

# FOCAS 113

January 2022

## 'Betty & Chui'



*A highlight of the exhibition 'Betty's Back: The work of James and Betty Durden' at Keswick Museum*

## *From the Treasurer*

As you will be aware I took over as Treasurer at the AGM 2021 following the resignation of Ian Jones. I would like to pass on here my, and the Trustees, sincere thanks to Ian for all of the meticulous work he put into maintaining our accounts and keeping us on the financial straight and level. Thank you Ian.

Our financial position is good and we have a healthy deposit in the Skipton Building Society which we can use to support the Cumbria Archive Service, our members, and projects that our put forward by outside bodies. In the past these external requests have been considered on an ad hoc basis by the Committee of Trustees, but, as these requests for funding now involve significant sums, we shall be putting in place a set of guidelines, the requirements of which must be met before we can consider any award. We agreed, early in 2020, to sponsor a major research project, run by the Lancaster University Research Heritage Centre, into the archive holdings of major families on English side of the Anglo-Scottish border. Because of Covid this research work was delayed but it is now in progress and the researchers hope, Covid permitting, to complete their investigations before Christmas. We should have a full report by the Autumn 2022.

We still have a few members who are in arrears for 2021 so if you suspect that you may not have paid your subs do please contact me and I will either, gently, confirm this, or give you the all clear. Sadly our membership has declined over the last year or so. Perhaps here, I might note the deaths of the following members: John Hartley, Alfred Thompson, Stanley Darke, Esther Finch, Loretta Wilde, Roger Bellingham, David Grisenthwaite, and Alexander Kinghorn. RIP.

Many thanks for your continued support and if you can recruit a new member or two it would be appreciated! The forms are on our new website which I hope that you have visited. All the best and take care.

*Lorna*

## **Useful Information**

Patron: Claire Hensman, Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria

President: Lord Inglewood

Vice-President: Rob David

Chair : Susan Dench

Secretary & Research Grants: Adrian Allan

Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Lorna Mullett

Newsletter Editor & Website Administrator: Dr Jean Turnbull

Trustees: Roger Bingham; Chester Forster; Diana Matthews; Margaret Martindale plus officers above except Patron and President

Website: <http://www.friendsofcumbriaarchives.com/>

### **Deadlines for copy for the Newsletter are:**

1 April (May edition); 15 August (September edition); 1 December (January Edition)

The Editor welcomes contributions to the Newsletter from FoCAS members

Articles should be in the region of 500 words (preferably with illustrations)

Those related to members' current research interests are particularly welcome

## *A message from the Vice President*

First of all thank you very much for electing me as your Vice President at the recent Annual General Meeting. It is a great honour to follow in the footsteps of Mary Wane who was central to the creation of FOCAS so many years ago.

As Vice President I have agreed to take on the role of Events Co-ordinator. For various reasons the Friends have not had a programme of events (beyond the Members' Day/AGM) for a number of years, so hopefully their reinstatement will help to keep Friends involved with FOCAS and provide opportunities to get to know the archives of Cumbria, and each other, rather better.

The first year's calendar is something of an experiment and it will be interesting to learn what Friends find most interesting. Our first event at Carlisle Archive Centre is designed to be the first of a series in which researchers and users of the archive service are invited to discuss their work in the presence of some of the archives they have used. This type of event is intended to circulate around the offices, and hopefully 2023 will be in Kendal. Our second event will provide us with a privileged opportunity to visit the library of a private collector of books about Cumbria. There are other archives in Cumbria apart from the ones run by the local authority, and this year we shall have a chance to learn more about the archives held by the Armit Trust in Ambleside. In the final visit we will learn more about recent projects organised from Barrow Archive Centre. Each year we shall visit a different archive centre for a similar occasion.

A calendar of events for 2022 can be found below this message, and flyers relating to the first two events are enclosed with this Newsletter.

I hope that Friends will be able to share ideas for future visits with me. An events programme will work better if it is not entirely up to me to think up ideas!

*Rob David*

[r.david49@btinternet.com](mailto:r.david49@btinternet.com)

### **FoCAS Events Programme, 2022**

**25 February 2022 at Carlisle Archive Centre (2.15 - 4.30)**

**- see flyer with this mailing**

**7 April 2022 at The Old Vicarage, Dacre, Penrith, CA11 0HH**

**(2.00 onwards) - see flyer with this mailing**

**12 July 2022 at The Armit Museum and Library, Ambleside**

**(2.00 - 4.30) details will follow in spring 2022**

**31 August 2022 at Barrow Archive Centre (2.00 - 4.30)**

**details will follow in spring 2022**

**The Members' Day and AGM will take place in the autumn.**

**Details will be announced later in 2022**

## Mystery Photographs



One of the last two mystery photographs has still not been identified. FU01 (on the left) shows two houses with Gable-end crosses and castellated features, on a hillside. It's possible one or both of these curious looking buildings has been demolished, although the conventional looking house with bay windows may still exist.

Thanks to Mark Brennand for identifying FU14 as the River Derwent and Grange in Borrowdale, seen from Grange Bridge. The overlay on the right shows the two arches of Grange Bridge and the wide span of the river which carries huge quantities of flood water from Borrowdale to Keswick, Basenthwaite and Cockermouth.



The next mystery photograph D031 (one the left) shows a country house set in broad parkland. The ladies under the trees at left are wearing long voluminous frocks typical of the 1870s.

If you can identify this photograph, I would be pleased to hear from you.

Many thanks [jonesian9999@gmail.com](mailto:jonesian9999@gmail.com)

## Reading matters: realising intellectual assets

The purchase in 2020 by the Cumbria Archive Service, with funds made available by FoCAS, of Howard of Corby Castle archives which had been auctioned by Mitchells of Cockermouth in June 2019, has cast further light on the life and interests of Henry Howard (1757-1842) of Corby Castle, the subject of Dr John Callow's article on Henry Howard 'as local antiquarian and as a Catholic of the European Enlightenment' in *CWAAS Transactions*, 2018. In particular, the deposit (Carlisle Archive Centre, Acc. H 14960) includes an inventory of books at Corby Castle, 1879-88, revealing the contents of his immense library, shelved in both the Library and in the Green Drawing Room, Picture Gallery, Smoke Room, School Room and two other rooms. Texts, dating from 1525 onwards, in Latin, Italian, French and Spanish as well as English include those on theology (works by both Catholic and Anglican divines), the classics, history (with a fine series of such volumes as Rymer's *Foedera*, Lysons' *Magna Britannia*, and Kemble's *Codex Diplomaticus Aevi Saxonici*), literature (including works by Robert Burns and Sir Walter Scott), architecture (works by Vitruvius and Palladio), gardening (works by Evelyn and others), with the campaign for Catholic emancipation in which Henry Howard took such a prominent part covered by a series of tracts and his own publications including various editions, with annotations, of his *Remarks on the erroneous opinions entertained respecting the Catholic Religion* (5<sup>th</sup> and last ed., 1829, the year Catholic emancipation was finally achieved). The history and literature of the north of England is well covered (including Henry Howard's annotated copy of Hutchinson's *History of Cumberland*, 1794, and several manuscript poems and songs of Robert Anderson). The sciences appear to be poorly covered if one discounts the copy, with manuscript additions, of *The Scriptural History of the Earth and of Mankind* (1797) written by Henry Howard's father, Philip Howard.

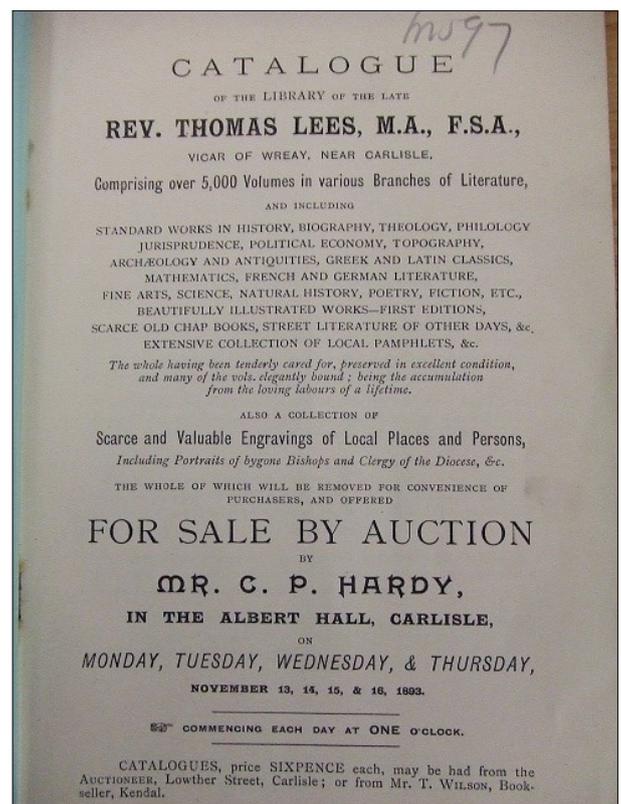
The later evident dispersal of many of the contents of Corby Castle's library renders its late 19th century inventory particularly valuable. Likewise, we are fortunate to have the catalogues of the libraries of other individuals and families which no longer survive to allow us to reconstruct their contents and reflect on their owners' lives and interests, both public and private. Given their educational background and training, clergy are well represented. The various surviving manuscript library lists, held by Carlisle Archive Centre, of the library of the antiquary and bibliophile, Revd Dr Hugh Todd (c.1657-1728), Prebendary of Carlisle Cathedral, Rector of Arthuret and Vicar of Penrith, allowed the late David Mawson to produce both a fully referenced short title catalogue of Dr Todd's library and an equally impressive bibliographical study of its contents (Carlisle Archive Centre, DPH/1/147/1-2); these texts supplement the article on Dr Todd's library that David Mawson contributed to *CWAAS Transactions*, Vol. 97, 1997. The catalogue of the 'old folios' that Andrew Hudleston of Hutton John, the first Protestant (layman) in the family, compiled c.1703, principally lists theological works (including Thomas Aquinas's *Summa Theologica* and bishop [Lancelot] Andrewes' *Sermons*), besides Sir Walter Raleigh's *History of the World*; the extent to which such tomes were read and studied by his descendant, Andrew Hudleston (1734-1821), may be revealed in his diaries and other memoranda, written in code, and revelatory of his various legal and other interests and social connections, which are currently the subject of doctoral research.

The auction catalogue of the 961 lots comprising the library of over 5,000 volumes of the Revd Thomas Lees (d.1892), latterly Vicar of Wreay, a founder member of CWAAS to whose *Transactions* he contributed many learned articles, includes tracts concerning church ritual, doctrine and other controversial matters 'chiefly by High Church Divines', besides Sermons by John Henry Newman, and a 'very rare and splendid edition', recently repaired, of the (English) Bible (1549) printed by John Daye and William Seres; one of the highest prices paid at the auction in 1892 was £16 for a calf-bound set of *CWAAS Transactions* vols. 1-12, the auctioneer noting that these volumes were out of print, complete sets rarely coming to market. When such sets of the Old Series of *Transactions* have come on the market in recent years at the antiquarian and collectable book auctions of Thomson Roddick, at Carlisle, they have raised large sums, £470 in total in 2018 for a complete set of the Old Series. It was largely through the influence of the Revd Lees that his fellow CWAAS founder member and noted antiquarian, William Jackson (d.1890) of St Bees left his extensive library of books, prints, manuscripts etc. relating to what is now Cumbria to Carlisle, to form the noted Bibliotheca Jacksoniana (Jackson Library) part of Carlisle's Public Library at Tullie House, opened in 1893, which still forms the major nucleus of Carlisle Library's important Local History Collection. Sadly, a copy of the auction catalogue of the library of Woodside, near Wreay, comprising between 8,000 and 9,000 volumes assembled by generations of the Losh family, sold in February 1912, has yet to be located, just a relatively few volumes from the library having previously been selected for retention by what is now Harris Manchester College, University of Oxford, to whom the Woodside estate had been left.

Both wills and probate inventories on occasion provide an insight into the books of both those who left wills and those who died intestate. Viewing a sample of probate inventories submitted to Carlisle diocesan authorities in 1700-01, one notes 'a bible and other bookes' valued at £2 left by a Kirkby Stephen grocer and 'bookes 6/-' left by a Kings Meaburn spinster; Septimeous Forster, a Penrith apothecary, evidently kept 'Bookes in the Closset', valued as much as £5, in the room over the kitchen. Canon Arthur Savage, a Prebendary of Carlisle Cathedral and Rector of Caldbeck, who was responsible for re-founding Carlisle Cathedral Library, by donating in 1691 the 240 books that had been left to him by Canon Henry Hutton, himself gave 'those books that I shall have to Mr George Musgrave, son to Sir Christopher Musgrave of Edenhal', no doubt in recognition of the period during the Commonwealth that, ejected from his living, he had spent in the Musgrave household at Edenhall, near Penrith. A sample of some probate inventories submitted in the manorial peculiars of Docker and Ravenstonedale, also reveals a small minority which record 'Books', again without further detail, or the occasional bible; 'Books and Spectacles', appropriately grouped together, are listed in inventories of Ravenstonedale residents in 1713 and 1728/29.

**Adrian Allan**

*Illustration: Catalogue of the library of Revd Thomas Lees, 1892 (Carlisle Library, ref. M 597)*



## A Tour around Keswick Museum

In Keswick Museum's original 1890s Arts and Crafts building, electroliers made by members of the Keswick School of Industrial Arts still illuminate the history of Keswick and the seven Derwent parishes. Keswick Museum was the first purpose-built museum in Cumbria and is still a hub for heritage almost 125 years later, telling the stories of local people. In 2007 the local community formed a company to manage Keswick Museum, leading to a complete renovation and extension of the building, completed in 2014. A National Lottery Heritage Fund grant allowed the museum to revamp its galleries in 2020. Our new zone system means we can update sections of our displays regularly and tell different stories so there is always something new to see. The zones are structured around different parts of our collection, which consists of around 20,000 objects reflecting the rich history of Keswick and the surrounding area.

We begin the story of Keswick in our Landscape Zone, where our Geology collection demonstrates how the area was formed by fire and ice. We hold outstanding Geology collections by John Ruskin and Edgar Shackleton. The Natural History collection is also part of the Landscape Zone, and tells the story of the ecology of the area, using



taxidermy specimens of local, regional and national importance to talk about species which have died out or had a resurgence.

Our Living Here Zone starts in the Neolithic period, where items in our collection demonstrate early human activity within the Keswick area. The most significant part of this display is our Langdale stone axes (see image on left). Neolithic people had factories in Great Langdale where they made stone tools. The workers made a huge number of tools, and improved their methods of production over time, which is why we say they worked in 'factories'.



The axe heads were of such good quality that they were traded across the country, and they have been found in the east of England, Cornwall, and Scotland. The display then moves on to other trades in Keswick through time, including slate mining, the pencil industry, and lace-making. The Tourism Zone explores how Keswick became the tourist hub it is today through the collections of Peter Crosthwaite, who set up the first museum in Keswick in the late 1700s. Crosthwaite found six stones at Skiddaw in 1785 which he said were in perfect tune. Following on from his stones, Joseph Richardson spent 13 years trying to produce an instrument on a larger scale than Crosthwaite's, which would have every musical note. We have both sets on display at Keswick Museum and visitors are encouraged to play Richardson's instrument! (see image on left). This section also shows how early tourism was changed into mass tourism by the formation of the Cocker-mouth, Keswick and Penrith Railway. Visitors can walk along the old line from Keswick to Threlkeld on the LDNPA's trail which starts just outside the Museum.



Keswick has produced many creative people and so the old Art Gallery (now called Gallery 2) hosts our Arts & Crafts and Literature Zones. Our Decorative Art collection celebrates the work of the Arts and Crafts movement through items made by the Keswick School of Industrial Arts (KSIA). The Arts & Crafts Zone explores the story of the KSIA, which was founded by Edith and Hardwicke Rawsley to address seasonal unemployment in Keswick. The object was to improve the welfare of workers by

providing free arts and crafts training in the evenings to anyone who wanted it. In a world that was becoming ever more industrial, KSIA made nature and craft relevant again, following Ruskin's idea that 'There is no wealth but life' (see image of napkin ring on page 6).

The Fine Art section of the Arts & Crafts Zone continues our temporary exhibition in the Special Exhibition Zone, 'Betty's Back!: The work of James and Betty Durden'. James painted iconic portraits of his daughter, Betty, during the 1920s and they capture the spirit of the Jazz Age. This exhibition is a 1920s extravaganza, supported by funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund. The exhibition explores the paintings in the context of the time, revealing Betty's own artworks for the first time, and gives visitors the full Roaring 20s experience, with Charleston dancing in the gallery, dressing up, and a range of 1920s-inspired craft activities.

The Literature Zone draws on the Museum's large collection of Robert Southey's papers and objects to tell the story of the famous Lake Poet. Inspired by Southey's tale of The Three Bears, we have a puppet theatre where people can tell their own stories with our family of bear puppets. Other significant authors in Keswick Museum's collections are Eliza Lynn Linton, who will feature in the Special Exhibition Zone in 2022, and Hugh Walpole. We are also looking forward to Southey's 250th anniversary in 2024, and planning a large project to celebrate his life and work that year.

Our other temporary exhibition zone features an exhibition exploring the relationship people have with the outdoors in Keswick and the seven Derwent parishes. During the pandemic, many of us have been relying on outdoor spaces as safe places to exercise, socialise, and simply appreciate nature. Nurturing Nature: Physical and emotional convalescence in Keswick's outdoor spaces uses objects from the Museum's collection to tell stories of how others have used these same spaces throughout history. Pieces on display will include creative responses to the landscape, objects relating to Fitz Park, Blencathra Sanatorium, and the Keswick & District Footpaths Preservation Association, as well as photographs showing how locals engaged with the outdoors during recent lockdowns.

Downstairs is our Community Gallery, which is a space for local groups and individuals who would like to tell their stories or showcase their work. We have hosted groups such as the National Trust, Amy's Care, St Herbert's School, and the Quilters' Guild.

With such varied collections, a regularly changing display, and a wide-ranging engagement programme, the first purpose-built Museum in Cumbria has something for everybody.

**Nicola Lawson, Manager**

**<https://keswickmuseum.org.uk> @KeswickMuseum on social media**

### ***Bus Services replacing the steamboats on Lake Windermere***

During World War One tourism on the Furness Railway (FR) was severely curtailed and steamer services on Lake Windermere were reduced because of lack of demand. The company was determined to make other wartime savings by reducing or removing their steamboat operations completely outside the tourist period of July to September. There was a great concern over this as the local population were dependent on the steamboats for their day-to-day travel on the eastern side of the lake.

When, the FR announced that the winter steamboat service was to be withdrawn in 1916 the Urban District Councils of Ambleside, Grasmere and Windermere implored the railway to maintain the services, pointing out that the only other means of reliable transport, the LNWR line serving Windermere, was also under great restrictions due to wartime measures. Despite these protests, the date for the service to be withdrawn was set for 1 January 1917, though it did continue up until Easter of that year. Anticipating the removal of the service, an audit of projected expenditure and income was made, showed that the savings in the Traffic and Loco departments were minimal and amounted to £292 against a revenue of £225 giving a projected saving of £67.

*Raven*, the FR cargo boat, continued to operate and there was pressure to have it take passengers as well (impossible under the terms of its Board of Trade certificate). Another suggestion was that one of the passenger boats should be altered to carry goods, as well as passengers, which would allow a reduction of sailings of *Raven* to perhaps once a week to transport timber and other heavy goods not suited for carriage on the converted steamboat. The FR estimated that the work would cost £90 per boat and take four weeks to undertake. However, conversion would reduce the passenger-carrying capacity and only the forward section of the yacht would be used for this purpose. This would limit the accommodation to a single class, something that was deemed impossible in the days when passengers expected first and third class accommodation to be available, and might mean a reduction in revenue for the railway.

The service was again removed for the winter of 1917-1918 and the company attempted to set up a replacement bus service. There was an existing bus service from Bowness to Ambleside, but the section between Lake Side and Bowness had no service so, to cover the route between Lake Side and Bowness, tenders were sought from the Lake District Road Traffic Company (LDRTC) and British Automotive Traction Company to provide the service, but both were rejected due to excessive costs.

**Continued overleaf**

Over the winter of 1920-1921 the steamboat service was withdrawn again but the FR now arranged the hire of two buses and crews from the Great Western Railway (GWR) to provide a service to follow the steamboat route between Lake Side and Ambleside. It was the intention to pick up additional passengers along the route to boost revenues, but, as the LDRTC already operated a service between Bowness and Ambleside, the new service had to be run non-stop between these two points. The GWR service, which must have been the most northerly of any of their operations, started on 1 November 1920 right up to the start of the usual summer services. For the following season, the FR bought its own bus and this was used for the 1921-1922 winter period. From the 1922-1923 period, the LDRTC took over the service and integrated it with its own existing routes. Perhaps the experiences of the railway company had shown that money could be made after all.



The LDRTC had been formed in 1904 and was mainly involved in providing charabanc tours of the Lake District for the upper-class patrons of the hotels owned by the directors. The bus service between Windermere station (LNWR), Ambleside and Grasmere commenced on 15 June of that year using Thornycroft charabancs. The company operated vehicles with a mix of steam and internal combustion engines and it was one of their Clarkson steam buses (EC131) that started plying between Grasmere, Ambleside and Windermere by September 1904. By 1908, a charabanc service was operated between Bowness and Keswick during the summer season. In 1905, Messrs George and Jobling of Newcastle-upon-Tyne supplied a winter bus body to fit on to the chassis of one of the Thornycroft charabancs (EC115). During World War One the Grasmere to Windermere service was provided by a charabanc running on town gas stored in a huge canvas bag on the roof. The vehicles carried a livery of yellow with green lining-out and almost inevitably were known as the 'Yellow Perils'.



Westmorland Motor Services Ltd, acquired the LDRTC in August 1925, and in February 1926 the company became the Lancashire & Westmorland Motor Services Ltd. It was then taken over by Ribble Motor Services Ltd. in December 1927.

**Michael Peascod (Cumbrian Railways Association)**

The above is taken from a fuller article on the bus replacement service, published in *Cumbrian Railways* 166 (May 2018)

*Illustrations. Top: Furness Railway Bus (CRA Walker Collection ref. WKR075). Centre: LDRTC Clarkson steam bus purchased in 1904. Bottom: Thornycroft bus purchased in 1905 with body added for winter use (The two LDRTC images are produced courtesy of the Omnibus Society)*

# *News from the Cumbria Archive Service*

## **Service-wide news**

As 2021 draws to a close it is a good time to look back on an eventful year and look ahead to the challenges facing the Archive Service going forward. The year started with the service back in lockdown unable to serve our researchers and work with our volunteers. However, from the Summer onwards we have been able to reopen, albeit still subject to COVID-related restrictions such as social distancing and reduced visitor numbers. As many of you will know the Government has introduced new COVID restrictions designed to deal with the new Omicron variant of the virus. The main headlines are an extension of mandatory face coverings in public spaces and an encouragement to work from home. For us that means we will continue to open to visitors in our searchrooms. The wearing of face coverings, however, will be mandatory unless medically exempt.

On a brighter note, next year sees the 60th Anniversary of Cumbria Archive Service. Created in 1962 with the creation of the Joint Archives Committee, the service has changed beyond recognition and we wish to commemorate this significant milestone. At the moment we are looking at various ideas from a key note talk, to exhibitions and other events and look forward to publishing details early in the new year.

We have been able to re-establish our volunteer offer throughout the County and it has been gratifying to welcome back many of our volunteers. We are also supporting students at the beginning of their careers. Zoe and Sophia, students in conservation at the University of Northumbria, are working mending parchment charters and cleaning our new collection of oil paintings.

Cumbria Archive Service is participating in the British Library's 'Unlocking Our Sound Heritage' project. UOSH has provided Archives +, based in Manchester, with a sustainable specialist hub providing sound archive digitisation. The British Library estimates that we have a 15-20-year window to transfer these sound recordings to digital before it is too late.

Cumbria Archive Service is supporting the project to create a Sound Digitisation network for the North West. We recognise there is a need and willingness in the sector to upskill current staff to be able to provide digitisation for more common and easy to manage formats such as cassette and CD. We are contributing a number of sources to this project including BBC Radio Cumbria recordings, Sellafeld Stories Oral History Archive, Outreach Cumbria, an Oral history of the LGBT community in Cumbria, and Hidden Stories, Shared Lives which is an oral history project recording the stories of immigrants to Cumbria. We hope that the project will also support Cumbria Archive Service with the provision of new sound digitisation equipment, provide a central source of training and support and a comprehensive audit of our sound collections.

As we report elsewhere, our Conservation team invested a great deal of time and resource in the transfer of paintings and other works of art from the Courts and other locations in Cumbria. In all 30 pictures were rehoused at Cumbria Archive Centre, Carlisle. The move proved a major challenge and we have created bespoke storage to support and preserve this collection for posterity. Whilst art works are not our speciality, the project illustrates how the Archive Service embraces new challenges and has supported the County Council in its work to manage its buildings.

We are continuing to work with colleagues across the County and District Councils on the potential impact of Local Government Reorganisation on services. We have since learnt that the new Councils will bring back historic names. The Allerdale, Carlisle and Copeland areas will form the basis of a new Cumberland Council, whilst Barrow, Eden and South Lakeland areas will form Westmorland and Furness Council.

Next year promises to be an eventful year for the service and we are looking forward to the new opportunities and challenges that will follow.

Happy New Year

**Peter J Eyre, Archives Professional Lead**

## Update from Barrow Archive Centre

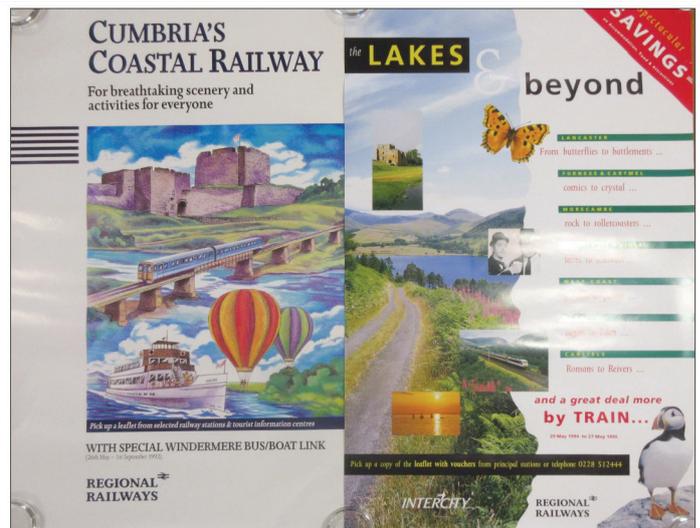
We have received several interesting additions to our collections. A collection of title deeds and family papers relating to the Robinson family of Rock Cottage, Stott Park, Finsthwaite (BDX 863), includes specifications for building the cottage (later renamed Rock Villa) for William Robinson around 1882, as well as a fine photograph of William Robinson himself. Another fascinating photograph that has recently come to us is of Barrow County Borough Police, dated 1925 (BDX 865) - see below. We have also added material to both the Barrow Grammar School for Boys (BDS 11) and the Old Boys' Association (BDSO 108) collections, as well as additions to the Alan Fullard collection of Barrow Amateur Football Club match day programmes and sporting memorabilia (BDX 812).



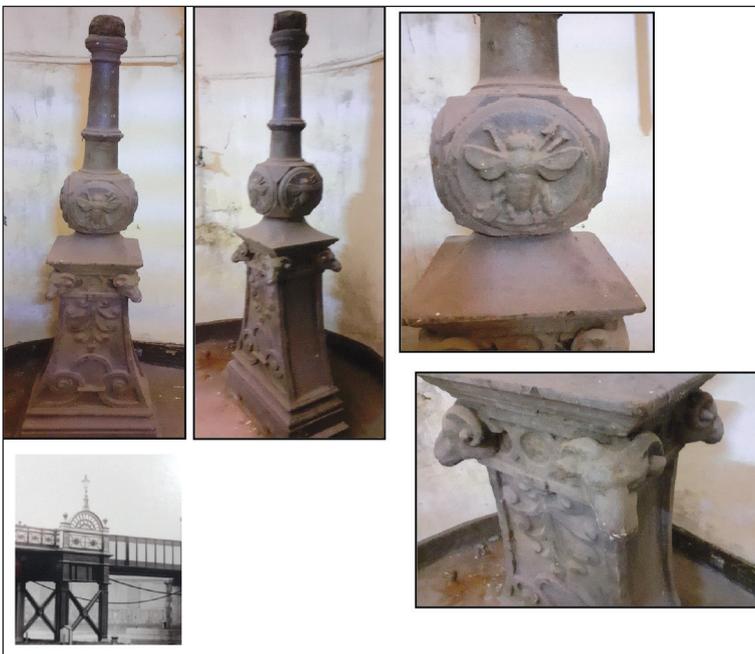
Geoff Holme has donated a number of large posters created by train companies operating in Cumbria: some give notice of repairs (Leven Viaduct) or a signalmen's strike and others advertise services and railcards (BDX 676) - see image on right. Volunteers are cataloguing both the Rock Cottage Collection and the railway posters.

### Outreach

Recent outreach events include visits to two schools to talk to the children about Victorian Barrow; a talk to Dalton Local History Group on the Refurbishment of the Library and Archive Centre; a training session for Morecambe Bay Partnership; Talks on the history of the library to Furness Carers and Furness Family History Society.



### Lamp stand in the basement of Barrow Library



The base of a lamp stand has been stored in the basement of Barrow Library for many years. Its provenance was unknown but thought to be a lamp stand. After a search of the archives, and following requests for help sent to the volunteers working on the Sankey photographic archive (Signal Film and Media), it was clear that the lamp had been manufactured by Walter MacFarlane and Co Ltd of Glasgow and placed on the High Level Bridge in the 1880s. Two sketches of the lamp stand survive, both stamped with MacFarlane's mark but both undated. There are plans to renovate the lamp stand and possibly place it in the garden at the front of Barrow Library as part of the Heritage Action Zone: Duke Street project.

**Susan Benson and Hazel Gatford, Archivists**

## **Update from Kendal Archive Centre**

### **Some recent accessions**

- WDX 2040: Westmorland Amateur Dramatics - programmes, posters, reviews, and photographs of various amateur dramatic productions by the Kendal Shakespearian Players, YWCA Players, YWCA Dramatic Club, Kentdale Social Centre Drama Group, Kendal Dramatic Society, and South Westmorland Stage and Screen Society
- WDX 2042: Papers of Doreen Harrison of Fox How, Ambleside - includes diaries, 1966-2019; Friends of Rydal Hall minutes, 2008-2012, and newsletters, 2007-2013; personal writings including a trip to Llangollen in 1958; Ambleside Civic Society occasional papers, 1977-1978; Charlotte Mason College directories, 1978-1986; Charlotte Mason College prospectuses 1961-1991
- WDX 2043: John Russell of Bolton, joiner, cart builder and wheelwright – photograph of house and premises, c.1900
- WDSO 185: Archaeological evaluation report - Stangana Compound, Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme, Mansergh, 2021
- WDSO 299: Lake District Mountain Trial Association - classic course, medium course and short course maps for trial starting at Crummock Water and finishing at Loweswater, Sep 2021
- WDSO 22: Natland and Oxenholme Women's Institute - includes committee minutes, 2017-2019; record of the monthly meeting, 2017-2019; attendance registers, 2016-2018
- WDTHW: Thomson Hayton Winkley, Solicitors of Kendal – includes deeds for Greenside, Hincaster, 1588-1880; Greenriggs estate, Underbarrow, 1616-1879; 17 Castle Street, Kendal, 1896-1969; Bowl Alley, Staveley, 1834-1862; Moorhouse Close, Strickland Ketel, 1862-1873; Hollins Lane, Arnside, 1889-1953; etc.
- WDSO 39: Preston Patrick and Preston Richard Women's Institute – includes committee minute book, 2006-2014; record of monthly meeting, 2010-2014 and 2014-2019; attendance registers, 2011-2019; annual reports, 2001-2016; etc.
- WDFCURC 2: Sedbergh United Reformed Church/Congregational Church – includes minutes, accounts, subscription books, photographs, etc., 1825-2016
- WDB 121: WA Fell Limited, Bobbin and Woodworking machinery manufacturers, Troutbeck Bridge - six machine books: two which record serial numbers of machines built from 1912, and four which detail customers, order numbers, price, serial number, etc., 1912-1994
- WDX 2044: Kendal Men In Sheds – newsletters, 2020-2021
- WPR 85: Longsleddale, St Mary Parish - includes PCC minutes 1922-2017; quinquennial surveys 1985-2010; electoral rolls 1972-2017; statements of accounts 1972-1985 [gaps]; papers relating to school room; papers relating to church hall; papers relating to glebe lands, ministries, etc., 1922-2017
- WDSO 401: Burneside Badminton Club - account books (2), 1946-2001; list of members who paid subscriptions, 1962-2002; members, 2009-2014
- WDBA: Baily family in Mardale – homemade newspapers the Goosemire Guardian vol 2, nos. 2-5, 1922; Baily Budget, vol 1, nos. 1-4, 1923; vol 2, no. 6, 1923; photographs of Mardale by GP Abraham Ltd., of Keswick, c.1920s

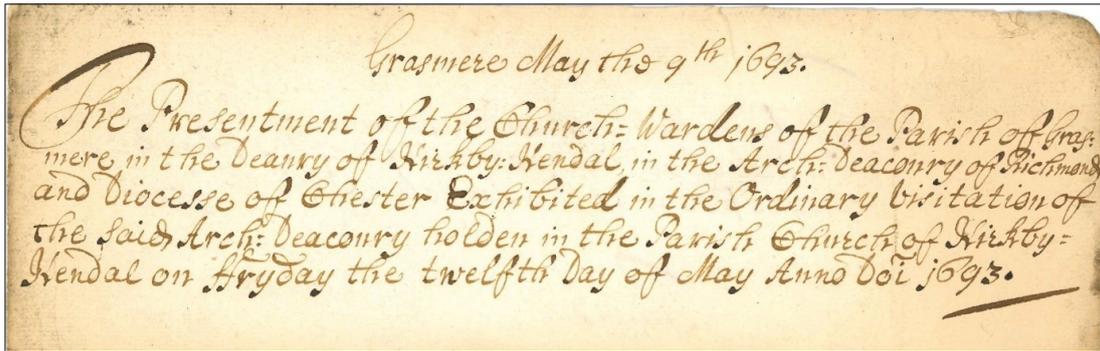
### **‘We do not know of any common drunkards, swearers or blasphemers’: churchwardens’ presentments at Kendal Archive Centre**

Staff at Kendal Archive Centre have been working on some of the religious collections we look after during the past few months, including work on renumbering and repackaging our Methodist collections and adding lists of terriers for Westmorland parishes to the online catalogue (see ref. WDRC/9 for a list of these terriers). We found a box of documents whilst repackaging the terriers which turned out to be presentments, or churchwardens’ answers to articles of visitation and enquiry set out by the Archdeacon, for various Westmorland parishes. These presentments have now been catalogued and repackaged and a list of them can be found at ref. WDRC/5/1 on the online catalogue CASCAT.

The presentments cover 19 parishes and range in date from the 1690s to the early 1800s. It was part of a churchwarden’s duty to make the presentments annually and they can include information on the fabric of the church, the character of ministers, the behaviour of the parishioners, numbers of schools, teachers, and midwives. While a lot of the answers to the articles are brief and simply state that ‘we have nothing to present in answer to the articles of this title’, or words to that effect, the presentments are worth looking at if you are interested in the history of a particular parish or are researching your family history as they can contain evidence of instances of nonconformity, and can also contain names of inhabitants (usually in the section dealing with the behaviour of the parishioners).

**Continued overleaf**

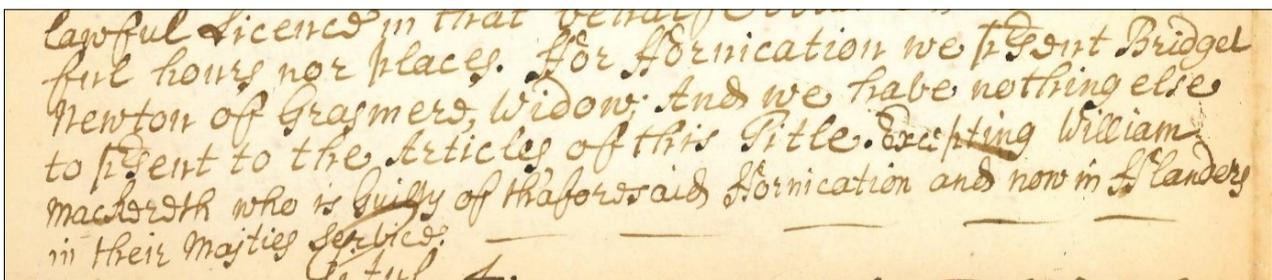
The presentment which covers the parish of Grasmere in 1693 is a useful example of this type of document (ref. WDRC/5/1/6/3). The presentment begins: 'The Presentment of the Church Wardens of the Parish of Grasmere in the Deanery of Kirkby Kendal in the Archdeaconry of Richmond and Diocese of Chester Exhibited in the Ordinary Visitation of the said Archdeaconry holden in the Parish Church of Kirkby Kendal on Friday the twelfth day of May Anno Domini 1693.'



The presentment then provides information on the church fabric, including a description of the books in the church: 'we have folio Bibles of King James's translation, common prayer books of the largest volume, ...a Register Book of parchment and a book for the Church Warden's account' and a parish chest with 'three locks wherein to keep the books and furniture'. The entry goes on to mention the assessment has been made for the repairs of the church and chapels, stating that 'none refuses to pay their proportion excepting Barnard Benson, Francis Benson, Jacob Holme, John Holme, Jane Holme, Timothy Harrison, John Dixon, Michael Wilson, James Harrison, John Walker, and John Rigge, all of them Quakers within the parish.' Some presentments for other parishes name 'popish recusants'.



The behaviour and moral character of the parishioners is examined, but not before the character of the incumbent comes under scrutiny. The Grasmere churchwardens state that the parson and curates are 'men of sober, chaste, and unblameable lives', and 'they do behave themselves so as not to fail in their Duty (to our knowledge) in any other inquirable'. The character of the Grasmere parishioners is generally good in the view of the churchwardens, and they state that none work or open their shops on Sundays, or waste their time idly during times of divine service. Of more concern to the churchwardens is Bridget Newton, a widow, who is named in the 1693 presentment 'for fornication'. The churchwardens continue 'we have nothing else to present to the Articles of this Title. Excepting William Mackereth who is guilty of the aforesaid fornication and now in Flanders in their Majesties' Service.' This might mean that William Mackereth was fighting in the Nine Years' War which was fought from 1688 to 1697.



Other presentments for Grasmere provide insights into schooling in the parish, such as in 1692 when a certain Christopher Keddy is said to be teaching at Ambleside without a licence from the Bishop, as Keddy is a Quaker, and in 1714 when a licensed schoolmaster is mentioned 'who brings his scholars on Sundays and holidays and sees that they behave themselves quietly and decently in the church'. Information on medical provision in the parish is also provided, such as in 1700 when the churchwardens state that 'we have no practiser of Physick nor of midwifery without licence'. The same presentment states that 'our married women after childbirth give their public thanks to God for their safe deliverance'.

The presentments in WDRC/5/1 survive in varying numbers for the following Westmorland parishes: Ambleside, Beetham, Brough, Burton, Crosthwaite, Grasmere, Grayrigg, Old Hutton, Heversham, Kendal, Killington, Kirkby Lonsdale, Lindale, Mansergh, Middleton, Preston Patrick, Troutbeck, Windermere, and Witherslack. A few of the presentments are from the 17th and 19th centuries, but most are from the 18th century. They provide us with glimpses of parish life which make them useful sources for the local and family historian, and they are available to view in the Kendal searchroom by appointment.

**Anthony Hughes, Archivist**

*Illustrations, p.6. Top: The beginning of the 1693 Grasmere presentment [ref WDRC/5/1/6/3]. Centre: The Grasmere parish chest mentioned by the churchwardens. Bottom: Bridget Newton and William Mackereth named in the 1693 Grasmere presentment [ref. WDRC/5/1/6/3]*

## **Update from Carlisle Archive Centre**

### **Accessions: a selection of deposits for the period August-November 2021**

DSO 501: Cumberland Scripture Readers Trust [Accession: DSO 501] 1872-2019. Trust deed, 1872; deeds of appointment of new trustees (4) 1961-1991; conveyance relating to the sale of Torpenhow Mission Hall, 1977; correspondence from the Charity Commission, 2019; document re George Moore, the founder of the Trust; minute books, 1931-2018; account books, 1960-2019

DX 2520: Mrs Joan M Allnutt, (Joan Curl): Photographs [Accession: H15504] c. 1937-1950s. Black and white photographs and negatives of Cumbrian landscapes (mostly Lakeland, but also Furness, Solway, Hadrian's Wall and Carlisle) buildings and agricultural scenes. 'Joan Curl' (the publication name of Mrs Joan M Allnutt (1909-2012)

DS 225: Nelson Thomlinson School, Wigton [Accession: H15517] 1950s. Black and white photographs of the interior and exterior of the newly built school

DSO 504: The Robert Johnson Collection [Accession H15523] 1945-1994. National Graphical Association records of Mr Robert Johnston, Branch Secretary; highlights include: Records of Mr Robert Johnson as a former employee of Hudson Scott.. Photographs (black and white) - Hudson Scott Cricket Team, 1913, black and white photograph of Robert Johnson at work on the factory floor; local Boys' Brigade (4A St James Company) to which Robert Johnson belonged. Photographs include camp scenes and a parade, c.1950; Christian Welfare Cricket Team who won the Edenside Cup, 1947; various Carlisle City football teams. Certificate of commendation (on parchment) from the Royal Humane Society to Christopher Johnston, for rescuing a young boy who was at risk of drowning in the River Eden, October 1927

DFCRC 1: Our Lady and St Joseph Roman Catholic Church, Carlisle [Accession: H15525] 1920-2000. Comprising; correspondence relating to religious affairs in post-war Germany, 1946-1948; statistical statement relating to the Catholic population in Carlisle, 1875-1939; brochure for St Scholastica's Abbey, Holme Eden, c. 1930; papers relating to the education of various members of the Dias family of Carlisle; biography and photograph of Canon Waterton; black and white photographs of church trips and processions, internal and external photographs of the church building and local clergy

DB 257: County Garage Group Limited, Carlisle [Accession: H15588] 1904-2018. Minutes; ledgers and accounts; banking files; register of members; register of secretaries; share certificates; tax papers; articles of association; deeds; vehicle rental papers.

### **Recent cataloguing includes:**

DSO 506 Ullswater Masonic Lodge No. 3297 Penrith. Founded 1908. Comprising, meeting summonses; Installation programmes; correspondence and papers; souvenir brochures; byelaws. The meeting summonses and installation programmes contain lists of the current officers and past masters and menus for the 'Festive Board' which followed the installation ceremony. It is interesting to note the changes in the bill of fare, from the extensive menus of the 1920s and 1930s, to the far simpler offerings of the 1980s. The 1930s menus often consisted of several courses, including; starter, fish course, meat course (comprising several types of meat) dessert, cheese and biscuits, followed by port and cigars. By the 1980s, a more frugal menu of prawn cocktail, coq-au-vin and peach melba was the order of the day! This collection was deposited along with items from several other Cumbrian Masonic Lodges and these smaller collections have also been listed. Both the depositor's grandfather and father had been members of the Ullswater Lodge and had visited other lodges in the area (for installation ceremonies and special events) during their time as members.

**Continued overleaf**

## Recent cataloguing continued:

DX 2519: Corless Family of Suneden, Penrith. This is largely a photographic collection and a chronicle of both business and family life. Tommy Corless ran a haulage business in Penrith and many of the photographs feature haulage vehicles from the 1930s-1960s, including removals, flat-bed and delivery lorries and a charabanc. As the business expanded, the family moved from an estate in Penrith to 'Suneden', a house on Beacon Edge, where the business telephone was located. The house could be seen from the haulage yard and Tommy Corless was alerted to telephone calls by means of his wife hoisting a flag! Some of the photographs show views from the yard towards Beacon Edge and the Corless family home. The collection contains papers relating to Tommy's son John Corless (1938-2018). John undertook an apprenticeship with Metropolitan Vickers in Manchester and the papers relate to his successful application, 1955-1957. John's leisure interests included cycling and the collection contains a CD with photographs of club runs and time trials of the Beacon Wheelers Cycling Club (1955-1956).



DLEE: Mr John Edward Blacklock Lee of Lanercost. Papers of Mr John Lee of Lanercost (1946-2020): Cartes de visite photographs (c.1862-1881). A more unusual item from the collection is a minute book and programme register of the 'Merry Lads Mild Liquoring Association' (1904-1913); the Association's meetings were held at Tarn Lodge [Heads Nook, Brampton], the home of the Association's Patron, Mr GB Routledge and other meetings held elsewhere included those at the Nags Head, Brampton; Railway Hotel, Gilsland; Spinners Arms, Warwick Bridge; Alec Riddell's Hotel; and Southport. Members included, S J Lee, Hubert J Lee, Frank Lee. The volume contains details of shoot meetings and generally reflects the exuberance of the period for young men of the wealthier classes. There are pencil sketches which would not pass muster with the standards of current times, suggesting that the liquoring might not have been as mild as the association name implies! There is an interesting album of picture postcards and photographs, presented to the Revd Percy Lee and his wife, on the occasion of his retirement as Vicar of Shilbottle, Dec 1920. (c. 1880s-1920s)

DB 56: APV Mitchell (Dryers) Ltd. of Denton Holme, Carlisle. Comprising six volumes, which required extensive cleaning by our preservation assistant; two Jobbing Smiths' books, one of which filled a gap in our existing series, 1936-1937; the other a jobbing metal work book, 1934-1944; stock book, 1919-1926; wages book, 1915-1917; order book, c. 1881-1893 with separate index book of customers

DS 89: Creighton School, Carlisle. An interesting selection of photographs of pupils. The depositor's husband attended Creighton school, as did his father, who died in 2019 aged 105. The photographs comprise; rugby team, 1925; whole school photograph, 1956; class photographs, 1955 and [c.1980s]; press cutting, 1983. There are also photocopies of school admission registers, 1916-1961. We do not hold the original registers for this period and the copies were a useful addition to the DS 89 collection. The depositor did not hold the originals but it was worthwhile asking!

DSO 1: Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society. Three black and white photographs taken by 'Joan Curl' (the publication name of Mrs Joan M Allnutt (1909-2012), member of CWAAS, 1963-2012) of CWAAS members viewing the exterior of Millrigg on the Society's visit [on 14 September 1954]; CWAAS members outside the entrance to Johnby Hall on the Society's visit [on 15 September 1954]; and CWAAS members viewing the interior of the pele tower at Hardrigg Hall on the Society's visit [on 15 September 1954] [For a report on these visits, see CW2 vol. 54, 1955, pp. 292-3 and 296

Louise Smith, Archivist

## Mounsey, Bowman and Sutcliffe solicitor's collection: newly catalogued

One of my long-term background cataloguing of collections has recently been completed. In 2018, I started to catalogue over 500 sale particulars forming part of the Mounsey, Bowman and Sutcliffe solicitor's collection, covering the whole of Cumbria and parts of south-west Scotland. A full list of sales particulars can be found on our online catalogue, CASCAT, by entering DMIL/MOUNSEY/153\*, into the reference number field. My favourite sale particulars contain not only plans but photographs, particularly showing the interior of properties, for example, the photographs alongside this article showing Red Gables, in Chatsworth Square, Carlisle. Red Gables was built in 1884 for Mr and Mrs William Hudson Scott, a son of Mr Hudson Scott, of the firm of Messrs Hudson Scott and Sons, later known as Metal Box. In 1908, Red Gables opened as Red Gables School, under school proprietress Miss Ruby Armstrong, closing in December 1966.



Sarah Wood, Archive Assistant

## David Grisenthwaite

During September, it was with sadness that we received the news of the death of one of our former researchers and volunteers, David Grisenthwaite, who was 93.

David was a member of the 'Wrapping and Packing' groups, which were established in 2007 to repackage collections prior to our move to Lady Gillford's House. The groups worked in the basement of our premises at the Castle. After the move, the groups continued at the new premises for a time. David was an enthusiastic member of this project and did not let living in Kircaldy put him off making the journey to Carlisle each week! He travelled by train and taxi to reach the Archive Centre, which would have been a challenge, as he was partially sighted.

Prior to becoming a volunteer, he visited the Castle to undertake research into the transport industry, in particular bus history. He has donated his extensive archive to the Bus Archive, Droitwich, <https://www.busarchive.org.uk/> This includes his own account of working for United Automobile Services (UAS) and pen-portraits of some of the staff he worked with.

David was a native of Cumbria and born in Cockermouth. He began his working life as a Tilling Group trainee in the early 1950s with UAS in the North East. He later left and moved into the paper industry but his interest in UAS and its activity in Carlisle never waned. In 1960 he moved to Kircaldy, where he remained for the rest of his life.

He was a keen keeper of records, enjoyed recording facts and was a self-confessed creature of habit. Through these activities, he was able to contribute to climate change study undertaken by the Royal Meteorological Society and other environmental research. Data from the records he kept on the frequency of his grass cutting and production of garden waste from 1984 is published in Volume 60 of the Royal Meteorological Society Journal, under the title 'The Grass is Greener - For Longer'. The origin of this recording work was through his responding to a call for volunteers for a survey by the Woodland Trust. David's work is a fine example of the importance of records and record keeping.

**Louise Smith, Archivist**

## Update from Whitehaven Archives

### New material

Modern marriage registers for Wythop St Margaret; Kingdom Hall in Whitehaven; Cockermouth URC, Workington Congregational Church; Kells St Mary's; Kells St Peter's; Moresby, St Bridget; Whitehaven New Life Church; Cleator, St Leonard's; Arlecdon, St Michael; Frizington, St Paul; Workington, St Mary Westfield

YDX 757: Painting of Cleator church [St Leonard's] on a wooden board

TBR; YDX 758; TNCB: Mining and railway plans including Siddick Junction and St Bees Royalty

YDSO 29: Cockermouth Civic Trust

YDSO 141: Citizens Advice Allerdale

YDS 84: Opening programme of Ehenside School, Cleator Moor

YPR 31: Beckermeth St John parish records: correspondence accounts and minutes

YPR 8: Gosforth St Mary, PCC accounts

YDSO 187: Whitehaven and District Lions Club scrapbook

YDB 79: Archaeological reports for land off Sea Mill Lane, St Bees; Whang's Beck, Egremont; Papcastle Pumping Station; land near West Wind Cottage, Papcastle

YBNFL: Publications relating to Calder Hall, Sellafield and BNFL

YDS 60; YDB 59; YDX 571; YDX 761; SDCO; YSH: Papers relating to Marchon, Whitehaven Harbour, Sekers International, Mining, St Bees School including Girls' Friendly Society, Whitehaven Town Branch

YDFCRC 2; YDFCRC 10: Cleator St Mary burials and Frizington St Joseph baptisms

YDX 760: West Cumbrian freemasons' papers and certificates

YDFCP 3: Whitehaven United Reformed Church, Elder and Church Meeting minutes, correspondence and other papers

DX 2441: Illustrated diary on life during the Coronavirus pandemic entitled 'Journal of the Plague Year'

PH/1675: Colour slides of Mounsey's Shop, Cockermouth

SRDMB; SRDM: maps and plans relating to Millom

YDX 762: Deeds and papers for 'Moorville', 21 Mayo Street, Cockermouth and 15 Moorclose Road, Harrington and land near Broom Hill, Bootle

YDX 764: Research papers of John Borron

54 WHI (Local Studies Library): Whitehaven Cricket Club War Memorial Dedication Service (with details of those honoured)

YDX 696: Further letters and papers relating to William Furness of Wasdale Hall and Seascale Hall

YDFCM 2: Whitehaven Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society minutes

## Recent cataloguing

There has been some out-of-the-ordinary material in the shape of a painting of St Leonard's Church in Cleator on a piece of wood (see image on right) and a beautifully illustrated journal on a year in the Coronavirus pandemic, with photographs, drawings, news reports and personal reflections. In this quarter, Whitehaven Archives has received additions to existing collections such as publications from Cockermouth Civic Trust and administrative records of Allerdale Citizens Advice Bureau. We have again catalogued modern marriage records, this time more of these have been from Catholic and Nonconformist churches.



We have also taken in a diverse collection of family papers covering topics such as mining, Marchon, St Bees School, Sekers Silk Mills, military service, changes in Whitehaven Harbour. This has been a challenging but interesting collection to appraise and sort. Amongst these papers were photographs of Mayfield School, a private school on Foxhouses Road (see image on right), Whitehaven, 1910s; two pictures of Bransty Arch including of its demolition in 1927 and a register of candidates for the Whitehaven Branch of the Girls' Friendly Society, 1914-c.1927 (YDX 761).



## Outreach

In September, we had the annual visit of St Benedict's A-level History students to Whitehaven Archives. Twelve pupils were given an introduction to the archive service and a tour of the office. They then heard a talk on Public Health in Whitehaven in the 19th century and took part in some activities involving the source material. Whitehaven Archives has also contributed to the Explore Your Archive social media campaign including the #Small and #Handwriting themes selected for Explore Your Archive week. We also showcased our holdings relating to the collection of natural history with records from Cumberland Nature Club, books by Flintoft on Lake District Ferns and Mosses and a poster by the Society for the Protection of Wildflowers and Plants. In November we gave a tour to two Lancaster University students in preparation for their potential placement here listing the letters of Percy Kelly.

**Diane Hodgson, Archivist**

## Time for pud

Bake Off it ain't - it's much better than that ... and no soggy bottoms to spoil the fun. Our photograph shows members of Lamplugh Heritage Society tucking into a sweet treat courtesy of one of Whitehaven Archive Centre's overseas customers. Dr William Woys Weaver is well-known in the States and internationally as a food ethnographer and is the award-winning author of 20 books relating to culinary history and heritage seeds. He dropped us an email back in September hoping for more information about a native of Cumberland who had eventually settled in Philadelphia during the colonial period.

He expanded the story by explaining that the gent, Oswald Peel, had a daughter, Grace, who had visited Cumbrian relatives in 1769 and had taken back to Philadelphia a recipe for a Penrith Pudding. She compiled a recipe book in 1782 and included the recipe. Dr Weaver was editing the book for publication and was trying to piece together the family's back story as part of this. The original manuscript belongs to the Historical Society of Haddonfield, New Jersey. They were given it in 1929. We were able to help with a few snippets of information and were particularly interested to find the family's connections with Dean and Lamplugh in west Cumbria. But that aside, it's a brave man who introduces food into the conversation - and pudding at that!



As a member of Lamplugh Heritage Society I had been to a talk some years ago when Lamplugh Pudding was discussed so was intrigued at the mention of this recipe although the two recipes bear absolutely no resemblance to each other. In his response to thank us for the paltry information I was able to give, Dr Weaver kindly included a copy of the recipe. He had worked from the original manuscript to develop the recipe for the modern cook, with specific quantities of ingredients, oven temperatures and cooking times so often lacking in recipes like this. It made what Americans might call a deep apple crisp, but on this side of the pond we would recognise it more as a variation of apple crumble. But for one who is severely challenged in the cookery department, I might add it is far simpler to make – none of that faffing about rubbing the fat into the flour. And although Dr Weaver would advocate using heritage varieties of apple, it works brilliantly with the humble and ubiquitous Bramley.

I baked up a batch for the first meeting of Lamplugh Heritage Society after lockdown – it was enjoyed immensely and was a lovely welcome back to friends we haven't seen for the previous 18 months.

Epilogue: I heard from Dr Weaver late last year: *'The Grace Parr 1782 manuscript cookbook will be published in 2022 by the Helios House Press in two iterations: First as a deluxe limited boxed edition in full color, and then as a less expensive trade edition. I want you to know that whilst you may toil alone in the knee-deep papers of the past, they also represent lives, important lives whose stories should be told. So I am greatly honored that you took up the cross for the Peels, and helped make this book come to fruition. I began it in 1984. My dream is to come over to Whitehaven and give a talk, and a tasting. Meanwhile, let us outwit Mr. Covid. W3'* (William Woys Weaver)

We've booked him in already!

### **Grace Peel's recipe to Make Penrith Pudding**

Lay a layer of grated bread, cover it with sugar, put over your spices – cinnamon and nutmeg – put over some lumps of butter and a layer of apples cut a quarter of an inch thick. Then a layer of grated bread, sugar, spices, lumps of butter and apples. When your pan is full, bake it well.

### **Dr Weaver's modern rendition (with grateful permission to Dr Weaver for permission to republish)**

Yield: Serves 8 to 10

2 cups (250g) dry white breadcrumbs (use panko as a substitute)

$\frac{3}{4}$  cup (185g) organic unrefined cane sugar

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg

$\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt

4 ounces (125g) unsalted butter

1  $\frac{1}{2}$  pounds (750g) tart apples, cored and sliced (paring optional)

1 cup (250ml) dry apple cider (hard cider) or Mountain Wine (see glossary)

Preheat the oven to 350F (180C). Grease the interior of the baking dish. Combine the breadcrumbs, sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, and salt. Scatter  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup (90g) of the crumb mixture over the bottom of the baking dish then dot with bits of butter. Cover this with a thick layer of apples. Scatter another layer of the crumb mixture over this, dot with butter, and cover with apples. Continue in this fashion until the pan is full. The top layer should consist of the remaining crumb mixture dotted with butter. Drizzle the cider or wine over the pudding then bake in the preheated oven for 50 minutes or until the apples are tender and the topping is golden brown. Serve hot or at room temperature.

Some apple varieties cook soft while others will bake on the dry side. If you prefer a very moist pudding, double the amount of cider, or use only cooking apples like Summer Rambo. This recipe was tested with Esopus Spitzenburg apples. They are a heritage variety predating 1776. Further information at Dr Weaver's website, <https://www.williamwoysweaverpicurewithhoe.com/>

**Lesley Park, Archive Assistant**

## Catalogue to the Leconfield Collection (DLEC), Cockermouth Castle

I am encouraged to hope that by the time this Newsletter appears, the catalogue to the above collection may be available to view in our online catalogue. If not, it will appear during the course of January 2022! As I previously described at further length in FOCAS Newsletter 109, this will be the result of a long project begun at the start of lockdown in March 2020 to transfer the content of the paper catalogues of the Leconfield Collection into digital content and make the descriptions available in CASCAT.

The nine volumes of paper catalogues have produced over 13,500 catalogue descriptions organised into six broad series (1. Manorial - general, 2. Estate - general, 3. Manorial - specific manors, 4. Minerals – general, 5 Minerals – specific locations, 6. Legal). The caveats I mentioned in my previous article still apply, namely that the catalogues do not represent a complete listing of the collection and that there is still no physical access to the contents of the collection held at Cockermouth Castle. We shall of course provide any update on access to the collection as soon as we know to FOCAS members. There are still two more pieces of work to complete in relation to these catalogues: these are the descriptions to be provided by the volunteer transcription project of the old manuscript calendar of deeds to the estate's Cockermouth burgages and also the contents of the calendar to the Lucy Cartulary originally produced by the Historical Manuscripts Commission in 1957.

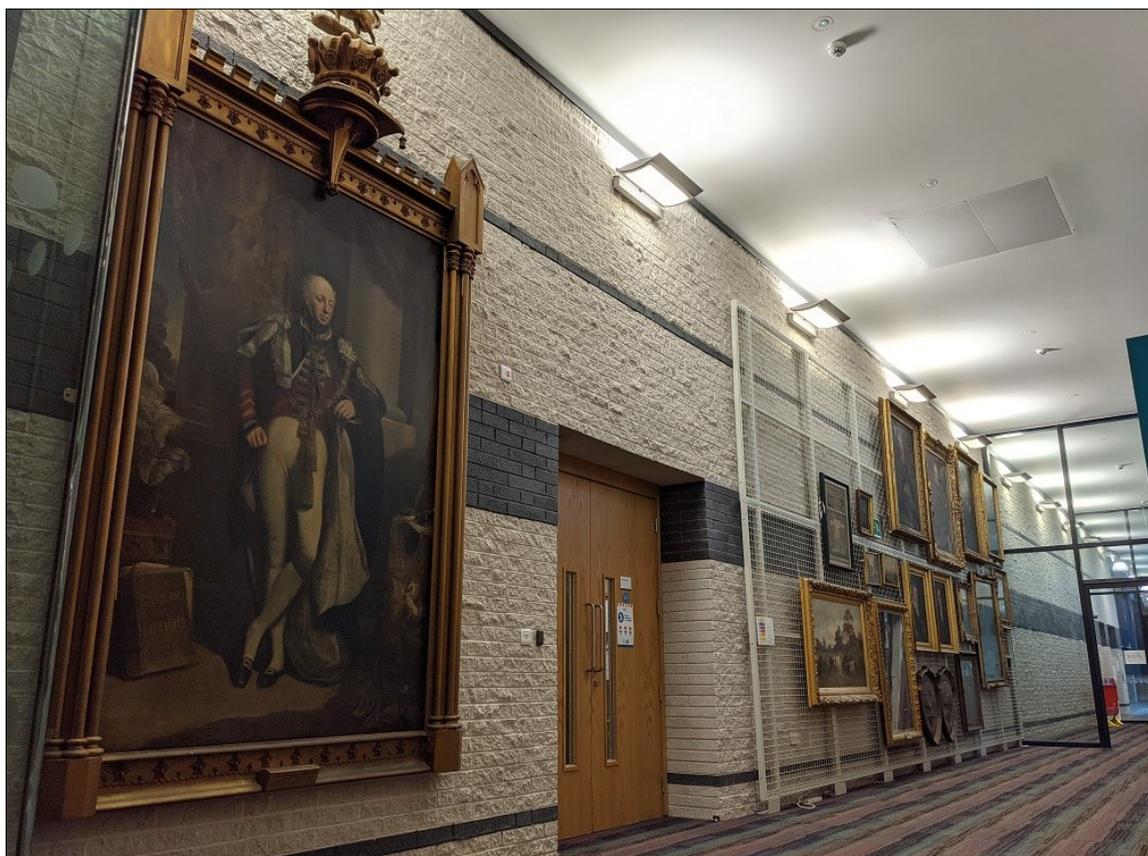
**Robert Baxter, Senior Archivist**

### ***Update from the Conservation Unit***

The conservation unit has recently completed a project to bring together the historic oil paintings in council ownership into one efficient storage space within the archive. There were nine large oil paintings in gilded frames at the old Courts building in Carlisle which needed to be removed in order to be preserved. The environment at the courts is damp as the building is no longer used, and the paintings were beginning to degrade. In fluctuating environments with unstable humidity and temperature, gilding begins to delaminate and paint layers can start to crack. This happens because the substrate expands and contracts at a different rate to the layers of paint, varnish, and gilding.

Archives are not typically equipped to store artworks on this scale - we usually unframe small artworks for long term storage - but in this case we were happy to try and assist our colleagues. The safest way to store artworks is to hang them. This allows you to assess their condition in situ, and so long as they are out of direct light and away from heat sources, the walls are (unsurprisingly) a great place to keep art. We are so lucky in Carlisle to have a beautiful purpose-built archive centre, with expansive modern wall space and a sympathetically restored historic house, so after consulting with building users, I decided to hang as many of the pictures in the old house as possible. This way, they can be viewed by the public and complement the historic interior of Lady Gillford's House.

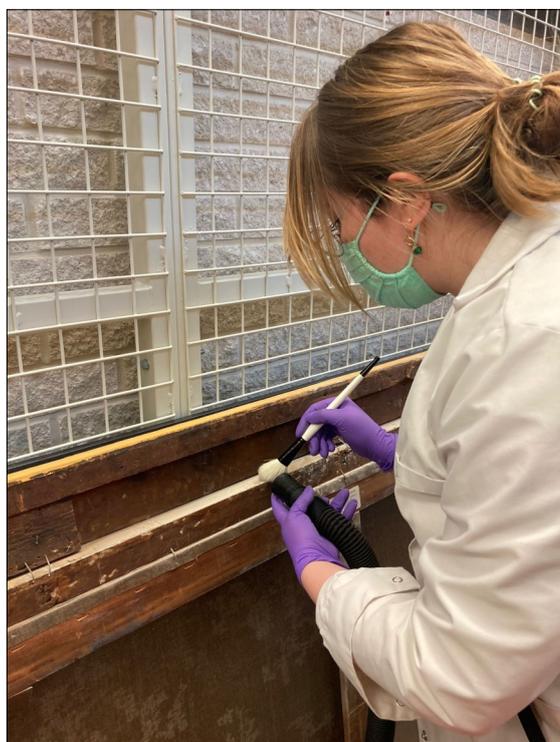
The artworks with visible damage that are not suitable for display were hung in the private office space in the archive centre. We used a steel mesh pinned to an interior wall for easy installation and removal of the pictures for long-term storage. This method allows easy access to the pictures and staff are able to move them when needed.



Removing the artworks from the courts was no small task. Several of the pictures are very large, and they were hung in fairly inaccessible spaces. The real challenge was the largest - a full length portrait of the Earl of Lowther, with a huge elaborate frame, hung above the main stairwell. In order to remove this (and others) we needed scaffolding. We also needed help - Fay and I are a great team, but some things are too heavy for us alone. We called in the help of a specialist art moving company, Museum and Gallery Transport Ltd., who helped us with the trickier elements of the removal and rehang. It's fair to say that Fay and I, book and paper conservators, were a little daunted by the prospect of packing and transporting the oil paintings ourselves. Matt and his team were onsite for the install and take-down of the scaffold, to pack and remove the paintings - two of which were transported in bespoke crates made by the team - and to assess and repair any fixings that were damaged before rehangng the pictures in Lady Gillford's House and on our wall mesh. And of course, as soon as we installed this mesh, we found more artworks to hang on it.

We are now in the process of assessing, identifying, and restoring the artworks. Please have a look at the pictures next time you visit, and let us know what you think!

I'd also like to take this moment to applaud the contribution of our loyal volunteers. The conservation and digitisation units are so lucky to host a few really treasured volunteers who come back week after week to help us work on preserving the collections of Cumbria for the future. Not only is their enthusiasm and passion for the collection constantly inspiring, it also helps us to focus our efforts in a way that is most targeted towards our end users - it helps us to remember why we do this at all.



Given the lockdowns and uncertainty over the last few years, we would like to express our appreciation once again for the volunteers who have been willing to come back after such a long hiatus - we know that this time has been a challenge and that picking up again after so long is not easy. We are almost back up to full speed, with our wills repackaging project and a new project to repack our photo collections is already underway.

We also have a few new faces since we re-opened; Helen is working through the audio material of our sound archive identifying recordings of particular interest or rarity to be digitised in collaboration with the British Library's 'Unlocking Our Sound Heritage' project; and Zoe and Sophia, students in conservation at the University of Northumbria, are mending parchment charters and cleaning our new collection of oil paintings. To all our volunteers: we wouldn't want to do it without you - thank you.

**Erika Freyr, Senior Conservator**

*Illustrations. Left: Zoe, one of our student volunteers from Northumbria University, working on removing adhesive residue from a parchment charter. Right: Sophia, cleaning oil paintings*

**Scott Sowerby and Noah McCormack (eds), *The Memoirs of Sir David Fleming of Rydal Hall from 1633 to 1688***

CWAAS Record Series 23, 2021. 515pp., £68. ISBN 9781873124871

Twenty years ago an American doctoral student of the 17th century was working in the then Cumbria Record Office and chanced upon the long-missing full-length memoirs of Sir Daniel Fleming (1633-1701) within the Lowther Estate papers. The current mighty volume is the culmination of sustained scholarship over two decades by Scott Sowerby and Noah McCormack, amply supported by CWAAS colleagues, to publish those memoirs. The volume includes ample on-page footnotes, Sir Daniel's own appendices, generous biographical information that takes forward the complete lives of his children, and a detailed index. Supported financially by Northwestern University, the edition is exemplary and essentially flawless. Anyone wishing to understand Cumbria in the period from the Civil War and Commonwealth to the Restoration and the Glorious Revolution will find many riches in its pages.

Sir Daniel was born at Coniston Hall, educated at Oxford and Grey's Inn, and was severally high sheriff, deputy lieutenant and officer of the militia for Cumberland. He was knighted by Charles II in 1681, and was Member of Parliament for Cockermouth from 1685-87. He lived for most of his life at Rydal Hall, and died there, and was the father of nine sons (seven of whom survived) and four daughters. Prodigiously rich, he was also parsimonious, and his relationship with his disabled son and heir, William, was harsh and difficult, requiring the intervention of William's uncle in assertion of his rights. The family dynamics, both immediately within his own household and with other local landowners, make for fascinating reading as they tussle disputatiously with each other. Within a wide circle of friends and neighbours, it is possible to view a protean Cumbrian society in the making at a turbulent period of national history, as well as obtaining a fuller picture of the relationship between provincial society and national institutions.

**Marion McClintock**

**Anthea Boulton and Veronica Whyment (eds) *Telling it like it was: Dent, Sedbergh and district in living memory, volume two***

Dales Historical Monographs, 2021, 208pp. Softback £10. ISBN 9781739964504. Hardback £15 ISBN 9781739964511. Available from Westwood Books, Long Lane, Sedbergh, LA10 5AH, Tel. 015396 21233, email books@westwoodbooks.co.uk. Plus p+p £3.50

This fascinating book is based on c.120 interviews made over the past 30 years by the Dent and Sedbergh Oral History Society. The subjects covered include war, shops, transport, industry and leisure pursuits - complementing the contents of volume one (published in 2015). Together the two books create a comprehensive picture of life in and around Sedbergh and Dent during a period of tremendous change as seen through the eyes of local people. It is a tribute to the skill of the interviewers that they were able to capture, in incredible detail, what life was like in the past and how it changed over time. What comes through so very clearly in the words of those interviewed is the pride that they felt in their community and the loyalty they gave to local businesses.

The book is illustrated with lovely drawings and a fine selection of photographs. It is particularly good to see the effort that has been made to put those interviewed at the heart of the book – not only in the text but also in a separate name index.

**Jean Turnbull**

**Michael Pearson and Ian D. Hodkinson (eds) *The Dark Path to Knowledge, The Autobiography of John Gough of Kendal(1757-1825), 'Blind Philosopher' and Polymath***

CWAAS Tract Series 29, 2021. 140pp., £15 ISBN 9781873124895

The eminent physicist-cum-chemist John Dalton remarked that John Gough was 'one of the most astonishing instances that ever appeared, of what genius united with perseverance and energy and other subsidiary aids can accomplish when deprived of what we usually reckon the most valuable sense' – a sentiment reiterated verbatim by Canon Hardwicke Rawnsley a founder of the National Trust. What impressed them was the power of his intellect and his astonishing attainments for a man blinded before his third birthday by smallpox. His numerous publications ranged across mathematics, meteorology and atmospheric physics, the nature, transmission and reception of sound by the unsighted, many aspects of natural history and the folklore of his native Westmorland. Also remarkable is the fact that his manuscript account of his life, supplemented by extensive handwritten biographical notes by his son and amanuensis Thomas Gough, has survived.

This book provides a full transcript of John Gough's autobiography with supporting footnotes, together with an introduction to his life, a list of publications, and a biographical sketch of his son Thomas who did so much to preserve his father's memory