



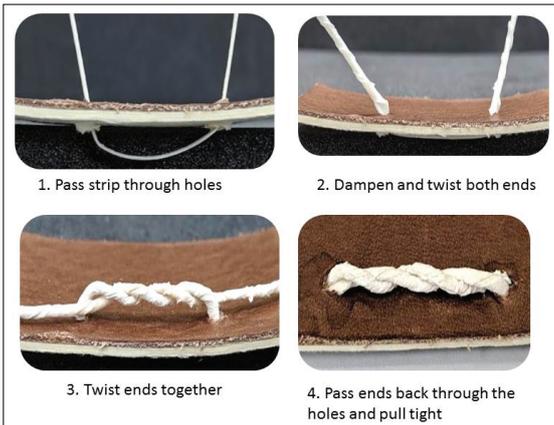
Charity No 1011624

FOCAS 106

October 2019

Conservation Training Workshop at Carlisle Archive Centre

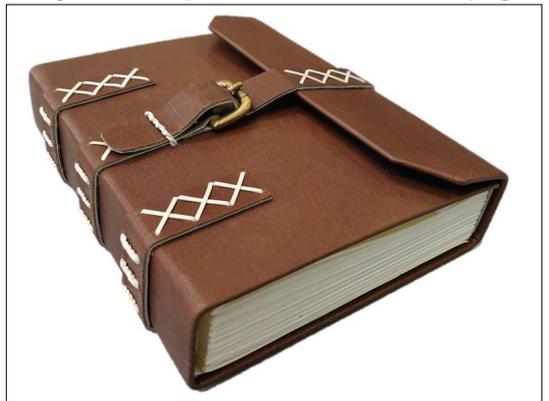
In July the Conservation Unit based at Carlisle Archive Centre hosted a two-day training event in conjunction with the Archives and Records Association. Cumbria's Conservators (Tony King and Fay Humphreys) were joined by Richard Nichols, Senior Conservator at Staffordshire Archives and together provided an exploration of a little-known bookbinding style. The eight delegates had the opportunity to make a scale model of a binding inspired by the Dormont Book and during the process (see image on right), Tony, Fay and Richard gave talks and demonstrations highlighting features of the binding or explaining their research on the history of the binding style.



The first day began with a talk by Richard Nichols who looked at the use of tackets in bookbindings found in Staffordshire's collection. Tackets are short, thin strips of parchment which were used to attach documents together - like an early staple. The strip would be passed through holes punched in the items to be joined and the ends dampened and twisted together (see image on left). Once dry the parchment would contract making a secure and durable connection.

Richard explored the different ways these tackets have been used to construct books, starting with simple booklets of folded pages secured into a cover with tackets on the spine, before Tony and Fay spoke about

the Dormont Book and got the delegates started on the practical side of the course. The best way for Conservators to understand how historical books were made is to create a facsimile using the same tools, materials and methods as the original binders (see image centre right). This knowledge can then be applied in the care and conservation of the books held in the archive collections around the country.



Day two began with Tony and Fay talking about the early origins of this style of binding in Italy and Spain in the 14th century and how it spread across Europe, picking up slight regional variations before appearing in the UK in the 16th century. Richard demonstrated the technique of applying decorative lines and embossed patterns to leather bindings through the use of heated brass tools and the class were able to have a go at decorating their own creations (see image bottom right).

The group headed home having had two productive and stimulating days and the instructors were very pleased to receive excellent feedback from all who attended.



Tony King, Senior Conservator, Cumbria Archive Service

MEMBERS' DAY AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 2019 Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Cumbria Archives will take place at 2.00pm, 12th October, at the Carlisle Archive Centre, Petheril Bank

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Welcome and to note number of members present
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the 2018 AGM (to be circulated at the beginning of the day)
4. Matters arising from those Minutes not covered under agenda items below
5. Chair's report (to be circulated at the beginning of the day)
6. Treasurer and Membership Secretary's report and presentation/adoption of examined accounts (to be circulated at the meeting)
7. Election of Officers and Committee of Trustees.

Officers currently are:

Chair	Chester Forster
Vice-Chair	Susan Dench
Minutes Secretary	Adrian Allan
Treasurer	Lorna Mullett
Newsletter Editor	Jean Turnbull
Webmaster	Vacant

Committee Members: Roger Bingham, Rob David, Diana Mathews, Ian Jones, Ian Moonie,*
Ex Officio Mary Wane (Vice President)

8. Appointment of professional examiner for the accounts
9. Any other business proper to the meeting
10. Date and venue of 2020 Members' Day and AGM

* Members should note that the Committee has an entitlement of eight members. Mary Wane, after serving FoCAS from Day One and for many years as Chair, has decided to retire as Vice-President.

If you wish to nominate anyone as an Officer or Committee Member or if you have any item(s) that you wish to be included on the Agenda please let me have names/details by **Monday 7th October** at the latest. All nominations will require the consent of the person nominated, a proposer and a seconder.

Chester Forster, Chair, chesterforster1@tiscali.co.uk

Useful Information

FOCAS Office holders

Patron: Claire Hensman, Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria

President: Lord Inglewood

Chair: Chester Forster, 25 Highwood Crescent, Carlisle. CA1 3LF

01228 527010: chesterforster1@tiscali.co.uk

Vice President: Mary Wane, Email: mwane22@phonecoop.coop

Vice Chair: Susan Dench, 31 Mallyclose Drive, Carlisle, CA1 3HH

Minutes Secretary: Adrian Allan, The Golden Fleece, Carleton, Carlisle, CA4 0AN

Treasurer: Lorna Mullett, 01768 840903, wastwater@talktalk.net

Editor: Jean Turnbull, 61 Bellingham Road, Kendal, LA9 5JY, jean2.turnbull@btinternet.com

Webmaster: **Vacancy**

Research grants: Adrian Allan, The Golden Fleece, Carleton, Carlisle

Membership: Lorna Mullett, 01768 840903, wastwater@talktalk.net

Committee/Trustees: Roger Bingham, Rob David, Ian Jones, Ian Moonie, Diana Matthews

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)

From the Chair

I hope that many of the people who are reading this column will find the time to come along to our Members' Day at Carlisle Archive Centre on October 12. It promises to be one of the most enlightening days that we have put on to date. To wrap-up the commemoration of the First World War we shall be having several presentations on war-themed subjects. Stuart Eastwood, Curator of the Cumbria Museum of Military Life, will talk about the effects that the First World War had on the general population after the war had ended, while Rob David will move on a little and talk about refugees and the Second World War. And then for something completely different our own *Newsletter* editor, Jean Turnbull, will present extracts from Kendal Oral History Group's archive looking at the impact of the Second World War on people in South Lakeland.



Following lunch and the AGM there will be a presentation by Cumbria's Senior Archivist Robert Baxter and Conservator Tony King about a project that will transform the Archive Service and how we use it. Having had an explanation of how this multi-million pound project will work, I, for one, can hardly wait for its implementation. Basically, what is going to happen is that all maps: tithe, ordnance survey, estate, enclosure are going to be scanned and reduced down to the same scale and laid one on top of each other. You will be able to select a particular map, say the tithe map and overlay it with a modern map or compare it side by side. But that is not everything, there is much, much more, that can be added to this framework such as photographs, documents and sales particulars. For example, if you were interested in Town End Farm in a village, you will be able to click on the name and a menu will appear asking if you want to see photos, documents, deeds, sales particulars etc. Just think of the hours of searching that this will save. On this project Cumbria is co-operating with Lancashire and Cheshire Archive Services to make a joint bid for funding. The pilot project is already up and running based on Bristol and it is truly fantastic.

Now an update on what is going on right now. As you will know there have been radical changes to the way the Archive Centre at Kendal operates, especially regarding the number of people who can access the archives at any one time. FoCAS combined with the Cumbria Federation of Local History Societies to make representation about the restricted numbers, the booking system for seats and documents and we were given a very sympathetic hearing by those representing the Archive Service.

The Committee of FoCAS was also given a presentation by Peter Eyre and Robert Baxter which outlined the reasons why the changes were introduced. After the announcement of the changes back in February there was a definite air of "What are they doing to the service?" but after hearing the problems that people like Peter and Robert faced, I think the general tenor had mellowed to "They have done the best they can in the circumstances." The arrangements may not be perfect but from my point of view what came across was the impression that the staff want to provide the best service they can but resources are limited. September is the review month for the service so if you feel strongly about the new arrangements which have been amply aired in previous Newsletters, please write to your local councillor or to the portfolio holder, Deborah Earl at Deborah.Earl@cumbria.gov.uk or 6, Hallaway, Carlisle, CA3 9RG

Meanwhile I look forward to meeting many of you at Carlisle on October 12.

Chester

From the Treasurer and Membership Secretary

I am pleased to report that our finances are in a very healthy state and that there are only a handful of members who have not yet paid their subscriptions for 2019. If you think that one of them may be you do please give me a call on 01768 840903 or send an email to wastwater@talktalk.net and I will either confirm or put you out of your misery. As agreed at the last AGM and subsequent Trustees meetings we have now deposited a substantial sum in a savings account with the Skipton Building Society, leaving funds in our NatWest current account to meet operating costs and short-term demands. Some of the money is intended to support a number of long-term digitisation projects being pursued by the Archive Service BUT we are anxious that we are seen to meet our charitable status objectives by financing projects and schemes of benefit to the Archive Service and our members. I am therefore inviting you to come forward with ideas as to how we might spend some of our funds. Of course, any ideas must be of direct relevance and benefit to the Service and you, its users. You might also look at the Research Grants that we offer. Go to our website and select 'Research Grants'. We will be very pleased to consider your suggestions and applications. We have also deposited new Membership Application forms with the Carlisle and Kendal Archive Centres (Barrow and Whitehaven will be closing for some periods of time) so do encourage any researchers who are not members to consider joining us - new members are always very welcome.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Members Day and AGM at Carlisle on Saturday 12 October – it will be here in no time!

Best wishes, Lorna

Some recent Cumbria Archive Service acquisitions funded by FoCAS

The inaugural meeting of FoCAS, held at Newton Rigg College in October 1991, agreed that its object would be the education of the public by the promotion, support, assistance and improvement of the Cumbria Archive Service (CAS). In introducing the constitution of the new body, Dr John Todd, FoCAS's first chairman, noted that though it was not intended primarily as a fund-raising body, it would hope to be able to assist with particular purchases if the need arose.

Over the years since 1991 FoCAS has been pleased to have been able to assist the Archive Service by providing funds to enable it to purchase archives worth acquiring which might otherwise be 'lost' to the county. Since January this year, the Service has thereby been able to purchase archives auctioned by Lyon & Turnbull of Edinburgh and by Thomson Roddick at its Carlisle auction centre.

Earliest in date of the new acquisitions are the accounts of an attorney with his individual clients in Cumbria and further afield, 1800-21, including Henry Howard of Corby Castle, Sir John and Sir Wilfrid Brisco of Crofton Hall, and John Jackson, the Lieutenant and Quarter Master of the Cumberland Militia, with the attorney's London-based clients (clearly with Cumbrian connections) including Sir Thomas Musgrave and James Blacklock, a bookseller and publisher, father of William James Blacklock, the landscape painter of Cumbria and the Scottish Borders, who trained at the Carlisle Academy of Arts. (Carlisle Archive Centre (CAC), ref. H 14747). The attorney is not identified by name but may be 'J.S.', perhaps a member of either of the two long-established Carlisle legal firms of Wright, Brown and Strong or Saul and Lightfoot. The remaining pages of the volume have been used by another person to record the sale of salmon and trout by Salmon Hall/ Derwent Fishery, at Seaton, 1859-62. The River Derwent is one of the finest salmon and sea trout rivers in the north of England and these accounts provide further information about the fishery in supplement to the extensive archives of the Salmon Hall estate and fishery which the CAS already holds, principally amongst the archives of the earls of Lonsdale.

One of the former legal practices, some of whose client-related records have regrettably come on to the market in more recent years, was Wright, Brown and Strong of Carlisle. It is probably from this source that the ledger of the trust accounts of the executors of Thomas Boustead Nelson, dating from 1882-1927, ultimately came, supplementing two boxes of the accounts of his trustees amongst the extensive client-related archives of Wright, Brown and Strong which were deposited with CAC in 1999 (CAC, ref. DX 2376). The eldest son of Thomas Nelson (1808-87), a railway contractor of Carlisle and York, Thomas B Nelson (1842-78) joined his father in railway construction works, including lines for the North Eastern Railway Co. and the Furness Railway Co; one of his last undertakings, before his early death while on a cricketing excursion to Ireland, was the construction of the Corporation portion of the Victoria Viaduct, Carlisle, which was commenced during the Mayoralty of his brother-in-law, Joseph Bendle, and was opened by Princess Louise in September 1877 (Not far from the Victoria Viaduct is the Nelson Bridge, the foundation stone being laid by Thomas B Nelson's father, Thomas, while Mayor of Carlisle, in 1852, he being one of those businessmen who subscribed towards its erection). Mr Nelson left his property in trust to pay his wife an annual income and thereafter to hold the trust property for their children and their heirs, the trust estate not being finally wound up until 1942.

The ledger records a balance of £117,407 in the capital account in 1882. Besides holding shares in a large number of railway companies, the trustees' investments included mortgages, one of its first being that on the High Brewery, the Imperial Hotel and other premises at Workington in 1879, to secure £6,000 with interest to the trustees; by 1900 their further mortgage property included the Carlisle Liberal Club, the County Hotel and Wine Co., and the Catholic School Trustees. Also in 1879, the trustees bought leasehold property at Earls Court, London, as a further investment. The balance on the capital account remained substantial before the remaining trustees wound down the estate, property in Nelson, Lorne, and Randall Streets, Carlisle being sold in the 1930s, with the Drumburgh Farm estate being finally sold in 1942.

Also in the engineering field is the plan, dated 1803, of the machines, boilers, engine house, etc. intended for the new coal pit at Bransty, Whitehaven, which was bought at one of Thomson Roddick's auctions. (Whitehaven Archive Centre, ref. TNCB/Plans/105). It is believed that it relates to the William Pit, to the north of Whitehaven, described as 'the most dangerous pit in the Kingdom'. The plan can be seen on Page 10 of this *Newsletter*.

Sadly, the bid which the CAS submitted for the archives relating to the estates in Cumberland, County Durham and elsewhere of the Howard of Corby Castle family dating from 1717-1978 which Mitchells of Cockerham auctioned in June, was exceeded by that of a dealer. It is to be regretted that the lot has subsequently been broken up with individual letters, etc. offered for sale as separate lots, though the dealer has kindly agreed to allow the CAS to take copies of those unsold records it is interested in. That archives may possess some monetary, as opposed to historical, value no doubt leads to archives being saved which might otherwise be disposed of.

Unfortunately the National Archives, which monitors sale catalogues on behalf of record offices throughout the country, was unaware of the forthcoming auction of the Mitchells lot. This leads me to request readers to make contact with FoCAS as soon as they become aware of forthcoming sales of archives relating to Cumbria so that contact can be made with the CAS to determine whether approach should be made to seek to acquire them.

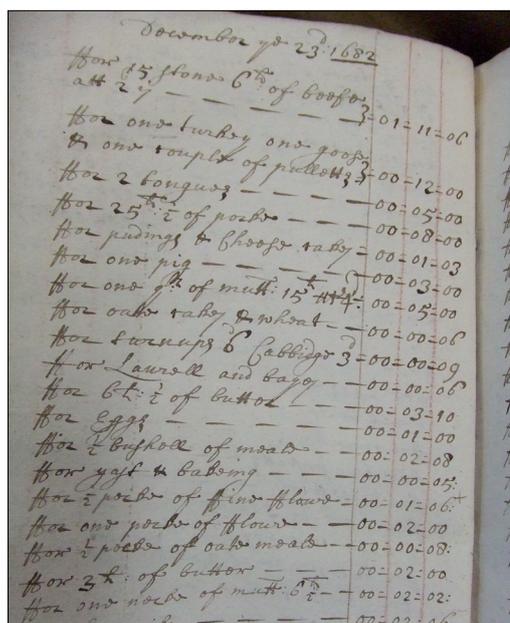
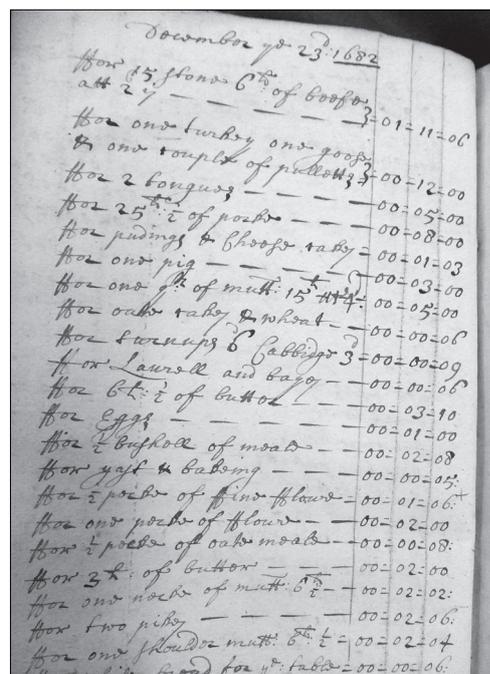
Adrian Allan

Of food and drink – and much more

Of all the principal landed estates in Cumbria, the archival heritage of the Musgraves of Edenhall has suffered the most, being widely dispersed; the various separate deposits at Carlisle and Kendal Archive Centres represent deposits by the family and purchases made by the County Council, also deposits and gifts generously made by private individuals, anxious to ensure that they were saved and made available for research; meanwhile, elements of the archives continue to appear for sale on E-bay and elsewhere.

In 1994, Peter Brears, then Director of Leeds City Museums, in a private capacity, bought six Musgrave account books dating from the 17th and 18th centuries. In March this year, with the ready agreement of both Peter Brears and the Brotherton Library, University of Leeds, to whom he had donated these volumes in 1997, they were transferred to Carlisle Archive Centre (CAC) (ref. D MUS H14703). Peter Brears has enjoyed a very distinguished career in the museums service and also has an interest in culinary history; his many publications on traditional English cookery include *Cooking and Dining with the Wordsworths* (2011) and *Traditional Food in Cumbria* (Bookcase, 2017).

A remarkable insight into income and expenditure, particularly related to the estate and the household, is provided by these well-ordered volumes, maintained by the Steward and other servants. A cash book of 1677-83 reveals the substantial income derived from drovers whose cattle passed through the Edenhall estate, as also the lesser income from the sale of rabbits. Expenditure at Christmastide includes payments to George Graham, a piper, and to a blind harper and a fiddler. The separate accounts recording servants' wages 1681-84 poignantly note the costs of looking after Sarah Bankes, paid £2 for half a year's wages, and her coffin. Payments for the Musgrave children in the 1680s include those for a nurse, schooling, and writing and French masters. At the foot of the entries in one of these account books are the signatures of various male members of the Musgrave family 'allow[ing] this account errors excepted'.



Sir Christopher Musgrave spent most of 1728 at Bath, the account of his household's expenditure recording bottles of French, Lisbon and Port wine, and small beer and a quart of Coffee House Ale (4d); candles, fagots to light fires, and sacks of coal; snuff and wig powder; a bottle of ink and sand; blacking for boots and shoes; the food including beef, pigeons, veal, new laid eggs, peas and beans, spinach, Seville oranges and lemons, mushrooms and gooseberries (and 'Staarbbereys'); also sweet breads, glasses of jellies and tarts. Green tea at 2/- for one ounce was more expensive than coffee (1/- for two ounces). £1/1/- was paid for six dozen of 'Bath water'. One of Sir Christopher's visitors at Bath was a fellow baronet, the Church of Ireland bishop of Ossory, who was given mushrooms, salad and cucumbers. A new hat for Sir Christopher cost £1, a pair of gloves 1/6d, and the barber was paid 6d for shaving him. Coach hire and turnpike charges, and the shoeing of the horses are recorded as also corn and hay for a servant's horse at Eton, where there was expenditure on bread, cheese and tart 'for Master Phill' (Sir Christopher's son, then presumably returning to Eton College, his other expenditure including his tailor's bill of £10 and powdering his wig, 2d). Board wages to servants include seven shillings a week paid to 'Black Will'. The weekly wash of clothes (shirts, stocks, stockings, night caps, etc.) is accounted for.

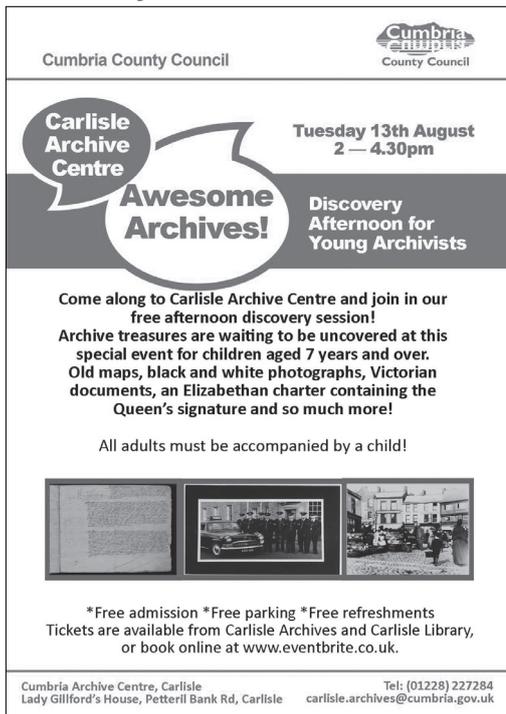
Captions. Right: Expenditure in anticipation of Christmas celebrations, 1682. Left: Expenditure while at Bath, 4 April, 1728

The Housekeeping accounts of 1768-75 record payments for chickens, pigeons, wild rabbits, calves feet, salmon (4½ lbs., 5/3d), eels (4¼ lbs., 4/9d), mackerel, crawfish, lobster, and oysters; milk and cream, chocolate, and coffee; eggs, oranges and lemons, damsons (6 quarts, 1/6d) gooseberries, fennel, and pistachio nuts, sugar candy, cheese cakes, Yorkshire cakes, Royal biscuits, and macaroons. Reference is made to the bills of the butcher, the baker and the fishmonger without revealing the content of such purchases but it is likely that such bills will be found amongst the thousands of vouchers dating from the 18th–20th centuries which survive amongst the Musgrave archives at CAC. To provide the everyday needs of the housekeeper and her staff are brooms, whiting, pack thread, charcoal, soap, red lead, kitchen papers, fuller's earth, and black lead. Carpet beating, sweeping the chimneys, grinding the kitchen knives, and scouring the pewter and coppers appear as regular expenditure items. The occasional purchase of cutlery and crockery is also recorded – a Staffordshire dish is acquired and 'Mr Wedgwood's bill settled'.

Adrian Allan

News from the Cumbria Archive Service

Carlisle Archive Centre Discovery Afternoon



Cumbria County Council

Carlisle Archive Centre

Tuesday 13th August
2 — 4.30pm

Awesome Archives!

Discovery Afternoon for Young Archivists

Come along to Carlisle Archive Centre and join in our free afternoon discovery session!
Archive treasures are waiting to be uncovered at this special event for children aged 7 years and over. Old maps, black and white photographs, Victorian documents, an Elizabethan charter containing the Queen's signature and so much more!

All adults must be accompanied by a child!



*Free admission *Free parking *Free refreshments
Tickets are available from Carlisle Archives and Carlisle Library, or book online at www.eventbrite.co.uk.

Cumbria Archive Centre, Carlisle
Lady Gillford's House, Petteril Bank Rd, Carlisle
Tel: (01228) 227284
carlisle.archives@cumbria.gov.uk

On Tuesday 13 August, staff at Carlisle Archive Centre ran a Discovery Afternoon aimed at Year 5 and 6 pupils (see poster on left). The event was organised on similar lines to our Discovery Evenings which are held quarterly and aimed primarily at an adult audience. In the map room we laid out a range of sources from various collections including: Carr's Biscuits; Cowans Sheldon; Cumbria Constabulary; Carlisle Magistrate Court; Lonsdale Estate; Border Press Agency and Ferguson Brothers.

In the searchroom we prepared a series of activities based on some of the original sources. For example, we displayed records relating to the theft of jewellery in 1885 from Netherby Hall, the home of Sir Frederick and Lady Hermione Graham. This led nicely to a map activity in which the kids were given the chance to plot the route taken by the burglars when they tried to escape, reaching as far as Lancaster. We used a plan of Great Orton Primary School as the basis of another exercise. This plan shows wonderful detail of a typical Victorian school including accommodation for the School Master, the segregated playground areas, stoves used to provide heat and the privies. It gave the children a chance to reflect on how the design and layout has changed over time.

There was also an exercise based on a local census return and trade directory. This was an opportunity to use some basic palaeography skills as well as cross referencing different sources to complete a worksheet. In

the Elphinstone Room there was a chance for the kids to design their own coat of arms using an image of the stained glass window on the landing in the house as an example. These enabled them to practice the signature of Elizabeth I based on a document in the Lonsdale collection.

The event was well advertised by our team of Community Service Officers and on the day just over 50 people attended. It seems that the mix of visual archive material on display combined with interactive and practical exercises worked well and had a broad appeal. We gathered feedback at the event which was generally very positive. Some of the comments included:

- 'Helpful staff who love what they do. Thanks for putting this on, it has been very interesting'
- 'Amazing chance to get up close to the original documents'

The afternoon was deemed a great success and it is an event which we hope to run again during future school holidays.

John Myron (1938-2019)

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of John Myron in May, during a holiday in the United States of America. John had been a regular volunteer with Carlisle Archive Centre since 2007. He began as a 'wrapping and packing volunteer' when we were still based at the Castle and were preparing for the move to Lady Gillford's House. As part of the Heritage Lottery funding for the new archive centre project, some funds were made available, to improve the packaging of our collections prior to the move. Around 40 volunteers were recruited for this task in the summer of 2007 and they worked in small groups of four to six. John was a member of two of these groups, joining a second group when a place became available.

During 2008, our Conservation Unit, based at Ashley Street, was seeking volunteers to help make bespoke boxes for volumes and outside items. The then Senior Conservator, Brenda Dregghorn, put out an appeal amongst existing volunteers and John answered the call! He continued to volunteer at both Ashley Street and the Castle, until our move to Lady Gillford's in late 2010. The wrapping and packing groups continued, on

and off, for a while at the new archive centre and John was very much part of this, however his main role at Lady Gillford's was chief box-maker, having mastered both the necessary techniques and the vagaries of the Roland



cutting and scoring machine, whilst at Ashley Street. He volunteered for two full days each week and made several thousand bespoke boxes for all four archive centres, from late 2010 until the time of his death. These boxes have made a considerable improvement to the storage arrangements for records in our strongrooms.

John was extremely dedicated to his role, which he undertook with a great pride. He was always willing to help and would turn his hand to a variety of jobs and practical problems. He enjoyed a chat with staff and other volunteers and had such a positive outlook on life. We are very grateful for all the work he did for the Archive Service and shall miss him very much.

Louise Smith, Archivist

Kendal Archive Centre

Recent accessions

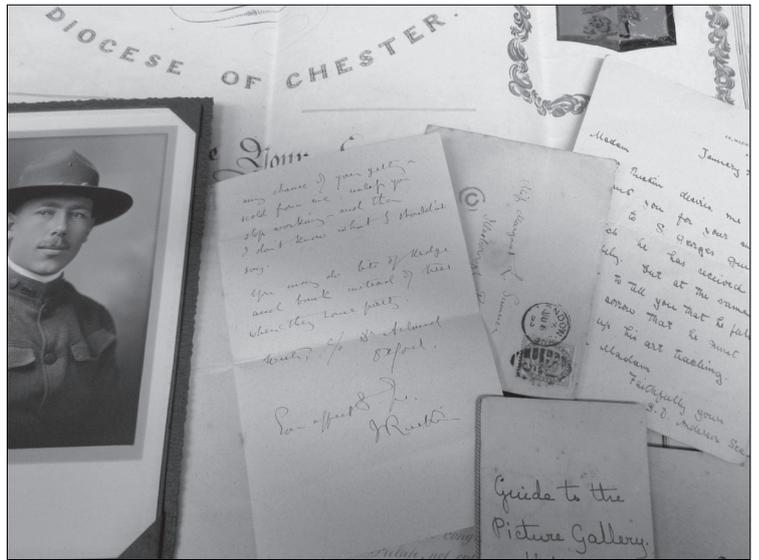
Our recent accessions include:

- Appleby Borough Council: records (20th century) retrieved from the attic of the TIC, Appleby (WSMBA/12/13)
- Brough Parish Council, 1953-2014 (WPC 33)
- Helsington Parish Council, 1960-2012 (WPC 34)
- Hutton Roof Parish Council, 1988-2017 (WPC 49)
- Sedgwick Parish Council, 2000-2016 (WPC 68)
- Heron Hill and Valley Drive Residents Association, 1983-2006 (WDSO 252)
- Patterdale, St Patrick Parish (WPR 75)
- Grange-over-Sands, St Paul parish (WPR 100)
- Lindale-in-Cartmel, St Paul parish (WPR 99)
- Old Hutton, St John the Baptist parish (WPR 17)
- Barton, St Michael Parish (WPR 93)
- Martindale, St Peter Parish (WPR 92)
- Stramongate School: School Magazine, 1910 and The Old Stramonian, 1976 (WDS 26)
- Staveley CofE School: photographs and notebooks, c.1913-1952 (WDS 145)
- Craig School Windermere and Cressbrook School, Kirkby Lonsdale: photographs and historical article, 1957-2016 (WDX 1948)
- Fell and Rock Climbing Club: papers relating to climber HP Cain, 1912-1931 (WDSO 163)
- Casterton Women's Institute (WDSO 28)
- Underbarrow Women's Institute (WDSO 126)
- Soulby Women's Institute (WDSO 100)
- Kendal and District Bowling League, 1959-2007 (WDSO 414)
- Mike Davies-Shiel: research notes including photographs, 20th century (WDMDS 283)
- Holme and District Local History Society: Burton, Milnthorpe and Carnforth Agricultural Society Annual Show papers, 1933-2002 (WDSO 217)
- James Thompson, Fine Art Auctioneer and Valuer, Kirkby Lonsdale: auction posters, 1986-1991 (WDX 1997)
- Plan of the Lancaster Canal Killington Reservoir [c.1881] (WDY 681)
- Sedbergh and District History Society: including Sedbergh Auction Mart (Richard Harper & Son Auctioneers) minute book 1920-1950 and valuation books 1934-1944, 1933-1939 (WDSO 264)
- Ramblers' Association Lakeland Area, 1953-2017 (WDSO 277)
- Fairer family of Shap (WDX 2000)
- Oxford Archaeology North: Archaeological surveys undertaken on behalf of Lake District National Park Authority, 1995-2016 (WDSO 185)
- Isaac Braithwaite & Son Engineers Limited, 1966-2015 (WDX 1114)
- Lakeland Cross Country Ski Club, 1977-1997 (WDSO 413)
- Lakeland Sinfonia (WDSO 342): See below for more detail
- The Reverend Canon John Hodgkinson (WDX 1998): See below for more detail
- Sumner family of Grasmere: See below for more detail

We were very pleased to acquire at auction, with assistance from the Curwen Archives Trust, a collection of papers of the **Sumner family of Grasmere**. These will complement the existing Sumner family collection held at Kendal Archives. The newly-acquired papers and correspondence relate to the family of Rev John Henry Robertson Sumner of Kelbarrow, Grasmere, whose father, John Bird Sumner, was Archbishop of Canterbury 1848-1862. As well as references to John Bird Sumner, including an illuminated address to Archbishop Sumner from members of his former

Continued overleaf

diocese of Chester on his transferral to the See of Canterbury in 1848, they include several letters written in the 1880s from John Ruskin to Margaret Lilius Sumner, daughter of John Henry Robertson and his wife Elizabeth Anne. Margaret was a drawing pupil of Ruskin, and in the letters he comments in detail on her drawings. Margaret L. Sumner was later to be the only female artist whose work appeared in the first five issues of the controversial literary and artistic journal *The Yellow Book* edited by Aubrey Beardsley; her pen-and-ink landscape sketch 'Plein Air' appeared in the last of the volumes issued under Beardsley's editorship in 1895. Other notable figures referenced in the collection include the Arnold family of Fox How, and the Scottish poet John Davidson. The whole collection will now be catalogued and repackaged so that it will become fully accessible.



Hazel Gatford, Archivist

A donation was received in June from Wainwright Court in Kendal, following the death of former Kendal Vicar, Reverend Canon John Hodgkinson, on 11 June 2019. Vicar for 19 years, he retired in 1990 to concentrate on renovating Box Tree Barn in Levens as a new home. A man of many talents and interests, he was also a musical instrument maker, musician, book binder and keen local and church historian. A published author and visitor to Kendal Archives, John Hodgkinson donated a collection of his books and pamphlets in 2017 (WDX 1955) and to complete the picture, we have now received a copy of his last publication about the home owners of Wainwright Court and the Order of Service for his Funeral on 26 June 2019 (WDX 1988).

The recent additional deposit of Lakeland Sinfonia Records includes Trustees Minutes, correspondence, concert production files (including administration and staging details) and programmes for a range of national and international performers over the last 20 years. In addition, there are press cuttings about the performances and photographs of the performers, some by agencies, but others taken locally, which contribute to the overall picture of this important local classical music organisation.

Claire Hooson, Archivist

Cataloguing

Over the last few months we have received a substantial influx of parish council collections, which have now been catalogued. We have also continued with our retrospective cataloguing of collections including the Kendal Corporation and Borough Chamberlain's accounts (WSMBK), and work has also started on the large Westmorland/Cumbria South Girl Guides collection (WDSO 42). We received an interesting addition to the Fell and Rock Climbing Club collection (WDSO 163) which has now been catalogued, papers relating to HP Cain. Cain was one of the original members of the Club, and the papers record aspects of his climbing career over two decades. They include a fascinating climbing diary illustrated with photographs for the period 1912-1921. Other photographs of the 1920s feature climbers, expeditions, and club meets in the Lake District and Scotland. There is also a transcription of a letter, dated 9 Jun 1924, sent to Cain from mountaineer and photographer Bentley Beetham at Base Camp, Everest; this was the ill-fated 1924 British Mount Everest expedition on which Mallory and Irvine were killed. Another highlight is a coloured drawing, dated 1954, of Roger Chorley (Lord Chorley, later President of the Alpine Club 1983-1985 and Chairman of the National Trust) at the Old Dungeon Gill, Langdale, by AV Alferoff.

Hazel Gatford, Archivist

Outreach

Summer term is usually a fairly quiet one for school visits but this summer we have seen 208 primary school pupils from Stramongate and Ghyllside schools in Kendal and also from St Cuthbert's Primary School, Windermere. St Cuthbert's is a new school in terms of taking up our sessions for their pupils. Topics have included exploring early OS maps for their areas, WW1 and Kendal Canal.

We were also visited in early August by six Lake District National Park Authority (Brockhole Kitchen Garden Project) volunteers and their two coordinators, to explore records on Brockhole and the garden designer Thomas Mawson.

Our 'Coniston Honours Heroes of WW1' display is on at Ruskin Museum, Coniston. This includes information on the Coniston WW1 VC, James Hewitson, and is on long term loan to the museum.

Margaret Owen, Archivist

Staff news – hellos and goodbyes

If you visit Kendal Archive Centre you might spot a new member of staff. Anthony Hughes joined the team as one of the archivists at Kendal in July, and if your research has ever taken you to Yorkshire then you might recognise him, as

Anthony previously worked at North Yorkshire County Record Office and West Yorkshire Archive Service, Bradford, before that. Anthony says "I'm really excited to be working in Cumbria, and am looking forward to helping researchers access the wonderful collections held here at Kendal. I'm enjoying familiarising myself with the collections, meeting staff at the other archive centres, and I hope to meet lots of researchers using the Kendal searchroom over the coming months."

Over the past few months we have bid farewell to two long-standing members of staff. Archivist Elaine Gilliard left us in May to go on to new challenges; and at the end of August we said goodbye to Archivist Margaret Owen, who has retired after 30 years working in Kendal Archive Centre.

Hazel Gatford, Archivist

I should like to take this opportunity to pass on my best wishes to all members of FoCAS as I take early retirement at the end of August 2019. It goes without saying that I have always enjoyed my time in Archives. It's 30 years since I first started work as an archivist in Cumbria, at first on an ad hoc basis, covering Jim Grisenthwaite's MBA study days.

I'm planning to visit the Kendal Archive Centre for my own research so I may bump in to one or two of you there. It's been a pleasure working with our Archive Service users including FOCAS members and no doubt I shall miss this and other aspects of what has been a wonderful working life for so long.

Kind regards, Margaret Owen

News from Whitehaven Archives and Local Studies Centre

Proposed closure for building works

Planning permission has been granted for the building development proposed for the Whitehaven Archives site and the building work has been put out to tender. Subject to the suitability of the tenders, the latest advice is the Archive Centre is looking to close for this work mid-autumn 2019. Updates will be posted on the Archive Service website: cumbria.gov.uk/archives

When the service closes it will be for approximately one year, with no access to original archives, facilities for depositing additional records, or enquiry service during that time. However, all microfilm copies held at Whitehaven Archives, as well as some of the popular local studies material, will be made available on a self-service basis at Whitehaven Library so we hope that many family and local historians can still make some progress with their research. Whitehaven Library is open six days a week. Copies of most of Whitehaven Archives' microfilms are also held at Carlisle Archives. The popular monthly Archive Discovery Evenings will continue, but at Whitehaven Library, allowing for a regular and relaxed get-together for like-minded people interested in local history. FOCAS members are always welcome at these events.

Catherine Clark, Community Services Manager, Copeland

New material at Whitehaven Archives

Latest accessions include:

- Aerial photograph of the Marchon site (YDB 59)
- Portraits of Members of Parliament for the Borough of Whitehaven, 19th century (SMBWH)
- Maps and plans of the Lorton estate of the Alexander family, [post 1866]-1961 (YDX 710)
- Workington Methodist Circuit marriage registers [Trinity Church and Distington] (YDFCM 1)
- West Cumberland Development Company photos (YDB 60)
- Property history for the Green Dragon Inn and Coachman's House, Workington (YDX 738)
- Egremont Folk Club posters (YDSO 184)
- Plans for Trinity Methodist Church Workington (YDB 24/2)
- Additional Moresby and Parton parish council minutes (YSPC 5 & YSPC 26)
- Merchants of Whitehaven – research notes (YDX 739)
- Irish and Scots poverty in the far north of England 1790-1870, PhD thesis (YDX 740)
- Rosehill - A History in Design publication (YDSO 121)
- W H Ainsworth, drapers and ladies' outfitters, shop signage (YDB 44)
- Egremont newspaper cuttings scrapbooks (YDX 683)
- British Korean Veterans Association (YDSO 185)
- Cockermouth and Workington County Court, plaint and minute books (2) (YDCWCC)
- Citizens' Advice Bureau (DH/154/2)
- Ennerdale Forest archaeology survey (YDSO 39)
- The United Trades' Council of Whitehaven and District, 1907-1908 photograph (YDX 684)

Continued overleaf

- Egremont Methodist Church cradle rolls (2) (YDFCM 2)
- William Baird and Co Ltd correspondence regarding the Rowrah, Kelton and Knockmurton railway (DA)
- Bewley's Views of Cleator Moor and District, c.1900 (YDX 685)
- Memorial inscriptions Harrington, St Mary's churchyard (YPR 16/257)
- Papers and photographs on Calderbridge and Calder Abbey (YDX 686)
- Cleator Women's Institute (YDSO 186)
- Whitehaven and District Lions Club (YDSO 187)
- West Cumberland Choral Society (YDSO 56)

More on recent cataloguing

Back in March, we reported that one of our accessions included an item purchased at auction courtesy of funding from FoCAS: a 'plan of machines, boilers and engine house intended for new pit at Bransty 1803'. This has since been catalogued as TNCB/Plans/105. It appears to be a plan for William Pit, which was sunk in 1804 and described as 'the most dangerous pit in the Kingdom'.

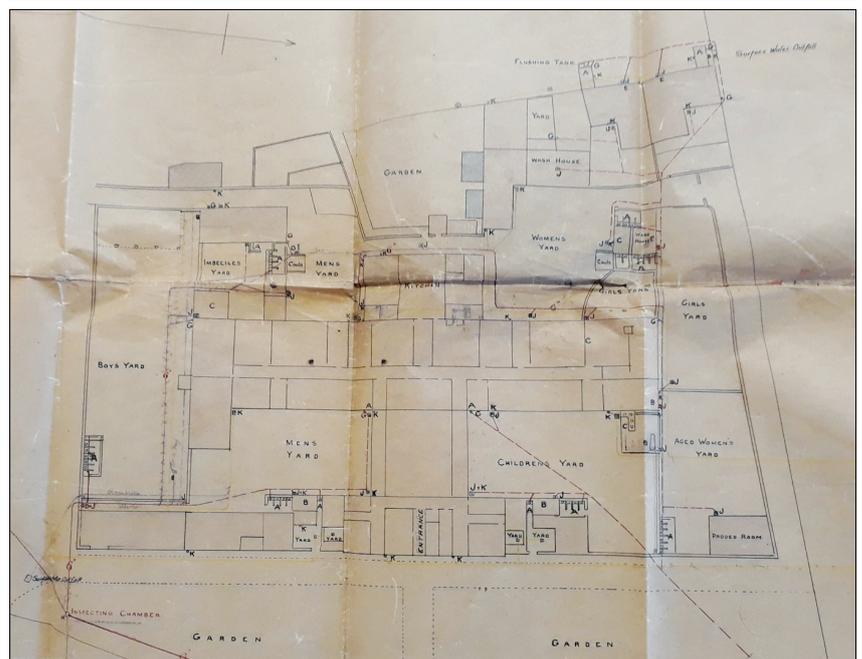
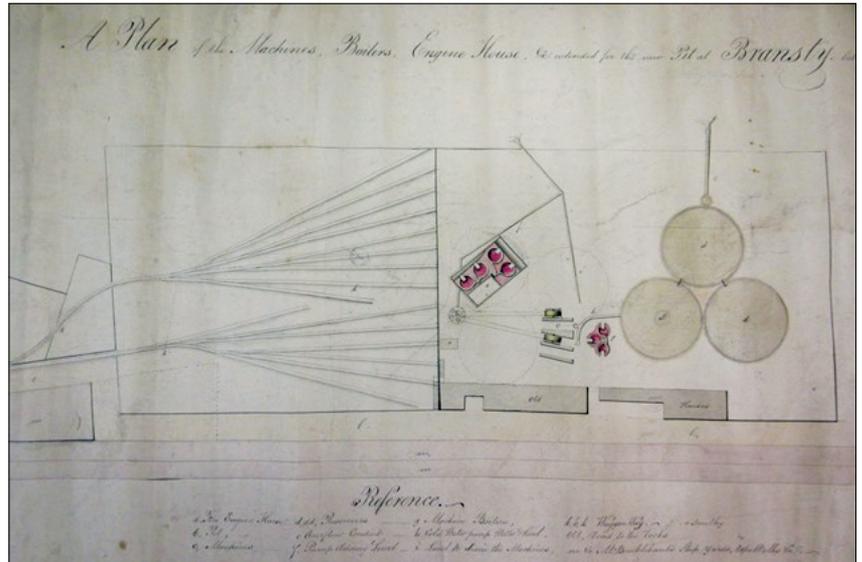
We have undertaken the full cataloguing of two boxes of title deeds, 1605-1908 relating to estates at Pardshaw and Pardshaw Hall, in the parish of Dean (ref DWM/765). These include the conveyance of Pardshaw Hall by Thomas Salkeld of Corby to John Salkeld of Pardshaw Hall on 10 January 1605, and the division by the latter of the Pardshaw Hall estate into nine portions on 20 February 1629. The estate was eventually acquired through descent and purchase by Dorothy Wood, spinster, of Pardshaw Hall, who died aged 91 on 31 January 1931. A plan of the extent of the Pardshaw Hall estate as held by Dorothy Wood and her sisters in 1908 exists at reference DWM/1/116.

While cataloguing some unlisted late 19th and early 20th century local government records held at our outstore, we came across documents relating to alterations at Whitehaven Workhouse between 1891-1906 (ref SPUW/7/35). These include specifications for improved sanitation and sewerage, a new old men's day room and a new padded room to accommodate 'short-term lunatics' (to receive, in urgent cases, those considered insane to be processed under the terms of the Lunacy Act of 1890), a report on accommodation at Whitehaven Workhouse, 1895, and a report on public vaccination in Whitehaven Poor Law Union, 1898.

Robert Baxter, Senior Archivist

Placements

We have had one sixth-form student and one university graduate doing placements with us recently. As well as shadowing in the search room, both students did research into our Victorian holdings to help find records to display for our well-attended 'What the Victorians did for us' Discovery Evening held in July. The student from Newcastle University also helped with some sorting and arrangement of deeds in the Waugh and Musgrave solicitors' collection,



Captions. Top: Plan of the machines etc.for the new pit at Bransty, 1803 (Whitehaven Archive Centre, TNCB/Plans/105)
 Bottom: Drainage plan of Whitehaven Workhouse, October 1900 (Whitehaven Archive Centre, SPUW/7/35), including the recent addition of a 'Padded Room' (lower right)

whilst the school student packaged a large number of photographs in the Marchon and West Cumberland Industrial Development Company collections. Over 1,300 catalogue records for a further 44 boxes of late 19th - early 20th century papers in the Waugh and Musgrave solicitors' collection have been made available on CASCAT following their listing by a regular volunteer.

Diane Hodgson, Archivist

Archive Discovery Evenings and behind the scenes

While preparations for the temporary closure of Whitehaven Archive and Local Studies Centre go on outside of the public gaze, the monthly Archive Discovery Evenings continue unaffected, and as well attended as ever. May and June's events were departures from the norm. In May we hosted 'Wordsworth on Tour', being joined by representatives of the Wordsworth Trust, Grasmere. Their presentation helped us to see the work of the Wordsworths in a new, 21st century light and was quite fascinating.

This event took the form of a talk by local World War II historian, Mr Joseph Ritson. His theme was mainly local D Day and Dunkirk connections, but we also had the opportunity to display unique archive items related to Olga Baudot de Rouville, World War II nurse and member of the French Resistance. After the war she went to stay at High Dyke near Cockermouth with Dr Heslop (whom she had nursed as a POW) and his wife, but left in 1947 apparently to visit Irish relatives and was not heard of by the Heslops again. The items she left behind, which form part of her archive were deposited here under our reference YDX 207.

In July we gave sports buffs the opportunity to revel in some of our seldom-seen archives relating to an amazing array of local sports of all kinds. Our August audience numbers were not diminished in the slightest due to holiday season, when we had a bit of Pythonesque fun examining 'what have the Victorians ever done for us?'

No matter what the planners and contractors get up to we will still be holding our regular Archive Discovery Evening – there is a full programme planned to take us up to closure and beyond. Archive Discovery Evenings are always held on the third Tuesday of each month. The event is free, refreshments are available and doors open at 7pm.

Lesley Park, Archives Assistant

Outreach activities

We celebrated local history month in May by offering taster sessions to help people grow their family tree. One of these sessions highlighted the importance of getting off the internet and paying a visit to your local archive centre! A local lady who attended one of the sessions mentioned to me that she believed her grandfather had died in a terrible industrial accident but did not have any further information. Sure enough, after doing some digging, we found a detailed report on the case in a local newspaper. As you can imagine this was quite an upsetting piece of reading for our customer. She also questioned whether her grandmother would have received compensation from the steel-making company concerned. Fortunately we hold extensive records for the company and these included two ledgers of compensation payments. One ledger covered the period we needed and sure enough there at the bottom of a page was the name of her grandfather and the compensation amount...another emotional moment! On a lighter note we looked in one of our licensing ledgers as our customer's ancestor had run a local hotel. We were able to find her ancestor recorded along with other family members who had taken charge over the years. This was all news to our customer as was the fact that one ancestor was charged for allowing drunkenness on the premises, though luckily the volume showed that the case was dismissed. These genealogical nuggets were discovered in just an hour and would never have been found from random browsing on the internet. The family history sessions proved to be so popular that we held another session in June.

I continued to invite local primary schools to pay us a visit for a final look around our building before we close for refurbishment work and 92 children took me up on the offer! Children from schools at Cleator Moor and Frizington were given a behind the scenes tour where they saw interesting documents up and learned why and how we look after our records. Afterwards we received an enthusiastic response to the activities we provided to introduce them to researching local and family history.

Jacqueline Moore, Community Services Officer

**The Editor welcomes contributions to the *Newsletter* from
FoCAS members**

**Articles should be in the region of 500 words (preferably with illustrations)
and on archive-related subjects**

**If you would like to contribute
contact me at:**

jean2.turnbull@btinternet.com

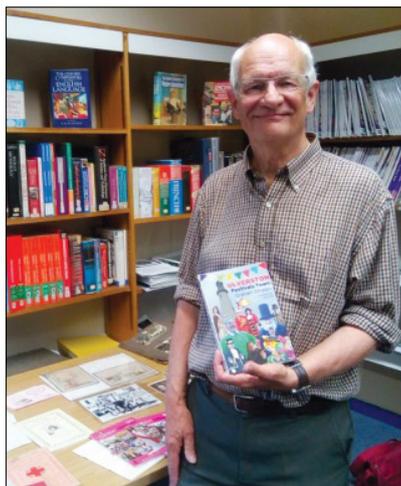
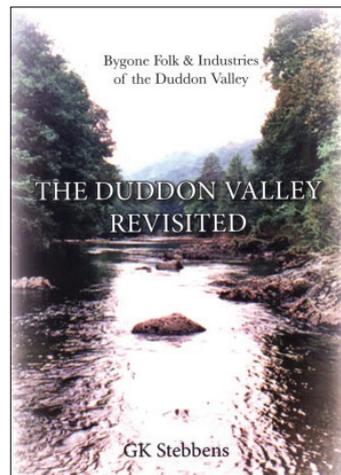
News from Barrow Archives and Local Studies Centre

Barrow Archive and Local Studies Centre have recently hosted or been involved with the launch of three new books about south Cumbria. The authors of all three spent a lot of time in the Archive Centre doing their research and all three received grants from the Kirby Archive Trust.

The Duddon Valley revisited by Geoff Stebbens

GKSPRESS, £14.99. ISBN:9781527242791

Geoff originally published a book called *Bygone Folk and Industries of the Duddon Valley* and this is the revised version with new information and more photographs. The book looks at the slate mining industry, Duddon Iron Furnace, the bobbin mills, Beckfoot sawmill, Commonwood Slate quarries and copper mining in the Duddon Valley. There are stories about some of the families who lived in the valley and at Beckfoot and Duddon Hall.



Ulverston Festival Town by Graham Whalan

Stable Door Press, £8.99

ISBN:9781527241879

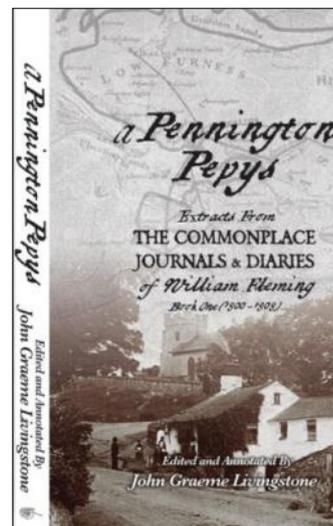
The market town of Ulverston plays host to more than 20 festivals each year. Graham's book is an attempt to chronicle the history and development of all these events from the early Hospital Parades of the 1900s to the modern arts, music, heritage and comedy festivals of today. All celebrate the town of Ulverston and its people as well as its history and values as a community. In the book we learn about the carnivals, pantomime horse races (sadly no more), the flag festival, food festivals, Another Fine Fest (after all Ulverston was the birthplace of Stan Laurel), Furness Traditions, food and beer festivals, the Dickensian Festival, music festivals and the Lantern festival.

A Pennington Pepys: extracts from the Commonplace Journals and Diaries of William Fleming 1800-1808 by John Graeme Livingstone

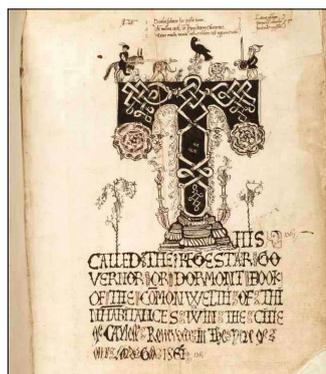
Vimiera publishing, £10.99. ISBN:9781916021792

The diaries of William Fleming of Pennington give us a glimpse into a world long gone. A world without trains, planes and cars. No cinema or television. No photography, only the timeless expressions of painting and sketching. Certainly a world without computers and smartphones! Medical science was still in its infancy. No vote for the common man or woman. Sadly, as now, Fleming often speaks of a world of tears, a world at war... and sometimes there is time for laughter, and always there is time for hope. This book will give the reader an insight into the everyday economic and social life in Ulverston during the late Georgian and Regency period. William Fleming wrote "When I began to write these journals it was not merely as a source of amusement and relaxation from reading and other employments but with a view of their affording me pleasure as some future period".

Fleming was born in Pennington in 1770. He was educated at the Old Grammar School in Urswick where he got a good grounding in classics and literature. He farmed in Pennington and had a town house in Ulverston where he spent the 'season' going to the theatre, assemblies and card parties. He was a churchwarden, surveyor of the highways and an avid shooter of pheasants and hares!



Susan Benson



The Corbies' Nest

The title page of the Dormont Book (*Newsletter 105*, p. 1 - also see image on left) shows a scene of local life among the upper classes (a horseman, dog and foot-soldier) and in its middle a crow perching. I cannot read what the crow is saying from this photograph of it, but there is a reason for the crow being here. Carlisle's 16th century nickname was 'The Corbies' Nest' (corbie is the Borders word for a crow), and there is in the Cumbria Archive Centre, Carlisle, a cartoon showing a man watering a crow with the caption 'Corvus non albescit - 'The crow is not getting whiter', i.e. Carlisle is incorrigible. The ways of crows are well-known. This gives an insight into Carlisle's behaviour in the Border reiving.

Jeremy Godwin