

# 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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## Family & Local History Day

The Cumbria Family History Society held its annual Fair on Saturday 24th October at The Shepherds Inn, Carlisle. The event was supported by the Cumbria Local History Federation and the North West Group of Family History Societies. There were 140 visitors to the event, which hosted over 40 organisations, including CCHT. Several excellent talks were held throughout the day, three of which focused on the history of the Dacre family. VCH Volunteer and former Secretary of CCHT, Richard Brockington, spoke about “The Dacre Inheritance, 1569-1601”. His research on the Dacres in this period has been published in CWAAS *Transactions* (vol.14 2014) and in a background paper for VCH researchers, which is available on the CCHT website.



## Volunteer Meetings and Guidance

Our group of VCH drafters will be meeting in Penrith later this month to discuss progress and the updated guidance notes on religious history. In the New Year we plan to combine this, along with revision for the local government section and introduction, with the other revised notes we have compiled this year into a third (!) edition of our Volunteers' Handbook. The second edition proved very popular, not only with VCH researchers, but other local historians. The new edition will also incorporate the revised national guidance framework, a draft of which is available on the Handbook page of the CCHT website.

## Developing the website: volunteers needed

As part of our plans to build up the resources available for each parish/township page on the CCHT website, we would like to provide direct links to relevant articles available in the newly digitised CWAAS *Transactions*, which will be launched as part of the Society's 150th Anniversary in 2016. In order to help us achieve this for all 345 parish/townships in the county, we need a handful of volunteers with I.T. skills who could take on one of the ten wards in Cumbria, with responsibility for identifying relevant articles and posting the links to them. If you would like to help with this, please contact Sarah Rose: [s.rose2@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:s.rose2@lancaster.ac.uk)

## Local celebrations of Magna Carta



L-R: Stuart Harling, Chair of CPLHS; Sarah Rose; Nick Devenish, Vicar of Cartmel Priory and Nigel Mills, Secretary of CPLHS.

Cartmel Peninsula Local History Society have encouraged local interest in magna carta in its 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. During the their hugely successful Magna Carta medieval festival on 25th-29th September, Dr Sarah Rose delivered a lecture on

'Magna Carta and the Northern Barons' to a capacity audience. This was followed by walks around the village, led by members of CPLHS, which were also well supported.

## Local History Surgeries

Sarah Rose will be in Kendal or Carlisle Archive Centres on the following days should you wish to speak to her:

**Kendal:** 26 Nov & 2 Dec

**Carlisle:** 12 Nov & 10 Dec

## Matthew Hyde

We were very saddened to learn of the death of Matthew Hyde, who passed away on 18th September. Matthew was an architectural historian who is perhaps best known in Cumbria for the 2014 book *Arts and Crafts Houses in the Lake District*, which he co-authored with Esme Whittaker, and for his work on The Buildings of England series, which updated the work of Nikolaus Pevsner. The latter volume has been indispensable to our VCH research. Matthew also had close links with Lancaster University and led architectural tours of the University campus as part of the 50th anniversary in 2014. He will be much missed.



## Wellcome Library

VCH researchers may be interested to know that you can access a number of historical records and databases as a member of the Wellcome Library. Membership is free and lasts for five years. The only drawback is that you have to apply in person at the Library itself in London. However, once you have done this, you will be able to access remotely a number of online subscription-only resources. Although the Library is one of the world's major resources for the study of medical history, several of the resources its members enjoy are also useful for local history. They include:

- 19th century newspapers and pamphlets
- Letters and diaries
- Early English Books Online (EEBO)
- House of Commons Parliamentary Papers
- The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

Details of how to join can be found here: <http://wellcomelibrary.org/using-the-library/joining-the-library/>

## Commemorating 1715

The north west of England has a rich Jacobite heritage. This is due in part to the number of prominent Jacobites who lived in the area, and also to the fact that two Jacobite armies passed through the region – one in 1715 and one in 1745. To mark the 300th anniversary of the Battle of Preston, a study day is being held on 21 November at the University of Central Lancashire in Preston. The Battle will be considered both from the local and wider regional context. For more information and to book your place, please visit the [RHC website](#). For further commemorative events linked to the Battle, visit [www.prestonguildcity.co.uk/events](http://www.prestonguildcity.co.uk/events)



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