

LANCASHIRE

VOL. 46

DECEMBER 2024

No. 4



Welcome Home to the fishing fleet
On the front at Fleetwood
Sculpted by Anita Lafford

THE LANCASHIRE FAMILY HISTORY & HERALDRY SOCIETY

Formerly Rossendale Society for Genealogy & Heraldry
(Lancashire)

Inaugurated 1973. Registered Charity Number 513437

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crossed and made payable to Lancashire Family History &
Heraldry Society and sent to the Membership Secretary.**

MEETING VENUES

**BLACKBURN &
DARWEN**

**Special Interest Group (Zoom)
Possibly First Thursday of the month from July**

BURY

**Special Interest Group (Zoom)
Second Tuesday of the month at 7.00pm**

CHORLEY

**Primrose Gardens, Fleet St., Chorley PR7 2EE
Second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm**

FYLDE

**St. Martin's Church, Fleetwood Road South,
Carleton, Poulton-le-Fylde FY6 7NL
First Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm.**

HERALDRY GROUP Special Interest Group(Zoom)

HYNDBURN Accrington Sea Cadets, Harvey Street,
Oswaldtwistle, Accrington BB5 3LT
First Wednesday of the month.
Doors open 6.45pm ready for 7pm start.

IRISH ANCESTRY GROUP

2 Straits, Oswaldtwistle BB5 3LU
Saturday Workshops 1 pm – 4.30 pm
Every 2 months as per Branch Programme,
Website and Members Forum
(or Special Interest Group (Zoom)) as advised

**LANCASTER &
MORECAMBE** Morecambe Heritage, Unit 29 Arndale Centre,
Morecambe LA4 5DH
**First and third Friday 11 am–4 pm or
Special Interest Group (Zoom)**
**Third Thursday of the month at 6.45pm for
7pm start.**

LONDON & SOUTH **Special Interest Group (Zoom)**
**Five meetings a year on Saturdays at 2.00pm as
advised.**

**PENDLE &
BURNLEY** **Special Interest Group (Zoom)**
First Thursday of the month at 7pm

PRESTON Kingsfold Methodist Church, Padway,
Penwortham, Preston PR1 9EJ
Last Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm.

RIBBLE VALLEY **Special Interest Group (Zoom)**
**4th Thursday of the month at 6.45pm for
7.00pm start as advised.**

ROCHDALE St. Andrew's U.R. Church, Entwisle Road,
Rochdale OL16 2HZ
Last Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm.

ROSSENDALE Longholme Methodist Church (opp.Bus Station)
Bacup Road, Rawtenstall BB4 7NU
First Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm.

SOCIETY VIRTUAL GROUP (Zoom)
**Second Tuesday of the month 6.30pm for 7pm start
as advised.**

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Front Cover Picture Welcome Home sculpture, in Fleetwood
By Anita Lafford – see article by Stephen
Duxbury

Rear Cover Picture Statues sculpted by Hamilton Plantagenet
MacCarthy (1846-1939) – see article by Stephen Duxbury

PULL OUT CENTRE PAGES – RENEW MEMBERSHIP NOW!

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BRANCH AND GROUP PROGRAMMES

2024

- 27 Nov-Preston - Quiz Night and Jacobs Join
- 27 Nov-Rochdale - Christmas Party
- 4 Dec-Rossendale - Growing up in Accrington 1946 – Alan Mitton
- 5 Dec-Chorley - Quiz and nibbles – Bernard Cliffe
- 5 Dec-Pendle & Burnley – Zoom from 6.45pm – Garry Walton
- 10 Dec-Society - Tracing your Industrial Labourer Ancestors With Dr Nick Barrat
- 25 Dec-Preston - No meeting. Season's Greetings.
- 25 Dec-Rochdale - No meeting. Season's Greetings.

2025

- 9 Jan-Chorley - When Emigration Goes Wrong – The story of the coal miners and their families from Chorley who went to Hanna, Wyoming only to be caught up in two devastating pit disasters – Megan Roberts
- 14 Jan-Society - To be advised
- 29 Jan-Rochdale - To be advised
- 1 Feb – London & South – Zoom – Turnpikes and maps in the North West – Dr Paul Hindle
- 11 Feb-Society - To be advised
- 13 Feb-Chorley - John Critchley's Story. Born and died in Hamilton Road, Chorley, whose papers were passed to the Society after he died – Anne Lowe
- 26 Feb-Rochdale - Research Evening
- 13 Mar-Chorley - AGM and Using Newspapers in your research – Pauline Chapman
- 26 Apr – London & South – Zoom – Victorian Hiring Fairs – Clare O'Grady

17 May

SOCIETY CONFERENCE AND AGM

SOCIETY VIRTUAL BRANCH TALKS BY ZOOM

**Contact: Marian Crossley
e-mail: mariancrossley74@gmail.com
or societytalks@lfhhs.org
for more information or check our website.**

Hopefully you will be able to join us on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm for 7pm start sometime.

Again, my appeal for speakers has resulted in a couple of members volunteering, which is brilliant. If you have a talk, even if it is very short, we can perhaps put a few together and do one evening. Be brave, come forward and Mike and I will hold your hand virtually!

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZcrduqorjoiE9a6RtAwJBxQg8ODS9R2VXMT/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGrqDopGtSUuBCFRpwqBlj4b_TziH5Hj_pcyi3xljd5QbvHMBptFoEmlorm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83613001892?pwd=Adf2bmgya1RNcTIVRVN4R3BXdzNUUT09>

Meeting ID: 836 1300 1892

Passcode: 234535

MEMBERS' ARTICLES

GRACE'S GUIDE TO BRITISH INDUSTRIAL HISTORY

A free website for you to explore
<https://www.gracesguide.co.uk/Main>
From Ron Chapman

This is a useful free website that some of you might not know of.

Here are two examples of the information you might find.

1900 Obituary of Edward Garlick who was the Engineer to the Ribble Navigation Company.

EDWARD GARLICK, born in 1822, served his engineering apprenticeship to Mr. Philip Park of Preston.

His first important engagement was that of Resident Engineer on the Fleetwood, Preston and West Riding Junction Railway, which post he held for three years, being responsible during that time for the construction of the tunnel under the town of Preston.

He then acted for two years as an assistant to Mr. Park, and in 1851 joined the firm of Park, Son and Garlick, and carried on business in Preston.

Among the works executed by Mr. Garlick may be mentioned the Sea Wall, Carriage Drive and Promenade at Blackpool, and the construction of many miles of embankment on the Lancashire coast.

As Engineer to the Ribble Navigation Company, he constructed the old quays and river training-walls and reclaimed from the sea several hundred acres of land. He was appointed Engineer

to the Ribble Navigation after the Corporation purchased the undertaking, and he subsequently designed the present dock, tidal basin and river diversion, and the dredging plant, but owing to ill-health he was compelled to relinquish the work and to retire from business for a time.

Mr. Garlick was for many years Engineer and Steward to the Corporation of Preston, in which capacity he carried out many town improvements, including the cattle markets and the large covered market, as well as various works for the water-supply of Preston.

In 1868, a very dry season, the storage in the reservoirs was all but exhausted. To meet this emergency, Mr. Garlick erected two engines which pumped water out of the Hodder, the only available supply, the water being conveyed down an aqueduct 7 miles long, with little fall and one incline, the entire work being completed in a few days.

Mr. Garlick constructed many waterworks reservoirs, and at the time of his death, which took place at Preston on the 13 January, 1900, was Engineer to the Fylde Waterworks. For many years he was frequently engaged as a witness in arbitration cases and before Parliamentary Committees.

Blackburn, Burnley, Accrington and Colne Railway

The railway was authorised in 1845, and under the same Act its amalgamation with the East Lancashire Railway was authorised. It was opened thus:

Blackburn – Accrington, June 19th 1848;

Accrington – Burnley, September 18th 1848;

Burnley – Colne, February 1st, 1849;

The line from the East Lancashire Railway at Stubbins Junction to Accrington was opened on August 17th 1848.

The Blackburn Railway was an independent concern, and was opened from Bolton to Blackburn on August 12th 1848, and from Blackburn to Chatburn on June 22nd 1850.

Have fun and search out the companies that your ancestor worked for.

SCULPTORS IN THE FAMILY

By Stephen Duxbury, Member 517

It is not uncommon for family historians to uncover actors, artists, writers, sportsmen, and so on, during their investigations into their family histories. In my case, I have come across several persons of note, in various fields, including two sculptors, one in Fleetwood and the other in Canada.

I shall start with Fleetwood. In May 2007 my wife, Mary, and me were visiting Lancashire, on holiday from Kent. Whilst walking along the sea front in Fleetwood we were surprised and delighted to discover the *Welcome Home* sculpture (see photograph), by Anita Lafford, representing an expectant family group welcoming home the fishing fleet from distant waters in bygone times. The husband and father of the group was presumably one of the returning crew-members. The sculptress, Anita Lafford, was already know to us, since my wife is herself a Lafford, and we had exchanged telephone calls and correspondence with Anita on family history matters some time previously. Anita lived at that time in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, but later had a studio in Cheltenham. My wife's grandfather hailed from Gloucestershire, and it was clear that Anita's and Mary's Lafford ancestral lines had parted company in the late eighteenth century!

The sculpture was sponsored by the Fisherman's Friend Company, of lozenge fame, and was unveiled in 1997 by the late Doreen Lofthouse, accompanied by Anita Lafford.

As for my links to a Canadian sculptor, the story begins in Whalley, where my 2xgreat-grandfather, Enoch Dewhurst, was born in 1823. He married Maria Peploe in Whalley in 1848 and they had several children, including my great-grandmother, Harriet Dewhurst (of whom I have a vague memory), and her sister, Frances ('Fanny') Rebecca Dewhurst. Frances Rebecca was born in 1848 in Whalley and had a remarkable life. She did not appear at the family home at the 1861 or 1871 censuses. In 1861 she was living in Clitheroe with her uncle and aunt, Archibald William Dewhurst, aged 56, cotton spinner and mayor of Clitheroe, and Charlotte Grundy.

It may be that Frances Rebecca was living with her uncle and aunt because her mother, Maria Dewhurst, had fallen on hard times. Her father, Enoch Dewhurst, had left the family behind and emigrated to the USA, where he enlisted with the 7th Rhode Island Volunteers and served in the Union army from 1862 to 1865, during the American Civil War. At the conclusion of hostilities he remained in the USA and died there. If this is the case, then Frances Rebecca and my great-grandmother Harriet Dewhurst might be half-sisters, rather than sisters.

In any case, Frances Rebecca clearly received a good education and at some point in her young life she moved south, where she became an accomplished woman, studying music under George McFarren, Director of the Royal Academy of Music in London. She graduated with honours, whilst also becoming fluent in several languages. She met a gentleman rejoicing in the name of Hamilton Thomas Carleton Plantagenet MacCarthy, born in 1846, a native of Middlesex, and was married to him in 1877 at All Saints Church, Paddington, London. Hamilton was the son of Hamilton Wright MacCarthy, an accomplished sculptor, his mother also being a sculptor. Frances Rebecca and Hamilton lived in London and had five children there, before emigrating to Toronto, Canada, in 1855 settling in Carleton, Ottawa, Ontario, around 1898. They had fifteen children, in all, including a son, Coeur de Lion MacCarthy, who also became a sculptor and sculpted the bust of Queen Victoria which graces

an alcove above the Speaker's Chair In the Senate Chamber of Parliament Buildings, Ottawa.

Hamilton MacCarthy had studied with his father, then at the Royal Academy Schools in London, and under Kerckhoven in Antwerp. He exhibited works at the Royal Academy between 1875 and 1884. After emigrating to Canada with Frances Rebecca, he studied at the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, becoming an accomplished sculptor and being appointed a member of Council of the RCA in 1906. His works appear in galleries and public parks throughout Canada.

In July and August 2019, two of my daughters and their husbands and children holidayed in Canada. One family visited western Canada whereas the other family toured Central Canada. Before they departed the UK I alerted them to the existence of Hamilton's works and asked them to look out for examples. One family duly discovered a statue commemorating Scottish poet Robbie Burns in Beacon Hill Park, Victoria, British Columbia. The other family discovered a statue of Samuel de Champlain, French explorer and founder of Quebec City, at Nepean Point, Ottawa. Other works by Hamilton include Canadian prime ministers, soldiers and Native Americans in Ottawa and Toronto, and Boer War memorials in Ottawa, Quebec and Nova Scotia.

Frances Rebecca Dewhurst died in Carleton, Ottawa, Canada, on 28th May 1934 and Hamilton MacCarthy in Ottawa on 24th October 1939.

(With acknowledgements to *Wikipedia*)

Stephen Duxbury, 5 September 2024

Author of *The Brief History of Lancashire*, The History Press, 2011; and *Dickens and the North*, Grayswood Press, 2022.

PEOPLE WHO LIVED ON A HILL

From Chorley Guardian and Leyland Hundred Advertiser
9 March 1872

A GIRL FOUND DROWNED AT LIMBRICK: - On Tuesday, the coroner (M. Myres Esq.), held an inquest at the house of Elizabeth Smith, Limbrick, on viewing of the body of Elizabeth Murray, a girl ten years of age, daughter of Bartley Murray, labourer, who was found drowned in the River Yarrow on Saturday last. The mother of the unfortunate child stated that on Friday afternoon last, between one and two o'clock, she sent her for a gill of whisky for a neighbour, but she never returned. Between six and seven o'clock at night search was made for her. The waters of the Yarrow were high. Deceased would have to go along a footpath to get over the bridge across the Yarrow. The water was nearly as high as the footpath. Catherine Welch, wife of Thomas Welch, of Heath Charnock, labourer, said that on Friday afternoon, shortly after dinner, she met the deceased on the footpath leading to the bridge. Witness was going to Chorley and asked her the way. They went to the bridge together, and deceased pointed her the way, and they parted. Deceased told witness she was going for some whisky. She was past the broken part of the fence wall when witness left her. The waters were very high. Bartley Murray, father of the deceased, said that on Friday night, he, along with several others, searched for the deceased all night. They found her in the Yarrow the following morning. She had her arm round a rock, and her clothes were fastened to something. She was quite dead. Her cheek was cut a little, and was black. Her clothes were torn, and the money was gone, but her hand was closed tight. The jury returned a verdict of "found drowned".

Murray is not a Heath Charnock name; Bartley Murray, and Thomas and Elizabeth Welch are not to be found on the 1871 census for Heath Charnock, and they had gone before the next census was taken in 1881. Mrs Welch, although living in Heath Charnock, did not know the way to Chorley. These are almost certainly families of men recently arrived to work on the construction of the reservoirs. The population of Heath

Charnock had been 772 in 1861; it rose to 1034 in 1871 and dropped back to 916 in 1881, reflecting the influx of temporary labourers. The only person who can be positively identified is Elizabeth Smith, wife of Andrew Smith, landlord of the Black Horse and farmer of 20 acres, at whose house, i.e. the pub, the inquest was held.

There were beer houses on Long Lane, but for whisky, Elizabeth had to go to the Black Horse, and wherever she set out from, in the cold and wet of the first day of March, the treacherous footpath must have been a shorter distance than the road. She walked with Mrs Welch to a footbridge behind the Black Horse, which is not now part of the public footpath network, and Mrs Welch then continued towards Weaver's Brow.

Irish navvies and their families lived in cottages between Taylors Farm and the reservoir; the settlement was known as Haddock Fold. They even occupied the old schoolhouse on Back Lane. It is possible that they also lived near to what became the site of Heath Charnock Hospital and is now Olde Stoneheath Court. The 1871 census enumerates Irish excavators living in huts in Anglezarke and Rivington; this does not occur in the census for Heath Charnock, but the name "Hut Lane", which was in existence before 1894, suggests that there was such makeshift accommodation at some time.

Elizabeth was buried in an unmarked grave in the churchyard at St. Joseph's Anderton on 5 March. May she rest in peace.

A BOOK, AND WHAT ENOCH DID NEXT

By Rex Watson

E-mail: rexwatson@ntlworld.com

Whilst family historians of course usually write about their own family, sometimes other matters become of interest, and this is one such for me.

Like many such historians I have a considerable collection of books related loosely to my ancestors, providing context geographically, socially, occupationally, and the like. Many of my ancestors in Lancashire were not surprisingly cotton workers, mainly in the weaving branch. Thus it was that recently I purchased a copy of the classic 1895 book 'Cotton Weaving' by Richard Marsden. This in fact was a successor, in the same series, to his 'Cotton Spinning'. It is principally a technical treatise, looking in depth at inventions over the centuries up to the late nineteenth century. Many of the illustrations are wonderful, if remaining rather mysterious despite the best efforts of author and reader! But there is also useful discussion, if relatively brief, of workers' living conditions and general welfare, varying perhaps depending on the latest inventions.

Now as with many old books, there are inscriptions at the front (and back in this case). First we have 'Mr Enoch Moorhouse, 12 Woodhouse Rd, Todmorden, Sept 1915'. Second, 'E. Moorhouse, Ramsbottom'. Third (at the back), 'Enoch Moorhouse, Lodge Terrace, Littleborough, March 1915'.

This then seemed ripe for investigation. The sources used are standard enough and will not always be noted explicitly. Enoch, as can already be seen, moved about (just in Lancashire (plus Todmorden!)) a fair bit. And in a couple of the places where he lived there is another of the same name, maybe related not too distantly. So in my delving it has been necessary to be sure of getting the right Enoch. Family historians are of course used to this, and I am confident of being correct in this respect, looking as necessary for corroboration such as the repeated address, correct close relative name, etc.

Abbreviated census details are as follows, starting with 1911, the last before the date(s) in the book.

1911. 8 Spencer St, Ramsbottom. All born Ramsbottom.
Enoch MOORHOUSE 25 Cotton Clothlooker
Lizzie – 23 At home

Cora – 3
John – 3 months

1901. 9 St Pauls St, Ramsbottom (with parents). Children all born Ramsbottom.

William H MOORHOUSE 42 Drawer in Cotton Mill born Ashton under Lyne

Anne J – 37 born Darwen

John W – 16(?) Twister Cotton Mill

Enoch – 15 Cloth Stamper Cotton Mill

Hannah – 9

Francis – 3

1891. 31 St Pauls St, Ramsbottom.

William H MOORHOUSE 32 Cotton Twister born Ashton under Lyne

Anne J – 27 Cotton Weaver born Darwen

John W – 10(?) born Ramsbottom

Enoch – 5 born Ramsbottom

1921. 1 Eliza St, Ramsbottom. All born Ramsbottom. Ages to nearest month.

Enoch MOORHOUSE 35-8 Cashier Employer H. Moses & Co. Manchester

Lizzie 33-11

Cora 13-6

John 10-6

Enoch's occupations are interesting. The stamper, in 1901, would literally be placing an identification stamp on cloth, also indicating I think that it had been checked. He would probably be working under the clothlooker, and this was his own occupation ten years later. In fact Marsden notes in his book that the clothlooker's job was one needing discretion, in that although responsible to the millowner as his employer, he also needed to not be too harsh on minor faults down to the weavers, who were his workmates. Ten more years on, in 1921, Enoch seems to have moved off the factory floor, becoming as a cashier more of a 'white collar' worker. And he

would presumably be travelling daily to Manchester, no doubt by train.

We shall see later just when Enoch was born, in the 1939 Register. But first his marriage. This was to Lizzie Coulthurst in 1907, and details were only found in his Army pension documents, of which a little more next. The marriage was in the New Jerusalem chapel in Ramsbottom, of the Swedenborgian denomination (another such was to be found in Burnley, the 'New Church' by Duke Bar).

Enoch joined up, conscripted I think, maybe only as a reservist, in July 1916. His address was the Todmorden one in the book, and he was by this time a cashier. Children noted are Cora and Jack (John), both born at Tanner St, Ramsbottom. He was 5'6", with a chest measurement of 41"! He was training to be a Gunner in the Royal Garrison Artillery. However, he only served for a month or so, before being declared unfit for service (paragraph 392 of the Regulations) by virtue of bad varicose veins, with threatened ulceration. This condition had been identified at enlistment, and one wonders why Enoch was not rejected for service at that point. Such short service on a variety of medical grounds was not uncommon. (My own grandfather provides a similar case, however he later in the war signed up for the Navy, doing shore work!)

In an electoral roll around 1915, Enoch is found in Littleborough, on Townhouse Road. The only other possible pre 1921 information I have is that he may have around 1908 been a cricketer, according to the Ramsbottom newspaper, but this may be another Enoch.

Thus far, then, up to 1921, Enoch, and family, had moved a fair bit, and along with many he seems to have been upwardly mobile in his work. Later years in the 1920s, and 1930s, though, show a somewhat different tack.

An electoral roll of 1928 has Enoch and Lizzie in Wigan, at 439 Gidlow Lane! In the same year, Enoch is found in the London

Gazette, which recorded cases of bankruptcy. He was a fish and chip caterer! (Fish and chip shops had started up in the late nineteenth century.) He was then 'released' from his bankruptcy in May the next year.

Daughter Cora is found in Wigan electoral rolls from 1931 to 1934, not with her parents. In December 1934 she married Joseph Turner, a solicitor, in Poulton, and was of Bispham Rd there. Her sister Amelia was a witness. It looks then as if Enoch and Lizzie were also in Poulton by then. (Joseph later became a Lecturer, then Professor, in Law, at Liverpool University)

Which brings us to the 1939 Register. The family lived at 109 Bispham Rd, Poulton. Enoch was born on 21 October 1885, and was a Fish Salesman (Retail) and also had a nursery (of the plant variety presumably). Lizzie just had unpaid domestic duties. Son John was also a Fish Salesman and aided his father in the nursery. William H Moorhouse, born in 1926, was at school. He is presumably son to Enoch and Lizzie, or possibly of Cora. Oddly though his birth is not found in 1926 in the GRO indexes. Also in the household are Cora and Joseph Turner, now a university lecturer. There is one redacted entry, presumably born too recently, relative to 2024.

Enoch's ashes were interred at Bispham All Hallows on 11 January 1954. He was of 4 Collins Avenue, Bispham.

It is interesting to bring up photos via Googlemaps of the various residences.

Little would Enoch have thought when referring to his book that a complete stranger would over 100 years hence be writing his life story!

The website Ancestry only has a small number of trees containing Enoch, and they give no detail of his children's families, if there were any. I would of course be pleased to

hear from any family members, and indeed to receive comments or queries generally.

WHERE THE 'SAINTS' HAVE TROD

A scrapbook of memories of St. James's, Chorley

By Albert and Julie Stringfellow

May – November 1985

This is the story of people who lived on a hill...

A story if you will, of a community within a community, since this town of Chorley is really TWO towns. The administrative centre, the first 'town' lies to the west of the railway track which itself meanders in the manner of a drunkard in a vague nor' west, sou' east line, which effectively 'splits' the borough.

It can almost be said that the Lancashire Plain begins outside Chorley Railway Station, since heading westwards to the coast, no hills worthy of the name interrupt the glorious green sward of Astley and Gillibrand and beyond to Croston and Southport or north of the Ribble Estuary to breezy Blackpool and the Fylde coast.

To the east of the Railway, however, the vista changes dramatically. In place of the flat lands, here the hills rise majestically, the sweeping gaunt rolling Moorland of Withnell, Anglezarke and Rivington which 'back-drop' the second 'town' of Chorley highlights the wooded slopes of Healey Nab.

The 'Nab's' western perimeter provides a highway whose origins are lost in antiquity that which is named Eaves Lane.

The six furlongs of Eaves Lane's length from north to south are reasonably flat, but venture but a hundred yards east or west and you tread downhill. If we care to browse through local history, we find that as early as 1441, there is mention of 'Eves hey' and 'Eves field' in a lawsuit involving disputed ownership,

between 'Richard of ye Crosse on the one part, and John Gelebront (Gillibrand?) and Elizabeth, his mother, on the other part'. Further, in 1513, another Richard Crosse gave to feoffees 'his capital messuage' (house with outbuildings and land) called 'Eaves Hall' or 'Crosse Hall'.

Is it presumptuous for us to relate Eaves Lane with Eves Hey or Eves Field then? I think not.

Along this hilltop highway, men have journeyed for many a long year. The calm, steady stroll of the farmworker of the early days giving way to the rush and bustle of those who paid their homage to the hand loom and later to the Factory owner. Those who worked hard for their living and enjoyed the fruits of their labours. Those who tasted the bitter dregs of poverty and misery and journeyed to the last degradation of the Workhouse... If only the flagstones could speak.

An Ordnance Survey map of the mid 19th century shows that Eaves Lane was only sparsely populated. Starting from Harpers Lane (itself but a field with two minor dwellings east of the Railway), there were dwellings at the junction of Eaves Lane and Harpers Lane. A field path down to ancient Bagganley Hall, residence of the Parker family, (mention is made of Hugh Parker and his wife in 1443, and we learn that in 1518, a John Pilkington is reported as seeing the ghost of James Parker)! [In the name of progress, Bagganley Hall was ruthlessly demolished to accommodate a few yards of the M61 Motorway].

Moving southwards, a footpath through fields which is roughly where Foster Street now stands, then a cotton mill called 'Stump Mill' across the way. Two stone dwellings, which still stand, guard the entrance to Morris Fold Farm (scene of many happy Field Days in the early 20th century). A field path runs from Bengal Street on a site now occupied by Stump Lane, to Stump House, a gentleman's residence. Another such residence called 'Highfield House', lies southward as do Chorley Workhouse, forerunner to the 'new' Workhouse, which was built

in the early 1870's on the same site and 'Moss Cottage', which name has been perpetuated by a Car Salesroom and Garage. Many old people still remember the old stone houses and cellars which occupied the position opposite what is now Gaskell Street and Seymour Street. Tradition has it that these dwellings were built and used by hand loom weavers previous to the coming of the Cotton Factories. The Chorley Valuation List of 1863 tells us that the estimated rental for the houses PER ANNUM was £5-8-0d. (£5.40p) per house. [Somewhere in the region of 10.5p per week], and that the estimated rental for the cellars, separately occupied, was £3 per annum per cellar (somewhere in the region of 6p per week). Long before the Welfare State came into being, these cellars were coveted by many of the old people in Chorley as ideal places in which to live. They had to husband their meagre financial resources with tremendous ingenuity in order to escape the final humiliation of pleading admittance to the dreaded Workhouse a little higher up the road.

Opposite a much less built-up Lyons Lane than we know today, lay the same building familiar to us in 1985, 'The Seven Stars' Inn. The building line from the Seven Stars is broken only by a small space, which provided access to the new St. James' School to be built in 1873. From this access, houses are shown up to the top of Crosse Hall Lane. At the top of Brooke Street, we see the familiar 'Brookes Arms' Inn and the stone dwelling (now a fancy goods shop) which amount to the only buildings at all in the field path known grandly as Brooke Street. Across the way, the familiar face of the 'Prince of Wales' public house, along with the stone dwellings still in habitation, at the top of what we now know as Cowling Brow, but which in 1870 was known as Cowling Lane. Population 'pockets' are shown at Lower Cowling Bridge (crossing the Black Brook) with its Print Works (Calico), which was under the control of the eminent 19th century politician and champion of the Anti Corn Law League, Richard Cobden and his brothers, in the 1840's.

Notice of a Sale of Freehold Estates held in the Gillibrand Arms (which occupied the site of the present Town Hall) on the 16th

July 1845, discloses that the tenants of one of the properties, 'Cowlings Farm' (which still stands) were 'Messrs Cobden and Co'. This farm with its barn provided the last link in the building line, which ran from Canal Bridge in an almost unbroken line up the hill we now know as Cowling Road.

On the other side of the road, Hall I' th' Wood Mill, later to become known as 'Top Gilletts' then no other building, as it is now, until we come to 'Ridgewood' for many years the residence of the Bartons, then the Gillett families.

Out in the fields, the map shows a Bleach Works in Crosse Hall Street, on the site of a factory which became known with some affection as Th' owd Barkhouse or Weir Mill and which was a cotton mill in the late 19th/early 20th century. On through the aqueduct which carries the canal over the Black Brook (or Baggin Brook mentioned in the 1430's) where, besides old Crosse Hall itself, is shown a number of dwellings in 'Crosse Hall Fold'. Then comes Crosse Hall Farm (still seemingly as sound as its building date of 1687).

A couple of hundred paces or so, northward, and there is Crosse Hall Mill. Reference again to history reveals that 'Richard Crosse purchases a moiety from Thomas Trigg in 1418-20 and soon afterwards he obtained from William Woodward his south part of Eaves hey in Chorley and all his water of Baggin Brook. The son of Sir John Stanley, Thomas, confirmed the transfer, which included the right to make a Mill'.

Another Bleach works is shown a little further northward from Crosse Hall Mill. This site was later occupied by Lower Healey Bleach Works, closed as such in the depression of the mid 1930's. Later to become a military prison and then part of a floor covering manufacturing concern.

A little north westerly, and we come again to Bagganley Hall almost where our journeys began and we are indebted to Rev. T. C. Porteus for relating to us in his 'History of Chorley' the story of a curse imposed by the Rural Dean of Leyland on the

12th October 1480 upon 'those who had inflicted injuries on James Parker' and goes on 'I denounce for accursed all who have struck a cow of James Parker's with an axe or bill or any manner of edged lome, (weapon) ... also those who took his horse out of Heapey Wood ...' Let us take our time and journey to 'ye south of Eaveshey' along Eaves Lane.

With a little enlargement here and there and perforce a little letting go, this is the area of Chorley about which this chronicle will revolve. History is not just about buildings. Buildings do not make history – people do. It is of these people I would speak. Firstly, if I incline my thoughts and relate them to St. James's this or St. James's that, I would stress that I mean no hurt to brothers and sisters of other denominations. If I thought there would be offence taken by these wonderful folk I have known since I could crawl, I would end this chronicle here and now and ensure that it never saw the light of day. If I say, therefore, to the folks of Sacred Heart, St. Peter's, Lyons Lane Methodists and Eaves Lane Methodists, thanks for a great deal of good you have put into my life through your Church members with whom it has been my privilege to live during almost sixty years. Nevertheless, I shall mention people in my story who are not St. James's members exclusively, since to coin a phrase, the garden would be dull if all the roses were red...

What can you say about St. James's Parish?

Well – to begin with, this rather unruly child born in 1873 would probably never have been born at all, at least not until some many more years had passed, had the matter been left to the Reverend Stock, Vicar of St. George's at that time. He was bold enough to declare to Canon Master, whose brain child St. James's definitely was, 'St. George's will suffer if you persist in these plans for another Church (in addition to St. Peter's) in the east of Town'. In spite of being literally overwhelmed by expansion 'across the tracks' and by a 'large petition' signed by such population thus developing, Rev. Stock somewhat peevishly asks the worthy Rector, 'Do you want to rob me?'

Using his proven gifts of Christian patience and persuasion, Canon Master wins the day and in 1877 the Foundation Stone for the new St. James's Church was laid and the Consecration Ceremony held in November 1878.

Before this, in 1873, St. James's School had made its appearance in a 'half-street' off Eaves Lane, a little south of the 'Seven Stars Inn'. On Sunday 5th January 1873, the day before the actual opening of the School proper, a procession took place 'to the new St. James's School, and consisted of Rev. J. Stock, Vicar of St. George's together with School Superintendents and scholars of St. George's. The Rev. Stock is to hold a weekly service at the new School. Teachers and scholars are to provide gas fittings; Miss Barton of St. George's has kindly presented a reading desk and harmonium. The attendance of the new School is expected to be 108 pupils'.

On Saturday January 11th, the appointed Headmistress of the new School, Miss Sarah Ann Meakin recorded in the first entry in the School's Log Book, 'On Monday, I, Sarah Ann Meakin, Trained and Certified Mistress, opened this School with the attendance of 86 children'.

Upon the same Saturday that Miss Meakin was opening her new Log Book, the 'Chorley Guardian' was busily recording the opening of the new School and said that 'the site of the School was given free of charge by Mr. Thomas Bright Crosse' this in addition to a 'liberal contribution' from the same gentleman.

What a coincidence it was that this leading townsman and benefactor as well as a Magistrate should be descended from the same Crosse family whose links with the area as we have discovered, went back to the 15th century! Mr. Bright Crosse, according to the directory for 1871, shows his address to be Shaw Hill, Whittle-le-Woods. The School was to do duty for many years as a Sunday School as well as a Day School, and from 1875 until the opening of the Church in 1878, Divine Service was held in the School building. Gradually, as the population increased, so too did the scholars on the School

registers and H. M. Inspector of Schools consistently complains as the time goes on about the lack of space to accommodate this increase. Eventually, the original building has to be enlarged, so that in November 1884, accommodation seems adequate enough to allow the Inspector to register his approval, but in rather an ungrateful manner suggests then that the Teaching Staff should be increased! This vicious circle of Accommodation-staff-upkeep and repair to buildings was to bedevil St. James's from the 1880's until the late 1920's when other Schools began to appear in the Town. The original building was forced to give up the struggle in 1893 when a separate Infants Department just had to be built. In 1894, the new Infants Department opened in a completely new structure, which comprised new schoolrooms of commodious size on the ground floor and a Parochial Room (later to be administered by a separate Board of Trustees) for use as a Parish Meeting Room. Underneath the new building was a complex basement arrangement, which was to prove extremely useful as the years passed as a young men's Institute and Recreation Centre. The most useful acquisition, however, was a person to become well beloved by all parishioners as the years went on. Her name was Miss Ada Bineham. This good lady began her duties as a teacher in St. James's in December 1877 and was confirmed in the position of Assistant Mistress on January 7th 1878. In 1884, she was put in charge of the Infant Department. In 1894, however, Miss Bineham became Headmistress of the new Infants School, and was to serve the Parish as a whole for many years as a much loved and greatly efficient teacher and Parish worker in innumerable capacities.

I crave the reader's indulgence here by inviting him (or her) to peruse the extracts I have taken from the School Log Books both for the Mixed School from 1873 with spasmodic gaps to the 1970's and regrettably (due to the loss of later books) the Infant records from 1884 to 1916.

DNA JOURNEY (Part 1)

By Bill Grime

My son, Peter, took a DNA test with Ancestry. My wife's maternal grandmother was illegitimate. She was born in the small hamlet of Todrig near Hume in Berwickshire in 1888. My maternal grandfather, Richard Moulding, was illegitimate and born in Preston in 1885. We hoped that the DNA test would assist in identifying their fathers. We had absolutely no clues to the identify of my wife's grandmother's father, but being from an isolated area of Berwickshire, we hoped that the ethnicity and location of DNA matches might help to narrow down the search.

One of the matches to Peter was 2nd-3rd cousin with 32% Scottish and 39% Irish Ancestry. I contacted the lady, who was the match, and she was confused by the ethnicity as she knew of no Scottish ancestors, but she had Irish and North of England ancestors. She had a small family tree on ancestry, so I did a larger tree identifying all her great grandparents and 2x great grandparents, but I was not able to find any Scottish ancestors to link her to my wife's grandmother.

When Ancestry provides you with DNA connections, in my son's case, over 20,000, also they provide you with the ethnicity of Parent 1 and Parent 2. From this I was able to establish that I was Parent 2. Later they identified the DNA connected people to Parent 1 and Parent 2. The lady I had hoped would provide the answer to my wife's grandmother's father was linked to Parent 2 – me.

As a child my mother, the eldest of ten children, told me that her mother had told her that her father, Richard Moulding, was the illegitimate son of an Irish cattle dealer, who had paid Richard's mother 'five bob a week maintenance'. Later I took a DNA test on Ancestry, and this showed I had 1% Irish, so my great grandfather could not be Irish.

As a child I did not ask any questions, which all family historians

regret, so that was the limit of my knowledge. My mother's youngest sister, who was born the day before my mother's twentieth birthday, was still alive when we started researching family history, but had no knowledge of her father's parentage, not even that he was illegitimate. My mother being the eldest would be the second mother to her younger siblings, four of whom were born after she was 14 years old, and her mother would confide in her more than any of her other children.

One of the first things we tried to establish was the truth of grandfather's parentage.

A copy of Richard Moulding's birth certificate gave his date of birth as 8 September 1885, and showed his mother, Sarah, registered his birth and named her husband, William Moulding, a weaver, as his father. She used an 'X' instead of signing the form, although she had signed her name on her marriage certificate, and on other documents. Was she covering herself, knowing that she was making a false declaration?

Richard Moulding's marriage certificate recorded his father as 'Edward Moulding, Cattle Dealer', not William Moulding, deceased, Weaver. Richard had told the vicar the name and occupation of his biological father, but the vicar had recorded his surname incorrectly. We knew that the story was at least in part true, cattle dealer, and that his father's first name was Edward.

In the 1891 census, Richard Moulding's mother, Sarah Moulding, is recorded as a widow, but there was no death registered for a 'William Moulding', her husband, of the correct age in Preston in the 1880s. However there was a death recorded in Lancaster of William Moulding, aged 38, in Lancaster in 1886. Checking the records of Lancaster Moor Asylum at Lancashire Archives showed William Moulding had been admitted there twice. On the second occasion, he was admitted on 30 December 1881 with dementia, and died there 30 September 1886. He could not be Richard Moulding's father, as Richard would have been conceived about December

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1884.

Richard Moulding's mother, Sarah Moulding, is recorded in the Trade Directory as the Licensee of the Merchant Arms, Oak Street, off Manchester Road, Preston in 1885, where it is possible that she met Edward.

There were many DNA matches on Ancestry with family trees containing the surname Garth.

There was one Edward Garth living in Preston shown in the censuses from 1861 to 1911. In 1861 to 1891, he was recorded as a butcher, but in 1901 and 1911 he is recorded as a cattle dealer.

Finally, had I found my grandfather's father?

Edward Garth is in many of the trees on Ancestry. He was born in 1838, the son of Roger Garth, whose baptism on Lancashire OPC was:

*'Baptism: 26 Oct 1806 St. John, Preston, Lancashire, England
Roger Garth – Son of James Garth & Jane*

Born: 16 Sep

Abode: Fullwood

Notes: [date out of order in the register]

Performed at: Grimsargh

Register: Baptisms 1806 – 1812, Page 13, Entry 21'

In the trees on Ancestry, this Roger Garth is recorded as the son of William Garth and Jane Stables. In all these trees Roger's date and place of birth tied up with the information from the baptism. I have found so many errors on Ancestry trees, and they have been copied multiple times. This made me think that this Edward Garth could not be Richard's father.

On Ancestry I found the marriage of William Garth and Jane Stables:

'Marriage: 6 Dec 1805 St. Leonard, Walton-le-Dale, Lancashire, England

William Garth –

Jane Stables –

Register: Marriages 1799 – 1806 from the Bishop's Transcripts'

After I took the DNA test on Ancestry many more matches turned up. Many of them, distant relatives, have William Garth and Jane Stables in their tree. After studying all the evidence, I concluded that they were the parents of Roger Garth and the grandparents of Edward Garth, living in Preston, and he was the father of Richard Moulding, my paternal grandfather.

The baptism of Roger Garth was at St. Michael, Grimsargh, and transcribed into the records of St. John, Preston [date out of order in the register]. This could easily have been incorrectly transcribed in 1806, or possibly incorrectly recorded at St. Michael, Grimsargh, and DNA has proven the error.

As a family historian, I was keen to find more about my great grandfather. He was born in Bolton le Sands near Lancaster, the son of a butcher, and was living there in 1841 with his mother and father, Ann and Roger, and three elder siblings.

The family moved to Preston and in the 1851 census he is living in Water Street, Preston with his mother and father (born 1806, Grimsargh) and seven siblings. Edward marries Margaret Heaton 25 December 1860, but she dies in 1864, without having any children.

He marries Margery Billington, a widow, 18 December 1866, and they have no children. In the 1871 and 1881 censuses they are living in Friargate, and his occupation is butcher. Margery dies 2 January 1889.

From the census in 1891 until his death in 1918, he is living at 28 St. Peters Square, occupation Cattle Dealer. He was in partnership with his elder brother, William, with a slaughterhouse in Singleton Row. From newspaper reports he would travel to cattle markets in Cumberland, buying cattle, as did my other great grandfather, Peter Grime.

He and Peter Grime were known to one another. A newspaper report below shows the committee for the Christmas Show at Preston Cattle Market in 1877.

COMMITTEE (with power to add to their number):-

<i>Mr. John Barnes</i>	<i>Mr. Joseph Winn</i>
<i>Mr. Thomas Clayton</i>	<i>Mr. Charles Mercer</i>
<i>Mr. Daniel Ashcroft</i>	<i>Mr. Archibald Patterson</i>
<i>Mr William Garth</i>	<i>Mr. William Rainford</i>
<i>Mr. John Harrison</i>	<i>Mr. William Nelson</i>
<i>Mr. Edward Garth</i>	<i>Mr. William Daggers</i>
<i>Mr. Peter Grime</i>	

All Animals entered for the Prizes will be Sold by Auction on the Day of Show.

Entries may now be made with any of the Committee; The Secretary, (at the Stanley Arms, on Saturdays, from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m.); or the Treasurer, Mr. J. Chapman, Cattle Market.

Entries close on Monday, December 17th, at Four O'clock.

*CHARLES E. LEIGH, Hon. Secretary.
December, 1877. 124a, Fishergate , Preston*

Five of the committee members are related to me. It was not until 1934 that Edward Garth and Peter Grime's grandchildren (my parents) married.

I have traced his family back to Mirabelle Garth, the mother of Roger Garth, who was born in Halton, Lancaster in 1684. To this day there are many Garths living in North Lancashire, Furness and Westmorland.

If Edward Garth paid maintenance to Sarah Moulding for his son, it would be likely that he had some contact with her, and

after the death of his second wife, did he have any contact with Richard? Sarah re-married in 1898, twelve years after the death of her husband. Did she and Edward Garth, particularly after the death of his second wife, have any sort of relationship? After all, Richard was his only child, and in Victorian England, 12 years is a long time for a widow with children to wait to marry. Maybe she re-married when the maintenance stopped.

My mother was born in 1908, and there was never any suggestion that she or her mother had any personal knowledge of Richard's father.

DNA has solved a long standing mystery, but as so often happens in Family History, it poses unanswered questions.

Part 2 is about the DNA matches I found after finding Edward Garth.

SOME WORKINGS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

By the late Jim Lancaster

If a baptised Catholic marries in a Catholic Church then their marriage is recorded in their baptismal entry. This has not always been the case. The key date is 1908. In that year the Vatican issued a decree called *Ne Temere* and impacted on Catholic marriages in several ways, one or two which are of interest to family historians.

1. After 1908 by the decree, all baptised Catholics were obliged to be married before a priest and two witnesses. If they did not, then the church did not recognise that wedding. Before then Catholics could marry in a non catholic church – and often did and the church would recognise that marriage.
2. The same decree also obliged parish priests to record marriages in the baptism register. This only applied to the Catholic party. The reason for this was to prevent bigamous marriages amongst Catholics!

Before the Act, the legal requirements for a valid marriage in England and Wales had been governed by the canon law of the Church of England. From this date banns should be called or a marriage licence obtained before a marriage could take place and that the marriage should be celebrated in the parish where at least one of the parties was resident. However, these requirements were not mandatory. The only requirement was that the marriage be celebrated by an Anglican clergyman. Those under the age of 21 had to have parental consent if they married by licence; marriages by banns, by contrast, were valid as long as the parent of the minor did not actually forbid the banns. Jews and Quakers were exempted. The Act could be avoided by the couple eloping to Gretna Green. A couple could resort to visit another parish, where they were not residents, to have banns published. This enabled them to marry without parental consent.

Marriage registers according to Lord Hardwick's Act of 1754 and George Rose's Act of 1812.

In January 1813, George Rose's Act was drawn up to facilitate better recording of births, marriages and burials. Standardised forms were now introduced. Rather than a one line entry in one Parish Register, now there were three books. A book for baptisms, and separate books for marriages and burials. More information for each event was no mandatory.

DEATHS NOTIFIED

William Watson (7798) Leicester

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of the
above.*

BOOK REVIEWS ETC

Have you had a book published and would like a review in the Society journal? Simply give the Editor a write up about your book.

If you have reviewed a book, you have read and think it would interest some of our members, you may simply forward the review to the Editor.

SCOTFORTH BOOKS

<https://www.scotforthbooks.com>

From Elliot at Carnegie Publishing

Currently one of the most fruitful branches of Carnegie Publishing is our self-publishing arm, Scotforth Books, which has been aiding authors in publishing their own books since 1984. We are aware that those involved with various historical societies around the country often have a book in them, but without any idea on how to self-publish. We are currently aiming to get word out to societies like LLHF and LFHHS, where members eager to publish historical titles, like those already put out by Carnegie, are likely to be. If either the LLHF or LFHHS could have any information about the service in its newsletters or journals this would be great.

Scotforth Books then offers a people-based service, so you'll always be dealing with people attentive to how personal a thing a book is, guiding authors towards the end result of their own high-quality printed book. This can simply be to pass around to friends and family, or to sell with the free marketing advice based on how we market our own titles. Essentially, this allows the individual to publish their own book, retaining complete

control, whilst making use of the infrastructure available at a professional publishing house.

If this is something members would be greatly interested in, I look forward to hearing from them soon.

NOTES AND NEWS

Steve and Jennifer Benson run regular help sessions at **Tarleton Library**. Everyone welcome.

FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH, 10.00 am to 12.00

PRESTON BRANCH HELP DESK AT LANCASHIRE ARCHIVES

Jennifer Benson, Joan Clayton, Peter Bamford and Stewart McLaughlin run regular help sessions at Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston. Everyone welcome.

THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH,
09.30 am to 12.00pm

HYNDBURN BRANCH HELP DESK AT OSWALDTWISTLE LIBRARY

Muriel Smith and sometimes Eileen Bullock run regular help sessions at Oswaldtwistle Library. Everyone welcome.

FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH,
10.00 am TO 12.00 pm

BARROWFORD LIBRARY

Barry Dickinson holds regular bookable Family History one to one surgery sessions at Barrowford Library.

MOST MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS from 2pm

Please book on the LCC website or phone/call in to see the local librarian.

HELPING HANDS

E-mail: help@lfhhs.org.uk

Do you have a family history question or need a library/archive lookup then Helping Hands might be able to help.

OUT OF COUNTY STRAYS AND NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS

Did you know that the Society still collect any Out of County Strays or Newspaper Cuttings or Stories?

If you have or find any, please forward to

LFHHS, 2 Straits, Oswaldtwistle BB5 3LU

Many members have ancestors who have strayed away from Lancashire and been lost to their families forever.

SCANNED PDF COPIES OF ALL OUR OLD FICHE NOW AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE BY EMAIL

Our microfiche have now been scanned and are available through our website shop.

Orders are currently being sent out as an attachment to one or more emails, depending on the size of the order.

The prices are the same as the original microfiche, but obviously excluding postal charges.

In the near future it will also be available to purchase as an immediate download.

Look on the website for the shop section showing "Scanned images of microfiche" – this leads to 5 sections divided by alphabetic first letter of location - A-D, E-H, I-L, M-Q, R-Z.

Click on <https://www.lfhhs.org/index.php?cPath=63>

EXHIBITIONS AND FAIRS

Society Coordinators – Steve and Jennifer Benson

Come and see us at any of the Family History Fairs and shows.

If you would like to help and take part in any of the fairs please contact **Stephen Benson** (telephone 01772-422808 or e-mail Stephen.t.benson@btinternet.com)

FROM THE EDITOR

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

LFHHS CONFERENCE AND AGM

SATURDAY 17 MAY 2025

**VENUE: RHYDDINGS METHODIST CHURCH,
CHAPEL STREET, OFF WATSON STREET,
OSWALDTWISTLE, ACCRINGTON BB5 3EP**

(WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE)

09.00 TO 16.30

**PULL OUT BOOKING FORM
WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE FEBRUARY
JOURNAL**

BRANCH/SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP NEWS

BLACKBURN & DARWEN
Special Interest Group ZOOM Chats

**Check Members Forum and Website for more
information**

All members are welcome.

BURY
Special Interest Group ZOOM Chats

Usually Second Tuesday of the month at 7pm

Copy and paste the link into your Browser. Don't forget to use the 'Passcode' following the link at:

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Passcode: s!\$b1D8i

Check Members Forum and Website for more information.

All members are welcome.

CHORLEY

Secretary: Jayne Dixon

Branch e-mail: chorley@lfhhs.org.uk

We have had some excellent speakers recently, learning about notable Lancashire people from Paul Salverson, to our own Wendy Pratt educating us about one name studies, and the resources available to each of us to do that. I am very much looking forward to this month's talk from Alan Crosby, who is going to be telling us about a 15th century Chorley family; "The Parkers of Bagganley".

At the beginning of October Ron Chapman, our Deputy Branch Chair and Research Centre Manager was interviewed on the Graham Liver show on Radio Lancashire, which was all part of the Astley Park centenary celebrations, and helped Graham start his family tree. Very impressive when you consider that it was all live on air. A great advert for the Centre.

Megan Roberts, Chorley Branch Chair

CHORLEY RESEARCH CENTRE

ROTA CHANGE

Chorley Research Centre opening times are now as follows:

1st and 3rd Mondays in the month – 10am to 4pm

1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Wednesdays in the month – 10am to 4pm

1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Fridays in the month – 10am to 4pm

2nd Saturday in the month – Noon to 4pm

FYLDE

Secretary: Mrs. Olive Thexton, 7 Bispham Lodge, 251
Norbreck Road, Thornton Cleveleys FY5 1PE
Branch e-mail: fylde@lfhhs.org.uk

I have just heard someone on TV point out that it is only a few weeks to Christmas. Where has yet another year gone?

There is only the November meeting left and then we have our December party/Jacobs Join and Quiz, always a good selection, and far too much food for all. Then we close down until our AGM in March. Please can we have a better attendance this coming year?

There have been a good amount of visitors to some of our meetings this year, and it has been great that some have actually become members, which means they will receive the journal.

The story of Mary Parkinson was very interesting. A sign of the times when she had lost her husband and father of three little girls in the lifeboat tragedy and later she decided to live with another man. Various suggestions of cutting off some of the money that was donated to the family. The moneyed gentlemen of St. Annes ruled. I must have a look at Ancestry etc to see more of her story. I have found a list of the lifeboat men who drowned, but need to search to find if this is the

complete list.

The November meeting will be about the Kirkham workhouse. I have found information on births and also the punishments given out for the men and women whose naughty deeds were recorded and the sentences given out. I have also found some information regarding Preston workhouse.

The Fylde branch facebook page is still very active; if anyone would like to add a post, please feel free to do so. There are so many pages now for our local towns and villages, so it must be worth a look, especially if you have ancestors who lived in our area.

Wishing a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. Maybe this year is the one when your brick wall gets knocked down!

Messages on our facebook page can bring in requests for information and help needed. We now have over 400 people who have asked to join and it is always good to help those people with Fylde ancestors as they may live anywhere outside the area. It is good to see people joining in.

It is hard to believe that very soon we will be looking at the last month on the calendar. I gave up on one of those , too much hard work lifting it up and down as I cannot write at that angle, on the wall! So here's wishing a Happy Christmas to everyone. Also, a good New Year and the hope that 2025 brings the answer to find something or someone that has been missing.

Next year it will be 40 years since the founding of Fylde branch. We opened in Low Moor Road on 15th February 1984, before moving to Carleton. One problem was parking and we now have a decent sized car park. We have been lucky to have only had two homes. Our present one was originally a kind of moveable large place which was demolished and replaced by the present brick-built building, one loss for us was the ability to store any of our resources.

There was a big celebration for our 30th, but membership has decreased and life in general as regards family history research is not the same. Covid altered so much in all our lives. We have so much help available now on hand at home, Ancestry etc. Now researching is so very different. Lots of facebook groups dealing with the subject, people ask questions and not always do they receive the correct information. This is where the exchange of information and answer to questions is where our branches come in, along with other people with local knowledge of other cities and towns and villages etc.

Along with everyone else, I spent hours in the local library with the films and fiche and very many trips to Lancashire Archives in Preston. Also, having to purchase certificates, if you wanted the exact information. I must have spent a good deal of money, it was lovely to find something and say "found it". Not quite the same when you find something online and there are no like-minded people to share in the joy.

Our October meeting was not well attended, it just happened that a few regular members had holidays or other arrangements, it was good to meet up and the new members were able to ask for help etc. We have gained a few new members this year, it is good to know that we can help others. Unfortunately, we had to close one meeting at the very last minute, someone becoming ill on the morning and a number of others were either unwell or away from home. I did try to contact everyone, seems I missed one or two and some people turned up at the Church hall. I thought afterwards that I could have asked someone to put a note on the door. Note to self for future, but it has never happened before. I had to miss a few meetings, so thanks to those people who kept things going.

So far, there is no programme arranged for 2025, but we can always meet and hold a workshop type of meeting and someone may go home having found the answer to some query. Let us hope that, next year, we can manage to break down that brick wall that has held us up for some time.

HERALDRY GROUP

Contact Stephen Benson

We are looking into the possibility of conducting our meetings by Zoom for the benefit of interested members who live too far away to be able to travel for face-to-face meetings. No programme has been arranged, but notices will appear on the Members Forum and the Society website.

If you are interested in joining us, please let me know.

HYNDBURN

(covering Accrington, Altham, Church, Clayton le Moors, Gt Harwood, Oswaldtwistle & Rishton)

Secretary: Eileen Bullock, 51 Hawthorn Avenue,
Oswaldtwistle,
Accrington. Lancs BB5 3AE
Branch e-mail: Hyndburn@lfhhs.org.uk

**New Venue : Accrington Sea Cadets, Harvey Street,
Oswaldtwistle, Accrington BB5 3LT**

Now first Wednesday of each month.

Doors open 6.45pm for a 7.00 start.

Hyndburn Branch have continued to meet during the year but we have not been able to give advance notice of speakers in time for the Journal so have had to rely on the website and forum to let members know the details. If you wish to be put on our mail list, please let me have an e-mail address and you will be included.

We have had a variety of talks this year as well as an out visit and are well settled in our meeting place which has easy access and its own car park. Meetings continue to be held on the first Wednesday of the month except for January and August and everyone is welcome.

IRISH ANCESTRY GROUP

Branch e-mail: irish@lfhhs.org.uk

The group continues to meet most of the year face to face at Oswaldtwistle. We have access to Find My Past and Ancestry and other less well-known websites that hopefully are helpful to our membership.

This year we are looking at a mixture of Zoom and face to face meetings so it is important that you check on the Members Forum and Website what we are doing for the meeting.

If you intend to travel far please let us know beforehand and we will try to have someone there who 'may' have the knowledge to help you at the meeting.

Thanks for your support over this last year, and hope to see you soon.

Marian Crossley

LANCASTER & MORECAMBE

Morecambe Heritage Centre, Unit 29 Arndale Centre,
Morecambe LA4 5DH

First and third Friday 11 am–4 pm
and

**Special Interest Group ZOOM Chats
Third Thursday of the month at 7pm**

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZIuceusqD8iHtL6QQFTygjPOXNMh5WotZym/ics?](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZIuceusqD8iHtL6QQFTygjPOXNMh5WotZym/ics?IcsToken=98tyKuGurT0oHtKRuB2BrpwAA4_oa-jwpilHgrdxyi7UJRRKZQnGGdpsH7oqJ9Fe)

[IcsToken=98tyKuGurT0oHtKRuB2BrpwAA4_oa-jwpilHgrdxyi7UJRRKZQnGGdpsH7oqJ9Fe](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/98tyKuGurT0oHtKRuB2BrpwAA4_oa-jwpilHgrdxyi7UJRRKZQnGGdpsH7oqJ9Fe)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86362464846?pwd=U3Z1ck9NNUpnQy85Q1ZlamZyK2VvUT09>

Meeting ID: 863 6246 4846

Passcode: 647091

LONDON & SOUTH
Special Interest Group ZOOM Chats
Five Saturdays in the year at 2pm
Joint Cumbria/Lancashire/Cheshire/London & South

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8266...>

Meeting ID: 826 6367 7214

Passcode: 779416

Our latest talk, Discover Historic Maps of Lancashire and Cumbria was presented by Laragh Quinney, Maps Reading Room Manager at The National Library of Scotland. It is a legal deposit library which means it is entitled to hold a copy of anything which is published in UK. It holds over 2 million maps, of which 400,000 have been digitised. Maps which have not been digitised may be viewed by appointment at the Maps Reading Room, The Causeway Building, Edinburgh. Although they are primarily interested in maps of the UK, they hold international maps, star charts, and imaginary places, such as a map of Treasure Island.

The library has a large collection of Ordnance Survey maps, with many from the 19th century. Laragh showed us examples of 6 inch and 25 inch. Originally these were by county. The 6 inch maps can help you to see how towns developed over the years. The 25 inch maps do not cover the whole of the country as they capture a lot more detail. There are gaps in the

coverage of the Lake District, but they are good for looking at industrial and built-up areas. The library holds over 500 Town Plans of Scottish, English and Welsh towns. These are very detailed, for example, showing gardens and positions of lampposts.

There are many other maps in the library which have not been digitised. These include facsimiles of 16th century maps. Also maps of the transport network, including the railway system, showing the different railway companies, sidings and junctions, and the canal system with proposed canals. Laragh found some plans of the Lake District Lakes from 1794. There was a separate plan for each lake, and some of the nearby big houses were included, along with a poem.

The maps can be viewed free of charge on the library's website at maps.nls.uk There is a menu of Research Guides on the left hand side of the home page. At the top is an orange icon – Guide to this Website. The most useful Research Guides for local and family history are County Maps and Town Plans. In the centre of the Home Page are other menu tabs. If you are looking for the Ordnance survey map, there could be thousands of maps, then it is better to use Map Finder with Outline. You can see all the different scales and every edition available. Also on the home page, there is a tab called Geo-referenced Maps. This is useful if the place where you are looking is at the edge of the map and goes into 2 or even 4 pages. Using this tool, you can pan around the map on the same page and view different scales. There is also an option to view a recent map with an earlier map side by side.

I hope you get a lot of pleasure exploring the library's website and viewing the maps available, and maybe have the opportunity to visit the library in person.

These talks are open to **all members of the society**. They will continue Saturday afternoons on Zoom at 2pm, with the room opening at 1.30pm. If there is a topic or speaker which you think would be of interest to the group, please email me at

the address below. I have arranged the following 2 talks for early 2025.

1st February, Turnpikes and Maps in the North West – Dr Paul Hindle

This talk looks at the growth of the turnpike network in the north west of England. It also looks at the early county mapping of those counties done around the 1780s which show the early routes taken by the first turnpikes, notably Yates' Lancashire, Jefferys' Westmorland, and Donald's Cumberland. The turnpike network grew as new roads were built, and later maps show those changes.

Dr Paul Hindle was a Senior Lecturer in Geography at Salford University until taking early retirement in 2000. He was the Hon. Secretary of the Manchester Geographical Society for 35 years and is now its President.

26th April, Victorian Hiring Fairs – Clare O'Grady

An important time of the year for any rural community, the Hiring, Mop or Statute Fair reached its peak popularity in the 19th century as a way to seek and to provide employment. This talk will outline: How, when and where the fairs worked; The evidence they leave behind; The campaign against the fairs; Registration societies; Why the fairs declined as employment tools; Some of the other attractions provided.

Clare is a professional genealogist and qualified tutor with over 10 years professional experience. She has an MSc in Genealogical, Palaeographic and Heraldic studies from the University of Strathclyde and is a member of the Register of Qualified Genealogists and an associate member of AGRA.

Request for Help

I have received a request for help from Jean Renwick, who gave us a talk in January about how she turned her research into a novel. She is researching for Book 3 of The Mourning Brooch and has discovered that one of the key characters, who trained as a nurse in London and then Ipswich, after her marriage

worked for a year at the Westmoreland Sanatorium at Meathop, Grange Over Sands. She is looking for more background to this TB sanatorium around 1921. If anyone can help, please email me at the address below and I will pass on your details or the information you provide to Jean.

Submitted by Helen Conchar – Member 7279

E-mail: london2@lfhhs.org.uk or helsbels1997@gmail.com

PENDLE & BURNLEY
Special Interest Group ZOOM Chats

First Thursday of the month at 06:45 PM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join>...

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8634..>

Meeting ID: 863 4065 2791

Passcode: Pendle77

Meeting ID: 863 4065 2791

Passcode: 53260774

Find your local number: <https://usj02web.zoom.us/u/kdB8..>

It is encouraging that although no face-to-face meetings are presently being held, there has been so much interest from members to request zoom meetings/chats. The advantage of this is that members far and wide can now join in.

Check the Members Forum and Website for further information

PRESTON

Secretary: Stephen Benson, 32 Slater Lane, Leyland. Lancs
PR25 1TN Tel: 01772 422808
Branch e-mail: preston@lfhhs.org.uk

RIBBLE VALLEY **Special Interest Group ZOOM Chats**

4th Thursday of the month at 6.45pm for 7pm start

Open for any members with Ribble Valley interests.

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files
to your calendar system.

Monthly:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting...>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8865...>

Meeting ID: 886 5332 7545

Passcode: Ribble2024

Meeting ID: 886 5332 7545

Passcode: 2169235660

Find your local number : <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kmE3..>

ROCHDALE

Secretary: Mrs. Rosemary Fitton, 13 Bowlers Walk, Rochdale.
Lancs OL12 6EN
Tel: 01706 – 356135
Branch e-mail: rochdale@lfhhs.org.uk

In July, for this years out-visit, we enjoyed a tour of Hare Hill House in Littleborough. Local historian, Iain Bowden was our guide for the evening. Whilst giving us a tour of the house, Iain spoke about its fascinating history and of the Newall family who owned the property from 1775 until the early 1900's. In more recent years the house has served as both a town hall for Littleborough Urban District Council and offices for Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council. It was nice to see how the building is gradually being restored whilst currently a home to a number of local small businesses and community groups.

We were given another excellent talk by Iain Bowden in August on Littleborough Mills. Local historian Iain, was able to give us a short history of many of Littleborough's mills, showing us photographs and answering any questions as he went along. Many of these mills no longer stand today but all have a place in Littleborough's history.

We will be holding our annual Christmas party at our November meeting (27th) again this year. Please come along if you can. There will be no meeting in December.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to wish everyone a peaceful, healthy and happy Christmas and New Year.

ROSSENDALE

Branch e-mail: rossendale@lfhhs.org.uk

Our September meeting was an illustrated talk on Researching World War 1 men by me, as I had recently done quite a bit of work on my ancestors who served in that conflict.

Numerous records are now available for this, from the 1918 Absent Voters lists to Medal Index Cards, Medal Rolls, and men's Service Records, although it is pot luck whether those last records still exist. A fire in the repository where the Service Records for Other Ranks (i.e. not officers) were stored caused

considerable loss, so only about 40% have survived. The recovered ones are now at Kew, and are available on line.

Denise North in October gave a lecture using postcards of Ypres, showing how it had been before WW1, and how much it was sadly damaged by the shelling.

As I write this, we are getting ready for our early Christmas party, in November. This is because our deputy chairman Leo Turner will be away in December, and we can't have a party without his special-recipe potato pie!

For December, we have booked Alan Mitton, who is going to speak on "Growing up in Accrington 1946---".

John Dalton

Wishing all our members
Merry Christmas
And a
Happy New Year

May you all succeed breaking
down some of your
brick walls.

Lancashire Family History & Heraldry Society

Branch Locations



Face to face **BRANCH** meetings currently held at Chorley, Fylde, Hyndburn, Irish Ancestry, Lancaster and Morecambe, Preston, Rochdale, and Rossendale.

Special Interest **GROUP** Zoom Chats are conducted by Blackburn & Darwen, Bury, Heraldry, Irish Ancestry (sometimes), Lancaster & Morecambe (sometimes) London & South, Pendle & Burnley, Ribble Valley, and Society Virtual Group.

YOUR SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP ENTITLES YOU TO JOIN IN ANY OF THE ABOVE BRANCH OR GROUP MEETINGS.

**THE LANCASHIRE FAMILY HISTORY AND HERALDRY SOCIETY
CONTACTS**

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Society Secretary – Vacant secretary@lfhhs.org.uk

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Research Centres: 2 Straits, Oswaldtwistle, ACCRINGTON BB5 3LU
Tel: 01254 239919 (Answerphone)
For opening times see www.lfhhs.org.uk

Chorley Family History Centre, Astley Hall Farmhouse, Hallgate,
Astley Village, CHORLEY PR7 1XA Tel: 01257 231600
For opening times see www.cfhrc.com/bookings.html

PLEASE NOTE:

Changes of address and non-receipt of journals should be reported to **Membership Secretary**, 18 Glencross Place, Blackpool FY4 5AD. If you are aware of the death of any member kindly advise **Sue Foster** who will ensure that future magazines are not sent out. Thank you.

These statues were sculpted by Hamilton Plantagenet MacCarthy (1846-1939), who was born in Middlesex, England. See article from Stephen Duxbury



French explorer Samuel de Champlain at Nepean Point, Ottawa, Canada (Courtesy Emma & Bill Dobson) Holding up a navigational instrument.



Commemorates Robbie Burns and is located in Beacon Hill Park, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada (Courtesy Sarah & Trev Gilbert)



**MERRY CHRISTMAS
EVERYONE.**

If undelivered please return to:

Membership Secretary, Sue Foster, 18 Glencross Place, Blackpool FY4 5AD

ISSN 0306 1280