

'Votes for Women' Discovery Evening at Carlisle Archives Centre

In February 1918, the passing of the Representation of the People Act, gave almost all men and women aged over 30 the right to vote. This event was hugely significant in terms of progress towards the democratic society that we have today. During the early 20th century, campaigners for women's suffrage had worked relentlessly to bring this cause to the forefront of the public consciousness. In celebration of the centenary of this breakthrough, Carlisle Archives Centre held a public display of original archives on the topic of 'Votes for Women' on the evening of Tuesday 6 March. Highlights of the display were items from the Catherine Marshall collection (Collection reference DMAR). Catherine Elizabeth Marshall, born in 1880 was a prominent Cumbrian suffragist who lived at Hawse End, Derwent Water, from 1905. Suffragists were committed to 'constitutional' non-violent methods of campaigning; their approach was based on debate and persuasion and worked within the law. In 1908 Catherine and her mother joined the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) and established a branch in Keswick. Catherine made much progress with the cause in Cumberland and Westmorland, putting the region at the heart of the campaign. Her model of selling suffrage literature in the market place at Keswick was replicated by other NUWSS branches across the country. She went on to become involved at national level, becoming Parliamentary Secretary of the NUWSS. Although less well known than the Suffragettes, it is arguable that the NUWSS Suffragists were more successful in building a consensus for franchise reform.

Catherine worked closely with the Labour Party to drive the campaign forward. She remained involved in politics until her death in 1961 and campaigned on issues for the betterment of society. She was an active member of the No Conscription Fellowship, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and The National Council for Civil Liberties. She left an extensive archive, containing correspondence, photographs, reports and suffrage and other campaigns literature. Examples of each of these documents were on display.

In addition to the Catherine Marshall material, Carlisle Archives displayed other archives of relevance to women's suffrage. These included personal accounts and biographies of those involved with the campaign.

The discovery evening was well attended with 25 visitors, including a lady from Lancaster who is researching Catherine Marshall. She discovered documents relevant to her research, in particular Women's Suffrage Pilgrimage programme leaflet and route map (NUWSS), London demonstration, document reference DNT/23/9 as well as 'Votes for Women' newspapers, dating from 1910-1913, reference document reference DMAR/9/3. The Catherine Marshall poster exhibition will be shown at Kendal Library for Local History month in May 2018.

For the first time, Carlisle Archives tweeted live throughout the night, including an interview with one of our visitors. This interview can be seen on the Cumbria Archives Twitter feed @CumbriaArchives. Future discovery evenings will be advertised on Twitter, Carlisle Archive Centre and Cumbria Libraries as well as on the up-and-coming Archive Events on Cumbria Archives web page <http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/archives/whatsnew/events.asp>

Sarah Wood, Archives Assistant



Captions. Top: Front page of *Votes for Women*, July 1, 1910. CAS/C/ DMAR/9/3

Bottom: Women's Suffrage Pilgrimage Map. CAS/C/ DNT/23/9

*** Date for your diary ***

**The 2018 AGM/ Member's Day will be held on
Saturday 20 October 2018 at Carlisle Archives Centre**

Protecting Your Personal Data

In common with every charity and society in the land FoCAS is required to adhere to the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which have recently come into effect. These control the kind of personal information we can hold on members, confidentiality of data, limitations on use, and their permission. The purpose of this Newsletter article is to let you know what data we hold, and to prompt you to update the information and your permission, if you wish. There is a new option enabling you to instruct us to delete all of your personal information from our records, 'the right to be forgotten', in which case you would become 'an anonymous donor'.

In order to run the charity, the Treasurer keeps a computer file containing your:

- name, postal address, and email address (if you have given one),
- phone no., Gift Aid declaration (if you have given one).

We do not hold bank account details, copies of standing orders, or date of birth (except for Trustees of the charity), nor communicate membership information to any other body.

The information is contained in a protected computer file, on a secure computer, which itself is protected by anti-virus software and internet firewall (net barrier), enabling us to:

- keep confidential records of membership subscriptions;
- compile mailing lists for printed copies of FoCAS newsletters (some members prefer printed copy, or do not have email);
- compile separate email lists for electronic transmission of newsletters (this saves considerably on postage, printing and handling charges);
- send out meeting notices, and FoCAS information approved by Trustees.

In view of the changes in data protection regulations, the FoCAS Committee think it best to reassure members that we are compliant in how we handle your data. If you wish to up-date or restrict your personal information, then please tell us by writing to:

FoCAS Treasurer, Pettitoes, Hardcragg Way, Grange-over-Sands LA11 6BH

From the Treasurer

Can I please remind those members of FoCAS who have not yet paid their membership subscription for 2018 that it was due on 1st January. Now, at mid-April, there are still 39 members who have not paid, and a further 20 who have not updated their standing orders and are still paying less than the correct amount.

For 2018 subscriptions are unchanged, as follows:

Single member £12
Two members at same address £15
Societies £15

I want to thank all of you who checked last year and corrected your standing orders or cheque payments, especially those of you who included an extra amount as donation.

If you wish to pay by cheque, please make it payable to FoCAS and post it to:

Mrs Lorna Mullett, 24 Pennine Way,
Penrith, CA11 8EE

Thank you, Ian Jones

Cumbria Archive Service update

Major changes will be taking place in Cumbria Archive Service over the next 18 months. In particular Kendal and Whitehaven Archive Centres will see significant investment that will bring a major improvement to the accommodation of our archive collections. The Council is committed to supporting four archive centres and there will be little change to the archive service's budget in the short term or any further reduction of opening hours. Further investment at all our sites will take place to ensure a sustainable Archive Service at a challenging time for local government finances. There will be an impact in terms of further closure periods and these are necessary to improve access to our rich and varied collections in the long term.

At Kendal, the creation of two new strong rooms in County Hall will enable us to bring collections into the Archive Centre from an out store. In particular the current searchroom at Kendal Archive Centre will be refitted as a strongroom. A smaller searchroom will be provided to facilitate access to manuscript collections. Popular sources held on microfilm, including parish and non-conformist registers, wills etc. will be relocated to Kendal Library where they will be available six days a week including Saturday and Wednesday evenings. The investment at Kendal will significantly improve the quality of the accommodation for collections that are of national and international importance. However a proportion of the collections will still need to be

accommodated off site in Carlisle. At Whitehaven Archive Centre space will be created to support a wider range of County Council services on the same site, including the Library, Archives, Registrars and Community Learning. The Archive Centre will benefit from new and increased strongroom accommodation.

There will be closure periods at both Kendal and Whitehaven during these construction phases. At Kendal the Archive Centre will close for six months from 2 May 2018 and re-open on 7 November. At Whitehaven the Archive Centre is expected to close towards the end of 2018 for around a year. These closure periods are necessary to allow the refurbishment/building work to proceed. Staff will concentrate on essential collections work including backlog listing, cleaning and preservation, transfer and recording the location of collections and preparing collections for digitisation.

The investment in storage facilities and a greater focus on collections management goes hand in hand with a significant increase in digitisation to improve remote access, facilitate research and the protection of irreplaceable original documents and records.

Continued at foot of page 3

From the Chair

There are a couple of items in this *Newsletter* to which I would like to draw your attention. Of great significance is the item by Peter Eyre outlining the major changes that will be taking place in the Archive Service over the next year-and-a-half. These changes will affect Kendal and Whitehaven Archive Centres in particular as they are to benefit from major investment in building and refurbishment. The result we have been informed will improve the quality of the accommodation of archives, working conditions for staff and improved access for researchers. This must be good for the Archive Service and for users. Of course, there is a flip-side, there always is. This building programme will require the closure of Kendal Archive Centre from May until November and Whitehaven will also be affected. While this will inevitably disrupt some research plans, in the longer term the Service will be able to offer a better service. Those using microfilm sources will be able to access these at the Kendal Library – six days per week (see page 2).



We are also very aware that the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is due to come into effect in May. We have researched the requirements of this and you will see a statement by Ian Jones, our Treasurer and Membership Secretary, outlining our position (see page 2). A fuller statement will form part of our Trustees Report to be made available at the Members Day and AGM (20 October at Carlisle Archive Centre). We are confident that, as a small charity, we meet the conditions set down.

May I also draw your attention – not all of you, just some! – to the position that there are still a number of members who have either not paid their 2018 subs or are still paying at the old rate. If you think that you may be one of these please do get in touch or, even better, send me a cheque – £12 individual members, £15 for a couple.

As I mentioned in my last Chair's bit, we do need to recruit more members. We are working on a new Membership application leaflet which will be available in Archive Centres – at least those that are open – but word of mouth is often still the best way. So if you know someone who is interested in archives but is not a member do try to persuade them to join.

Two words of thanks. Mary Wane has been our long-standing representative to the Cumbria County History Trust (CCHT) and has now decided to stand down. We thank Mary for her sterling service on this Committee. The Committee kindly agreed that I should take her place.

The Carlisle Archive Centre is now the proud possessor of a large number of volumes of the List and Index Society, and this acquisition has been enabled by the work of Adrian Allan (see page 4). We thank him for his work, time and travelling in order to get these valuable volumes into Carlisle – bought out of FoCAS funds!

Many thanks, Lorna

Several important concurrent projects are all in the early stages of development. These include:

- the provision of new digitisation equipment and facilities at Carlisle Archive Conservation Unit;
- the possibility of working with a major commercial partner for the digitisation of name-rich sources for genealogical research;
- seeking HLF funding in cooperation with other north west repositories for the digitisation of tithe maps and access through an online platform along with Historic Environment Record data and
- the provision of a digital preservation solution, in effect a 'digital strongroom', for the permanent preservation of digital assets deposited with the Archive Service by both the County Council and external depositors.

Alongside these major projects we shall also look to digitise other specific documents or collections for preservation and access purposes.

Given the need to focus on investing in our collections there will be an impact on our public service. In particular we will no longer be able to facilitate access to privately-held collections at Levens Hall. At Levens we are exploring the possibility of a paid research service to continue providing access to the collection with the Levens Estate.

Peter J Eyre, Community Services Manager & Robert Baxter, Senior Archivist

Of schools, farming, judges' reports on criminals – and much else

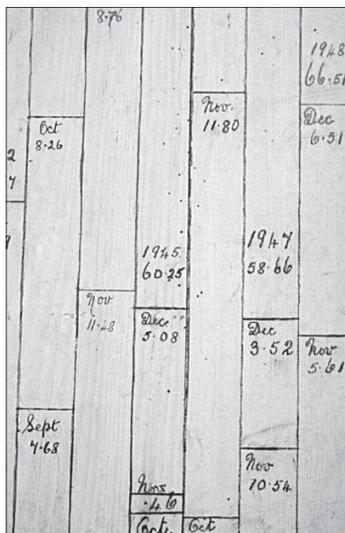
Through the grants that FoCAS has made available to the Archive Service, the Carlisle Archive Centre has recently been able to significantly enhance its holdings of lists of the archives held by The National Archives (TNA) at Kew. Besides the volumes of Calendars of State Papers, Calendars of Patent Rolls, etc. which the Dean and Chapter of Carlisle deposited with the Centre many years ago, the Centre itself subscribed to the List and Index Society in order to acquire copies of the lists and indexes of records in TNA which the Society published between 1965 and 2003. Now FoCAS's grant has enabled the Centre to acquire those 45 volumes which include references to Cumbria that the Society has subsequently published, 2004-16, including Calendars of the Patent Rolls of Queen Elizabeth, 1588-1603, Judges' reports on criminals, 1783-1811, and other volumes. In the Calendars of the Patent Rolls, one is presented with the substance (in English) of the various grants made by the Crown - for instance the licence in 1589 for Christopher Dalston to alienate lands in Inglewood Forest, Ireby, Uldale and Grinsdale, to his son; and the grant in 1601 of extensive property in the northern counties of England which had formed part of the inheritance of the Dacre family. In the Pardons and Punishments volumes, one finds such entries as that of 1807 detailing the overturn, on the appeals of Westmorland clergy and others, of a sentence of transportation passed on a naive Westmorland youth convicted of stealing cloth in London, to which he had gone for work.

Of value to a wide range of researchers are some of the other volumes, in particular those on *Schooling in England 1660 to 1850* which, in its county sections, provides an essay on the provision made for schools with appendices listing references to individual grammar and other schools to be found in the published Parliamentary Papers and the reports of the Charity Commission, noting the foundation dates and founders of schools; also the *British Farm Survey, 1941 to 1943* which reproduces the survey's report published in 1946 and, on a CD, the individual county reports which include statistical analyses of the returns, which may be consulted at TNA. Hitherto, the only institutions in the north of England to have subscribed to the List and Index Society and so to hold copies of their publications have been the Universities of Durham, Lancaster, and Liverpool; now on its open shelves in its Map Room, Carlisle Archive Centre holds all such volumes that include references to persons and places in Cumbria, a boon for researchers, whether or not they are researching the history of a parish for the Victoria County History of Cumbria. Such volumes significantly supplement the information about TNA's holdings nowadays to be found on-line, per its website.

Adrian Allan

A Unique Archive of Weather Records for Windermere

Following a dreary season of winter weather and cabin fever, I thought I might cheer you with a boring tale about rainfall, and how it was historically recorded in the first half of the 20th century at Holehird gardens, located near Windermere at the bottom end of Troutbeck Valley.

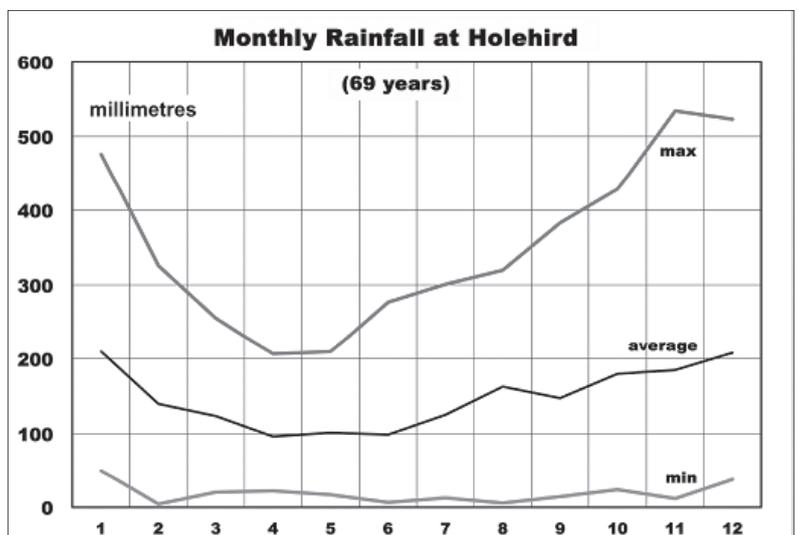


William Groves, a wealthy brewer from Alderley Edge who purchased the mansion in 1897, started systematically recording monthly rainfall in 1903. He, and later his son, kept these figures without a break until 1957, after which Leigh Groves moved out of Holehird mansion to a smaller retirement house. They left us a valuable and unique record of weather in the Lake District.

As well as keeping paper tabulations of the rainfall in the gardens, the gardeners were persuaded to transcribe the measurements on to planks of wood. They marked out the boards in parallel strips about an inch wide, one strip per year. Working up from the bottom, they added each month's rainfall until they had a complete year. Then they started on a new strip alongside the previous one until the plank was full, usually five or six years on a single plank. The scale they used was

one-to-one! That meant that since the average rainfall at Holehird is around six feet per year, they routinely employed planks of wood seven feet long to allow for wet years.

But inevitably these proved insufficient in some years. In 1928 it became necessary to extend the board upwards to plot nearly nine feet of rain! Can you imagine it? Even the Troutbeck Giant would have submerged in such a colossal depth of water. By contrast, 1933 was a 'dry' year with just over four feet of rain. But to put it in context, that's still twice the average annual rainfall in London!



Captions. Left: Close-up image of one of the rainfall boards at Holehird (complete with woodworm) Right: Monthly graph of rainfall over 69 years

After 1957 there was a gap of nearly half a century until the Lakeland Horticultural Society, who now lease the gardens, installed a modern weather station. This recorded a comprehensive set of weather parameters - air and soil temperature, hours of sunshine and solar intensity, wind conditions, humidity and rainfall. These are parameters which contribute to the better understanding of growing conditions. They were recorded every 30 minutes, transferred at the end of each month to computer, and are now available online for anyone to see via the Holehird Gardens website.

After a dozen years of reliable operation, that weather station has worn out. It was replaced last year by a new fully automatic station that measures the same range of parameters, but communicates them continuously and wirelessly, in realtime. Anyone with a computer, tablet or smart phone anywhere in the world can view the present up-to-the-minute state of weather at Windermere, as well as all the archived historic records. Look for the 'Weather' button in the 'Gardens' page of the Holehird website:

holehirdgardens.org.uk

Jones-the-Weather

The Poor Law, Small Bills and Petty Finance, 1700–1834

Through itemised shop bills, Small Bills and Petty Finance 1700-1834 is a study of ordinary people who have been left out of history. It presents an exciting and innovative approach to research by involving archival volunteers in academic historical enquiry. The project is a collaboration between the universities of Keele and Sussex and the archive services of Cumbria, East Sussex and Staffordshire. Its aim is to investigate the provision of goods and services needed to keep the poor alive under the Old Poor Law.

Before the modern welfare system each parish was responsible for providing food, clothes, housing and medical care for the sick, infirm and old and to support those who found themselves unemployed, or whose income was insufficient to maintain their dependants. This generated a huge amount of paperwork, much of it in the form of bills and receipts or overseers' vouchers. For the most part, these vouchers lie uncatalogued and unused in county archives. Collectively, however, they form a rich source of information on the daily activities of local communities and offer enormous potential for family and local historians.

The project seeks to 'unpack' the vouchers both physically and intellectually and to use them as starting points to uncover incidents and episodes in the lives and livelihoods of ordinary people who by accident, misfortune or design were affected by, or came into contact with, the Old Poor Law. In doing so, the project will provide evidence of different groups in society about whom little is known before the 1841 Census and who in other respects have left little in the way of documentary sources.

Following a successful pilot scheme in Staffordshire financed by Keele University's Impact Fund and the Jack Leighton Charitable Trust, 'Small Bills and Petty Finance' is being significantly expanded thanks to generous funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council. It is being co-ordinated by Professor Alannah Tomkins and Dr Peter Collinge (Keele) and Professor Tim Hitchcock and Dr Louise Falcini (Sussex). Professor Tomkins is delighted and surprised by the detail contained within the vouchers: 'Properly 'hidden from history': who would have thought dusty receipts could be so useful?', adding 'Very little is known about the midwives, tailors, workhouse mistresses, butchers and others who serviced the parish, and this research sets out to redress this imbalance'.

The project is seeking archival volunteers to unfold, read and enter the contents of the overseers' vouchers into a searchable database. During the three-year project volunteers will be provided with on-going support and opportunities to contribute to its outputs including writing blog entries, developing study and research skills and learning from each other's knowledge and experience. Our ambition is to collect information from over 100,000 vouchers, and to use this to write over 1,000 biographies of the local people who were in receipt of assistance as well as those involved in delivering goods and services to them. The findings will be made available through a dedicated website and will also link up to the FindMyPast genealogy site.

By bringing together academics, archivists, community groups and individuals interested in family and local history, it is hoped that the collaboration between universities and county record offices will provide a model for other similar projects.

If you would like more information about the project or are interested in volunteering, please email Dr Peter Collinge at p.r.collinge@keele.ac.uk.

Peter Collinge

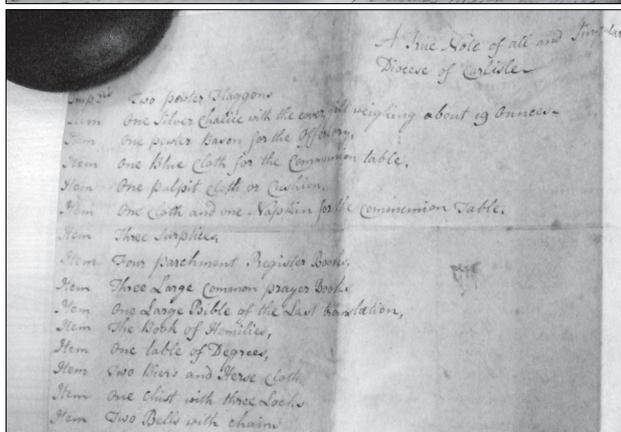
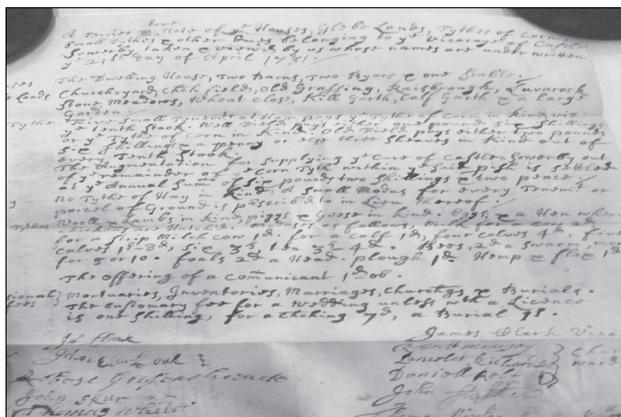


John Dempsey, Crossing Sweeper, c. 1820 © Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

Parish packets – perhaps a neglected source for the history of a parish?

In a series of over 300 packets of 'parish deeds, terriers and inventories', the Carlisle Archive Centre holds an important class of record of the diocese of Carlisle (ref. DRC 22) which usually supplement the surviving records of individual parishes. These notes are based on my work, as a volunteer, checking the contents of the packets to supplement the Centre's list of the packets to note their covering dates and exceptional contents. It should be noted that at any one time some of these packets may be with the diocese's Registrar and that access to the packets is ordinarily restricted to those who are researching an article on the parish in question for VCH Cumbria.

Since the Middle Ages, it has been a requirement that bishops conduct periodic visitations of their dioceses. In a canon of the Church of England in 1571, a duty to make and present copies of terriers of the property of individual churches was enjoined; in the diocese of Carlisle, such terriers, drawn up by the incumbent and the churchwardens, were normally presented on the occasion of the bishop's visitations and form a principal element of the parish packets, the earliest dating from 1579 (for Addingham). Generally speaking, relatively few copies of such terriers can be found amongst the records of individual parishes. In addition, we are fortunate that William Nicolson, who as bishop of Carlisle (1702-18) exceptionally held regular visitations in 1704, 1707, 1710, and 1713, compiled a record, *Miscellany Accounts of the Diocese of Carlisle, with the Terriers delivered in to me at my Primary Visitation [in 1704] by William Nicolson, late Bishop of Carlisle*, which, in an edition by Richard S Ferguson, was published by CWAAS in 1877; this text reproduces the text of over a half a dozen glebe terriers of 1704, copies of which do not survive in the DRC 22 sequence.



Captions. Top: Terrier of Castle Sowerby vicarage, 21 April 1731 (Carlisle Archive Centre, DRC 22/71) By permission of Registrar of the Diocese of Carlisle. Bottom: Note of the goods, ornaments and utensils belonging to Dalston Parish Church, 6 July 1776 (Carlisle Archive Centre, DRC 22/95) By permission of Registrar of the Diocese of Carlisle

The quality of information in the terriers varies considerably but in every case where glebe land exists it is described, so revealing agricultural systems and the enclosure of fields which might otherwise be unrecorded. A significant minority describe livings' buildings in some detail, often recording their dimensions and whether they are thatched or slated. In 1682 Bromfield recorded that the vicarage had a kitchen, hall, parlour and buttery below, with four chambers above and a study above the entry; Matterdale's vicarage in 1777 was still thatched; Dean records that before its 'mansion house', barns and cowhouses were (re)built in 1757-67, all of them, except the house, had been thatched; Dacre's curate records that in 1712 he and his parishioners built a residence and laid out a garden; unusually, Edenhall in 1731 added that the living included an orchard 'in which is only one old pear tree and a few gooseberry and wineberry trees'; Orton, Westmorland, which by 1749 had a slated dwelling house (51ft x 19ft within the walls), recorded in its 1878 terrier that it was rebuilt (50.5ft x 37.5ft) on a new site in 1862; and in 1776, during the incumbency of Dr William Paley, the noted philosopher and theologian (author of *View of the Evidences of Christianity*, 1794), Dalston recorded that his house, brewhouse, stable and barn were 'at present going to be rebuilt'.

Some of the barns (tithe and hay, etc.) were clearly substantial buildings. In 1704 Castle Carrock recorded a parsonage house and a large tythe barn and a little barn with a stable adjoining to the end of it 'with a new Shield house', all lately built by the present incumbent, besides a little hay barn and byre, its 1749 terrier recording the two barns as 32yds in length. In 1777 Greystoke recorded two thatched barns, one 26yds long, the other 20yds long; and Kirkland in 1731 recorded a thatched barn 31yds long.

Dalston is one of those parishes whose terriers additionally record the tithes payable by parishioners – a tithe of pigs and geese still being paid in kind in 1732 – whereas Scaleby's terrier in 1730 lists the prescriptions paid by named individuals in lieu

of corn and hay tithe payable on St Bartholomew's Day (24 August). The packet for St Lawrence, Appleby, includes a valuation of the corn, hay, etc. tithes due to the vicar, dated August 1816, listing the names of the landlords and occupiers and the acreages of barley, wheat, etc., for each individual township.

Some early terriers enumerate churches' plate and furnishings, those of the latter half of the 20th century very occasionally supplementing their lists with photographs or perhaps a full record created by members of NADFAS (National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies). Clearly the wholesale destruction of church art and furnishings at the Reformation resulted in exceptionally few chalices and other church plate surviving. Nowadays, Carlisle Cathedral's Treasury displays the communion cups and other church plate of a selection of individual parishes, including a 14th century holy-water stoup from Wreay Church (which may have originated in Suffolk or Essex), a 15th century chalice from Old Hutton, and communion cups and other vessels dating from the reign of Queen Elizabeth I onwards. Though in the post-Reformation period churches would be expected to have had copies of various texts

including a 14th century holy-water stoup from Wreay Church (which may have originated in Suffolk or Essex), a 15th century chalice from Old Hutton, and communion cups and other vessels dating from the reign of Queen Elizabeth I onwards. Though in the post-Reformation period churches would be expected to have had copies of various texts besides the Bible and the Book of Common Prayer, it is only on occasion that they are noted as at Appleby St Lawrence which in 1749 (and later) recorded Bishop Burnet's two volume *History of the Reformation* and Foxe's three volume *Acts and Monuments*. Also exceptional are Dalston's listing in 1776 of 14 titles of collections of published sermons, etc., Bampton's 1718 catalogue of the parish library and the account and catalogue of the ancient library of Cartmel Priory Church which Sam Taylor and David Ramage (University Librarian, Durham) respectively produced (2nd ed., 1959). This parish packet usefully also including copies of histories of Cartmel Priory Church by Canon John Dickinson (a former President of CWAAS) and others. Unexpected details of religious affiliation are provided by Burgh-by-Sands whose 1704 terrier, besides recording that its vicarage house was in repair, noted that 'besides Quakers, we have these Dissenters in our parish [listing eight persons] who neither come to church nor baptise their children with us' and by Orton, Westmorland, which in an undated terrier possibly of a similar date also makes reference to Quakers.

Besides the series of terriers, the parish packets in some cases include such records as the sentences (pronounced by the bishop) of consecration of churches and churchyards (and their extensions), with associated plans, generally dating from the 19th and 20th centuries and, in more recent decades, copies of the Privy Council's authorisations of the amalgamation of livings, and in several cases ecumenical agreements for the sharing of church premises (as in the case of the parish of Lamplugh with Ennerdale and Kirkland Methodist Church, 1995). Also in the same sequence of packets are the sentences of consecration and associated plans and papers concerning civic and other cemeteries, including Carlisle Cemetery, 1855, Kendal Cemetery, 1868, and Workington Cemetery, 1878. In the instance of the clearance or proposed clearance of tombstones and memorials from graveyards in the mid-20th century and later, one normally finds a transcript of the inscriptions on the stones, usually with an associated plan of the graveyard, as at Holy Trinity, Whitehaven, in 1950, St James, Whitehaven, in 1955, Stanwix in 1958, Maryport in 1959, Kendal St George in 1960, Penrith [St Andrew's] in 1962, Moresby in 1964, Flimby in 1968, and Holm Cultram and St John's, Workington, in 1969.

Correspondence where it is to be found in the parish packets generally dates from the 20th century and the current century, a notable exception being Stainmore whose packet, besides the Earl of Thanet's deed of endowment of February 1699/1700 to augment the stipend of the Schoolmaster and Curate, includes letters addressed to the Secretary of the Bishop of Carlisle and others concerning the building of the chapel, the filling of the post of Curate and Schoolmaster, the churching of women at home, and other subjects, 1691-1746. Letters testimonial together with nominations and related papers concerning a number of the clergy at Mansergh survive from the 18th century while St John's Workington packet includes nominations of clergy to perform the office of Stipendiary Curate, 1824-34. Though not correspondence, Maryport's packet provides one with the signatures of all those who acquired pews in Maryport's new chapel in October 1762, a schedule of the owners of the pews being listed on the dorse of Articles of Agreement which Humphrey Senhouse of Netherhall entered into with them. Kirkby Lonsdale's packet includes a return of faculty commissioners relating to the allotment of pews etc. in the church in 1811, this document incorporating a plan of the church registering the numbers of the pews which had been erected and allotted to named persons. In the case of Torpenhow church, details are given of the messuages and tenements in respect of which the pews and sittings were awarded to named individuals in 1823.

The earliest record found in the sequence of parish packets is the unique letters testimonial of the consecration of the chapel of the Virgin Mary, Crosthwaite, Westmorland, by Cuthbert Scott, Catholic Bishop of Chester (in whose diocese Crosthwaite then was), in January 1557. A former Master of Christ's College, Cambridge, Cuthbert Scott, an eloquent preacher, was to lead resistance to the Oath of Supremacy in Queen Elizabeth's first Parliament, and in consequence to be deprived of his see in June 1559.

Adrian Allan

Useful Information

FOCAS Office holders

Patron	Claire Hensman, Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria
President	Lord Inglewood
Chair	Lorna Mullett, 01768 840903, wastwater@talktalk.net
Vice President	Mary Wane, Email: mwane22@phonecoop.coop
Vice Chair	Susan Dench, 279, Newtown Road, Carlisle CA2 7LS, 01228 524600
Secretary	Adrian Allan, The Golden Fleece, Carleton, Carlisle, CA4 0AN
Treasurer	Ian Jones, Pettitoes, Hardcrag Way, Grange over Sands, Cumbria, LA11 6BH
Editor	Jean Turnbull, 61 Bellingham Road, Kendal, LA9 5JY, jean2.turnbull@btinternet.com
Webmaster	Mike Winstanley. Melandmike73@gmail.com
Research grants	Adrian Allan, The Golden Fleece, Carleton, Carlisle
Membership	Ian Jones
Committee/Trustees	Roger Bingham, Rod Grimshaw, Ian Moonie, Diana Mathews, Rob David plus officers above except Patron and President
Website	www.friendsofcumbriaarchives.org.uk

Deadlines for copy for the Newsletter are:

1 April (May edition); 1 September (October edition); 1 December (January edition)

News from the Cumbria Archive Service

Kendal Archive Centre

Cataloguing the Crackanthorpe Archives (WDCRK) – first stage

The Crackanthorpes are an ancient family who held the same estate, including the manors of Newbiggin (Westmorland) and Ouseby (Cumberland), from the early middle ages through to the mid-20th century. The muniments include medieval deeds, documents relating to monastic houses (most notably the Cistercian Abbey of Holm Cultram), several royal charters, later deeds, wills, manorial records, maps, correspondence and legal and financial records.

In 2014, a volume comprising transcripts of many Crackanthorpe deeds, dating from the 12th to the 17th centuries, was generously donated (WDCRK/15) to Kendal Archive Centre (KAC). Owing to the fragile nature of the pages, the full transcripts and translations of the deeds therein, were entered on to CASCAT, our online catalogue, to assist with the cataloguing process of the original medieval Latin deeds, many of which, are also held here at KAC (WDCRK/1/1). Originally, comprising four libers or books, they were bound in the mid-17th century, according to a note at the start of the volume, by Dayrell Crackanthorpe. The author of the volume may have been Thomas Milborn, who in 1652 certified a transcript of a copy of an Acquittance (WDCRK/15/3/40). He may have been the same Thomas Milborne of Penrith who educated Sir Daniel Fleming of Rydal (Memoirs: CWAAS, Tract Series XI, 1928).

Highlights, to date, include:

- Some unusual early personal names, such as: Colemamri, Aynetuit and Anketini (forebear of the Denton family);
- Typically, many of the documents are concerned with donation of land to an abbey or church. A grant from Gilbert Engain of Kirkbythore and Eve, his wife, to the Abbey of Holmcoltram, includes as a witness, 'P de Piperno, Magister' (WDCRK/15/4/24/2 & WDCRK/1/1/14). Magister is a university conferred title, giving licence to teach and there is reference to a person of the same surname: 'Mandate to Master Peter de Piperno, papal chaplain, living in England, to collect from the archbishops, bishops, and other prelates of England the subsidy in aid of the Roman church, and pay it over to the members of a firm of Florentine merchants living in England' (Calendar of papal registers relating to GB etc.1198-1304, 2 Urban IV [c.1262] 13 Kal. April. Lateran. (f. 29d) An Septimo (fn.1);
- William de Crackanthorpe gave Robert de Merton, Rector of Newbiggin Church, lands etc. and a bovate of land had by feoffment of Aliche Robnedoutir. The suffix doutir may derive from the phonetically spelt Old Norse dottir or daughter of Robin (WDCRK/15/3/16/1);
- Offcomers were identified with the surname le Strange. A mix of old English and recently arrived post-conquest French surnames occurs in the 12th century deeds and care is taken in the opening greeting of the deed to be all inclusive: one of the earliest deeds, which may date from the late 12th century, is addressed by Waldeve son of Gamel, son of Whelp, to 'all his men and friends of Westmorland, French and English ...'. Parties and witnesses include French names such as Taillebois and Engaine. Elsewhere, offcomers are more obviously described by their country of origin: le Fraunceys and Francigena (WDCRK/15/4/1);
- There is a single, brief and intriguing entry at the start of the volume: 'A grant from Robert de Mowbray Comes Westm[er]land to Robert of Appleby of half a carrucat of lande in Renegill: wch Robert was lord of Newbiggin' (WDCRK/15/2/1). Could the first party be the infamous Robert de Mowbray, known for his part in a rebellion in 1095, or, was he a later, non-bloodline, de Mowbray? The second party of the deed, Robert the steward of Appleby, maybe the same Robert dapifer or steward of Hugh Morvill, documented in 1155/6 (*The History and Antiquities of ... Westmorland and Cumberland*, Nicholson & Burn, 1777 p.27). In *TCWAAS*, vol. 22, 1922 p.286, Rev Frederick W Ragg, referring to the same 'grant from Robert de Mowbray comes Westmorland to Robert de Appleby', comments: 'This grantee could only be Robert, seneschal of Appleby, father of Lawrence de Newbiggin, or his father, also named Robert, who is the only one of the name that fits; and Robert de Mowbray, earl of Northumberland, could not be the grantor. He had been deprived and imprisoned for not a few years and he died in imprisonment in about 1105. Roger de Mowbray it could be, and I suspect that the charter was probably in the contracted name Ro. de Molbray[sic], as not a few early charters are and that the writer of descriptions guessed at the name'; Alan, fl 1200-1234, aka Alan of Galloway and Alan fitz Roland, was son of Roland (his French name), aka Lochlan or Lachlan (d1200). Descended from King Henry I of England, Roland was in the household of the King of Scotland, and used the title 'Constable of the King of Scots'. Alan's mother, Helena, was niece of Hugh de Morville, involved in the murder of Thomas Becket in 1170. As the last hereditary Lord of Galloway and Constable of Scotland, Alan was one of the most influential political and military men in Scotland and in England, was an advisor to King John, being involved with the drawing up of Magna Carta and the troubles in the North. He was also a generous religious patron;
- A document survives from Pope Adrian VI (1459-1523), in the form of a licence granted to George Crackanthorpe, Parson of Newbiggin, authorising him to hold more than one benefice. The only non-Italian (Dutch) pope; until John Paul II in 1978, Adrian de Agazine, was pope only from 9 Jan 1522 until 14 Sep 1523 and most of his official papers were lost after his death (WDCRK/1/1/61 & copy: WDCRK/15/3/22/2);
- The existence of gypsum was obviously known from early times in the Kirkby Thore area. The Old English (ie pre-Norman Conquest) name of spar stan or gypsum stone occurs as a place name in some of the deeds (eg Sparstanrigg[e] WDCRK/15/3/12, dated 1329). In addition, two deeds in the transcript volume (WDCRK/15/4/40/2 & WDCRK/15/4/42/2) refer to 'saucia', literally translated as wounds, which could be interpreted as scarred ground or scrapings. It is possible that these pits may have been the forerunners of the gypsum mining or quarrying industry long associated with Kirkby Thore;

- The bounds of Shap Abbey are delineated, in 1249, as part of an agreement, following a contention, between Lord Patrick, son of Thomas, Patron of the Abbey of the Vale of St Madlin and the abbey and convent of Shap Abbey (WDCRK/15/4/17). It is resolved that the Abbey is granted 'the whole Valley of Sleddale'. Hunting conditions are given and Bounds include the 'rivolets' of Suremuresike and Roger Scalebek. In addition a 'whole Commun of Mosse, More, Bosce and Pasture' is given '..... From the Head of the Water of Great Mosedale towards the South and East unto the Pasture of the Monks of Belleland from ye divises of Kendall unto Swindalebek unto the water of Louther Except the Bosce under the Tunghe in Mosedale'.

Further detail can be found on our online catalogue: <http://archiveweb.cumbria.gov.uk/calmview/>. NB: Access to original text of the transcript volume (WDCRK 15) is available only by surrogate. Please ask staff for further details.

Claire Hooson, Archivist

Barrow Archive and Local Studies Centre

We have a good number of volunteers working in the Archive Centre in Barrow. Some are former members of staff who continue to come in once a week to produce indexes to various collections or to work on a particular collection. Others are researchers who have offered to help us. Thanks to volunteers we have indexes to marriages in the Ulverston Registration District 1864-1872; 1911-1916; 1938-1953 and 1977-1986; indexes to the births and deaths at Ulverston Workhouse; indexes to Barrow-in-Furness, Dalton-in-Furness and Ulverston cemeteries and staff who worked for Royal Mail and Furness Railway. Two volunteers are cataloguing slides and photographs held by the Local Studies Library and a third volunteer is cleaning and repackaging glass slides. The Local Studies Library collected a large number of pamphlets and leaflets which is now being catalogued and will eventually be available on CASCAT. None of these name-rich sources would have been indexed without these volunteers.

Like many Archive Centres we are involved in a number of projects run by various arts and heritage groups. Usually we run training sessions for volunteers, who will then do the research or hold drop-in sessions to gather information for the projects. At the moment we are working with Mirador Arts of Lancaster on the Elizabeth Roberts Oral History project 'Walking in others' Footsteps'. Elizabeth was born and brought up in Barrow, attending Barrow Grammar School for Girls. She spent a number of years in the 1970s and 1980s recording memories from people living in Barrow, Lancaster and Preston. The resulting transcripts are now being digitised by Lancaster University so that they are readily available to researchers around the world. While writing this, I am listening to people talking to Steve Fairclough about food, family, football and funerals. The project will also result in a film based on Barrow, Lancaster and Preston as well as an arts project involving the old-fashioned hair dryers that used to be found in hairdressers. When visitors sit under the hair dryer, they will hear snippets from the oral history archive

Signal Films is a local arts and media company which has run a number of heritage and arts projects: Lost Stations looked at the lost stations of Barrow and this resulted in short animated film created by Barrow Island School which won a national award. Their present project is Market Tales in which they are looking at the former Barrow Market and the present one. As well as collecting photographs and stories of the market, Signal films are running a creative writing project in order to produce a series of plays which will be performed in the market.

Salty Yarns is a project being run by Rachel Capovila and the Octopus Collective based in Barrow Park. Geared towards exploring tales of the sea which have been passed down through generations, the project will end with an exhibition showcasing the work created by the artists and community. The project is based on Roa Island and in Rampside.

Interesting accessions

Outgate Reading Room was built in 1905 and sold for housing in 2012. The former secretary has deposited a series on minute books, accounts and history of the building and the activities which took place there. (BDSO 164).

Ten years Minewatching: A history of the Barrow-in-Furness unit 1952-1961 by Leading Minewatcher Peter R Wilkinson (BDX 779)

John Reginald Ivinson of Barrow-in-Furness: Biography compiled by his daughter; apprenticeship papers as electrician in Vickers Ltd; passports, ID cards; postcards; log book of his visit to Argentina 1941-1943; Home Guard papers; photographs; computer card (BDX 776)

Mike Garforth Photographic Collection Photographs of Barrow-in-Furness including town centre, Hindpool, Barrow Island, Walney, Roose and Salthouse 1970s-1980s (BDP 175)

Susan Benson, Archivist

Archive Centre Volunteers

The regular reports provided by the four archive centres in Cumbria for this publication demonstrate the valuable service provided by a small army of volunteers. In this issue of the FOCaS *Newsletter* various volunteer projects (both completed and ongoing) are mentioned in some detail.

I am sure FOCaS members would be interested in finding out more about archive centre volunteers and their experiences. This might be a piece from an experienced volunteer who has worked within the archive service for many years on various projects, or from someone relatively new to volunteering.

If you are you a volunteer in one of the Cumbria Archive Service centres and would be interested in writing about your experiences with a view to having it included in a future edition of the FOCaS Newsletter please contact me.

Jean Turnbull, Editor, FOCaS Newsletter (see page 7 for contact details)

News from Whitehaven Archives and Local Studies Centre

Outreach and education activities

Since the beginning of the year we have had several visits to Whitehaven Archive Centre from children and young adults. Whenever I host a visit here I always give the children, their teachers and support staff a tour of our searchroom. This is always a highlight of the visit and I am always amazed at what questions the children ask and what observations they make. When handing around some 'new' examples of parchment the children are asked to think about what it is. One young girl suggested it was a sheet of lasagne which I thought was quite a good observation as well as being funny! Here is a brief summary of recent visits:

Mrs Fawcett's class from Bookwell School, Egremont, have been learning about life in Victorian times which we complemented with activities based on the town of Egremont and Whitehaven Workhouse. We looked at old maps, directories, photographs, census records and workhouse registers. Our Workhouse story box has been loaned to the school to help the children continue with their learning on the subject.

We had two visits in January and February organised by Prism Arts funded by Heritage Lottery Fund. Studio Theatre members, together with pupils of Distington and Seascale Primary Schools, visited the archives. They were interested in finding out about the changes that took place to towns and villages in West Cumbria as a result of the nuclear industry. I gave a short Powerpoint presentation followed by a number of activities looking at copies of old newspapers, maps, directories, parish records and rate books. As the latter include mentions of bathing huts the children were asked to draw their interpretations of a bathing hut, the most ingenious being one which provided a swimming pool on top! In March, Beckermet Cubs and Scouts visited the archives in the evening. They took part in a number of local history activities, which will help them complete and achieve their 'Local Knowledge Activity Badge'.



The story of strike action of Cleator Mill girls during World War One was featured as one of the stories to mark WomensWork100 which was run by Imperial War Museum. The story can be read at:

<http://www.1914.org/womenswork100/stories/the-1915-strike-at-ainsworth-mill-cleator/>

Jacqueline Moore, Community Services Officer

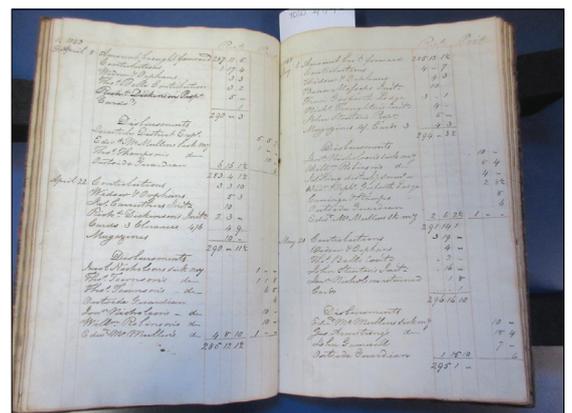
Captions. Top: Our Whitehaven Workhouse Portable Museum. Centre: Some of the ladies proudly displaying their shield-shaped 'National Federation of Women Workers' badges (TUC Archives). Bottom: Oddfellows Lodge book entries for April-May 1843, YDSO 2/9/2/3

Recent accessions

New accessions include Whitehaven Miners Lock Out Choir tour journal, 1923 (YDX 562); Earl of Egremont Oddfellows Lodge receipts and disbursements book (YDSO 2/9/2/3); Whitehaven St James pew rent certificates, 1753-1828 (YPR 17); East Prospect of Whitehaven drawn by Matthias Read, 1738 (roll backed on linen); Workington Grammar School photograph, 1947 (YDS 53); Cleator St Leonard's graveyard plan, 1947 and confirmation register, 1934-1967 (YPR 24); miscellaneous records collected by the *Whitehaven News* including mortgage for property on Roper Lane, 1769 and portraits of editors, [early 20th century] (YDB 99); Whitehaven Maritime Festival papers, 1999-2004 (YDSO 182); Theatre Royal, Whitehaven poster, 1930 (YDB 97); Soroptomist International, Whitehaven and District branch, additional records (YDSO 62); Whitehaven Local History Society records, 1997-2016 (YDSO 183); Letters of Percy Kelly to Bill Hamilton, 1974-1993 (YDX 716); Whitehaven Rambling Club minutes, 2014-2016 (YDSO 24); additional research papers on the Lewthwaite family of Broadgate, Millom (YDLEW); Cleator Moor St John's marriages, 2009-2015 (YPR 25); school exam certificates for a pupil at the Earl of Lonsdale School, Whitehaven, 1886-1889 (YDX 722); Lorton Women's Institute additional records, 1999-2017 (YDSO 74); title deeds for 30 Springfield Road, Bigrigg, 1955-2002 (YDX 723).

Newly catalogued material

Thanks to the FOCAS donation fund, we were able to purchase from a local bookseller the receipts and disbursements book, 1838-1853, for The Earl of Egremont Lodge (ref: YDSO 2/9/2/3). This interesting record of the finances of the Egremont branch of the Oddfellows records amounts given to the local orphans and widows fund and names individual members of the Oddfellows in receipt of benefits while ill (noted as 'sick m[one]y'). A look through the volume reveals other expenses, like rosettes, almanacs and the funeral fund. This book pre-dates all our other holdings for the Earl of Egremont Lodge,



including minute books, which begin in 1890. The Manchester Unity of Oddfellows was formed in Manchester in 1812 for social and welfare reasons, and was registered as a society in 1851. The welfare function of this friendly society included making sickness and death benefit payments to members and assisting widows, orphans and destitute members. The Order of Oddfellows was established in Cumberland in 1833, and lodges in West Cumberland operated for the most part under the Cockermouth and Whitehaven Districts. As well as providing its members and families with a welfare safety net, members were able to participate in regular monthly lodge meetings which included the singing of society songs and participation in and wearing of pseudo-freemasonic rituals and regalia.

Diane Hodgson, Archivist

Volunteers and Archive Discover Evenings

A group of volunteers at Whitehaven Archive Centre continue working on three major surname-rich indexing projects. The last few volumes of Cockermouth Poor Law Union admission and discharge registers are being indexed and when finished will complete databases for the three Poor Law Unions covered by the Whitehaven office – Whitehaven, Cockermouth and Bootle.

Meanwhile the doggedly determined quartet (including a new recruit in March) who are tackling the crew list indexing reached a bit of a milestone late last year when they finished transcribing the crew lists for the first hundred vessels in our collection. Only 400 left to do!

For those who have had their fill of trying to make out the Victorian handwriting there is the newspaper indexing for the World War Two years to get on with. Three of our volunteers are working on this, picking out references to people and events related to the war which were reported in the *Whitehaven News* at the time. The World War One index, which took 18 months to complete some years ago has proved invaluable to researchers, and we're sure this new index will prove just as useful.

Two undergraduate students from Lancaster University have just begun the annual cataloguing placement to list the Percy Kelly letters in more detail. They will be here for the equivalent of a week working on the 1984 bundle (reference YDX 427/1/2).

Monthly open nights at Whitehaven Archive and Local Studies Centre continue to attract visitors on the third Tuesday of each month. February's open night saw record numbers, with 54 visitors coming along to our first ever film night. We were lucky enough to have film of Whitehaven town centre in the 1970s given to us. Shot by local businessman Mr Mason of Roper Street, his film showed some of the shops along King Street, but most of it showed the demolition and rebuilding of the site opposite his shop, which started life as the Co-op and is now Wilkinson's. Mr Mason was guest of honour at the showing and provided some commentary. We also showed film of the La'al Ratty from our collection, the last steam train arriving at Whitehaven, and some film hired for the occasion from the BFI.

Lesley Park, Archives Assistant

Local History Month events, May 2018

Exhibitions/ Displays (1st to 31st May unless otherwise stated)

Three Cumbrian ladies. The lives of Catherine Marshall, Margaret Llewellyn-Davies and Theodora Wilson Wilson (Kendal Library)
Memory Lane – Old Streets of Ulverston (Ulverston Library)
The RAF at 100 and low flying across the Lake District (Windermere Library)
160 years – the history of Sedbergh Library (Sedbergh Library)
Displays of local photographs at Milnthorpe, Kirkby Lonsdale & Grange libraries
Steaming Along; railway photos around Carlisle (Carlisle Library)
Carrs of Carlisle (21st May – 14th June, Carlisle Library)

Talks and guided walks

No charge or booking required:

2 May *Penrith Poor Law Workhouse*, Lorna Mullett (Penrith Library, 2.00pm)
9 May *Penrith and the '45 – The Adventures of Robinson*, Michael Mullett (Penrith Library, 2.00pm)
16 May *Arthur Ransome: not all 'Swallows and Amazons'*, Rob Mathews (Penrith Library, 2.00pm)
30 May *Michael Faraday – a northern scientist*, John Smith (Penrith Library, 2.00pm)

Booking and/ or payment required (contact the relevant library):

2 May Talk on recent publication A-Z of Cumbria and the Lake District on Film 2016, David Banning (Kendal Library, 3.00pm) Tickets £1
3 May *Servant Life in Carlisle*, Stephen White (Currock House, Carlisle 1.30pm). Tickets £2. Contact Carlisle Library
3 May *Kendal at War 1939-1945: an oral history*, Jean Turnbull (Kendal Library, 2.30pm) Tickets £1
10 May *Life in Kendal Yards: an oral history*, Peter Holme (Kendal Library, 2.30pm) Tickets £1
11 May Guided tour of the Yards of Kendal, John Bateson (Meet at Kendal Library 10.00am) Tickets £2 payable on the day
17 May *It were like this me lass: an oral history of life in Kendal*, Peter Holme (Kendal Library, 2.30pm) Tickets £1
24 May *Rural Life in South Lakeland in the early 20th century: an oral history*, Jean Turnbull (Kendal Library, 2.30pm) Tickets £1
30 May Local History Day at Ambleside Library – various events (Contact 015394 32507 for more details)
30 May Local History walk along Walney Channel from the Dock Museum for families (2.00pm). Contact Barrow Library and Archives on 01229 407377

Book Support Volunteer Project

Cumbria's archive collections include many historic books some dating back as far as the 13th century and almost all of these are available for public researchers to consult. These books contain unique handwritten records; there is no other copy in existence, so Archive Staff need to ensure that no damage occurs to them while the books are being read. One very common cause of permanent damage to the binding is unsympathetic opening and the lack of support that comes from opening an old binding flat on a table. The stresses and strains placed on the binding by forcing it flat cause spines to split and fall off, boards to become loose and can even cause the book to split in half, not only causing serious damage to these archives, but generating more work for the Conservation team to repair the damage.



The solution is to place the book on wedge-shaped supports that spread the weight of the book, taking pressure off the spine and allowing the book to open to an angle it is comfortable with. A volunteer project run by the Conservation Unit based at Carlisle Archive Centre has made beanbag-style cushions, designed to naturally form a supportive shape when placed under a book. The polystyrene beads take up a position conforming to the shape of the book, rather than researchers having to use foam wedges to approximate a sympathetic support. An added bonus is that the cushions are designed to present the open volume on a slight incline, making the angle a little easier to read from.



Joan Perrin, a longstanding volunteer with the Conservation Unit, has so far sewn eight cushions in two different sizes, and plans to make another eight so we can have four of the new cushions in each Archive Centre. Cumbria Archive Service is grateful for the support of Stead McAlpin who generously donated the material, and to Joan who has given her time and sewing skills to make this project a success.



They are extremely easy to use: just place the cushion with the label in the bottom right corner, lay the book on top in a semi-closed position at the point you want to read from, and settle the spine into the middle of the cushion making a 'V' shaped depression, then open the book.

**Tony King, Senior Conservator,
Cumbria Archive Service**

Captions. Left: New book cushions ready to go.
Right top: Book cushions in action.

Instructions for use:

- Step 1: Place the cushion with the label facing towards you on the right hand side;
- Step 2: Hold the book semi-closed at the point you wish to read and lower it into the cushion;
- Step 3: Open the book to a point where the boards are fully supported.

