancy on the Board of Trustees: Roland Jackson is proposed to fill this vacancy.

9. To approve a professional examiner of the Trust's accounts
10. Any other business proper to the AGM

Cumbria County History Trust

11th Annual report 2020-2021

I am disappointed again that we are not able to hold our AGM in person, but by now I think most of us have become familiar with the wonders of Zoom – albeit with a certain weariness and longing for a post Zoom world. Over the last year or so new words have entered our lexicon: ‘lockdown’, ‘social distancing’ and COVID-19. However, we have not let the challenges of the pandemic diminish our enthusiasm and commitment to the work of the CCHT.

The Director’s report provides an update on progress; we are fortunate indeed to be working with Fiona Edmonds and Sarah Rose from Lancaster University. On-line working has become more important than ever. The investment we have made in our website over the years has really proved its worth. I am most grateful to Bill Shannon for leading this aspect of our work, supported by Sarah Rose, Eric Apperley and the many others who contribute. I am also pleased that we will be hosting our first on-line talk shortly.

Our approach to funding continues to concentrate on three-year periods so that we are not continually in fund-raising mode. Our current funding phase runs until September 2022; the Steering Group has already started to think about the next period from October 2022 until September 2025. We are a membership organisation: the support of our members is vital. In 2018 we introduced life memberships. I wrote earlier in the year encouraging people to consider Life Membership. There was a good response, but it would be good if we could encourage others to step forward.

You can become a Life Member, whatever your age, for a one-off payment of £1000. If you are a taxpayer we can reclaim Gift Aid making your gift worth £1,250. (Higher rate taxpayers can reclaim tax, which means that a gift worth £1,250 to us costs only £750 if you pay tax at 40%.)

This year we have welcomed new trustees and a new Membership Secretary (Pam Cronin). The CCHT’s success is due to the diligence, enthusiasm, and contribution of many people. I would like to thank my fellow trustees, our staff and all our members and volunteers for their continuing support, especially in these challenging times.

I wish everyone good health in the days and weeks ahead and hope that you will continue to enjoy your participation with the CCHT.

Bryan Gray
Chairman
20th October 2021

Treasurer's Report

Cumbria County History Trust

Registered Charity Number 1137379

Receipts and Payment Accounts for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

2019 £	Receipts	NOTES	2020 £	2019 £	Payments	NOTES	2020 £
3850.00	Founders' subscriptions		3780.00	12662.25	Lancaster University		17107.44
0.00	Life Members		0.00	6227.40	Web site	3.	2518.16
935.05	Members' subscriptions		930.05	150.00	Insurance and BALH membership	4.	707.63
275.00	Societies' subscriptions		200.00	32.13	Admin supplies and postage		-
2000.00	CWAAS grant		-	317.00	Cumbria CC Photo Licence		-
6666.00	CWAAS Core Funding	1.	-	450.95	Meeting expenses	5.	189.33
20000.00	Marc Fitch grant		-	1111.23	Book printing costs		-
20000.00	Anonymous Donation		-				
160.00	Donations		-				
5708.38	Gift aid tax reclaim	2.	-				
1489.68	Sale of books		-				
111.90	Term Share Interest		111.90				
38.82	Current Account Interest		60.81				
				20950.96	Total Payments		20522.56
				40283.87	Deficit Excess of Payments over Receipts		-15439.80
61234.83	Total Receipts		5082.76	61234.83			5082.76
	Statement of Assets						
41164.96	Funds brought forward: 1 Jan 2020		81448.83				
40283.87	Less Deficit for 2020		-15439.80				
81448.83	Funds carried forward: 31 Dec 2020		66009.03				
	Represented by:						
	Cumberland Building Society						
71009.74	Current account		55458.04				
10439.09	One year bond		10550.99				
81448.83	Total Assets at 31 Dec 2020		66009.03				

NOTES

1. This was a timing difference.
A further tranche was received in 2021.
2. This was a timing difference.
3. Last year's website expenses included upgrading costs.
4. Insurance now includes cover for trustee and cyber risks.
5. Meeting expenses are the Zoom subscription.

Cumbria County History Trust Registered Charity Number 1137379

Receipts and Payments Accounts for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

I have examined the Receipts and Payments Account of the Cumbria County History Trust for the year ended 31st December 2020 and the Statement of Assets as at 31 December 2020.

In the course of my examination no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - a. To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011, and
 - b. To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act;

or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: *U Batey*

Date: 11/10/2021

11th October 2021

CCHT MEMBERSHIP REPORT

I took over as Membership Secretary from Lorna earlier this year, I am still finding my feet.

The current paid membership by of the CCHT by category is as follows:

<u>Founder/Standard Members</u>	39
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<u>Life Members</u>	10
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<u>New Members</u>	2
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<u>Society Members</u>	3
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Sadly 3 members have died this year.

There are also the following associates:

<u>Founders</u>	8
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<u>Associate Members</u>	8
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<u>Postgraduate Associates</u>	3
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Pam Cronin

Friday 22nd October 2021

Cumbria County History Trust

Report of the Director of the VCH Cumbria project, 2020/1

I am glad to have this opportunity to update CCHT's supporters on the developments in the VCH Cumbria project during the last year.

The pandemic has naturally continued to pose challenges for the project. However, in recent months Sarah Rose and some volunteers have been able to access archives within Cumbria more readily. A field trip took place in Cliburn in September, and we would like to thank James Underwood for his help with organising the trip. Zoom meetings remain useful; for example, we were able to invite the Aberdeen-based historian Dr Jackson Armstrong to speak via Zoom in October. He told a wide audience of volunteers and members about his award-winning book *England's Northern Frontier*, which concerns Cumberland, Westmorland and Northumberland in the fifteenth century.

Work continues on updating the nine drafts for the Kirkby Lonsdale parish townships, which are based on the very valuable work of volunteer Emmeline Garnett. Sarah and I are also laying the groundwork for the remaining four places in Lonsdale Ward, namely, Burton-in-Kendal, Holme, Dalton and Dillicar, for which no VCH research has been done. Angus Winchester has kindly offered to undertake the research and writing for Dillicar. Over the next year further public engagement work will be required to seek feedback on the articles on the remaining townships in Lonsdale Ward. Our aim is to submit a full draft of the 200,000-word Red Book for Lonsdale Ward to VCH Central Office by the end of September 2022.

Another key element of the current phase of the project is a free training programme to benefit the public in south-west Cumbria, and encourage new volunteers. We are working with Morecambe Bay Partnership on this endeavour since they have long experience of providing training in that region. The course consists of six sessions: four via Zoom, one landscape history session outside, and an archival visit. The first run of the course booked up very quickly (it starts on October 26th) we will advertise another run of the course for Spring 2022. The course is generously supported by the Cumberland & Westmorland Antiquarian & Archaeological Society.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the CCHT volunteers and members for their support, as well as the Trustees and Steering Group members, and of course Sarah Rose.

Dr Fiona Edmonds
20/10/21