



ALTRINCHAM HISTORY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO. 12

May 2021

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Hello again, here are more bits including some dates for online talks, and items you can catch up with on YouTube etc, and a few local tidbits.

We have provisionally arranged a programme of talks starting in September 2021, but, of course, this depends on the progress of the Covid-19 pandemic. We will let you know details during the summer. In the mean time here are some events, you may be interested in.

Upcoming Events

Zoom talks by the **Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society**

Norman Redhead on Roman Castleshaw on Wednesday 26 May at 7.00 pm.

Bill Cooke on the History of Warrington on Saturday 3 July at 2.00 pm.

Email secretary@landcas.org.uk for an invitation to the talks.

Also see the L&CAS website - for events, lots of publications, including archive copies of the Transactions including No.1 from 1884, and off-prints of individual articles <http://landcas.org.uk/index.html>

80 years since the Merseyside Blitz - BBC Radio Merseyside special. Podcast **available until 28th May**. Personal memories - damage in the museum, Mill Road Hospital direct hit, and including a recording from the time. The whole programme is about an hour, the Blitz memories start about 4 minutes into the podcast <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p09f667g>

Forthcoming talk - St Helens Historic Society

[This invitation came via the Records Society of Lancs & Ches. I don't know if there are any restrictions.]

Members are invited to a Zoom lecture by Prof Paul Booth, who will be talking at 7.30pm on **Monday June 21st**. His title is **'The Cheshire Tyrant – William Bulkeley of Cheadle'**.

If anyone from the Records Society is interested, please contact Margaret Burrows via sthelenshistsoc@gmail.com for the link to the meeting.

Manchester City of Literature Festival 9th - 13th June

The festival, which is supported by Arts Council England, features a vibrant programme that highlights the library network's full offer, across wellbeing, culture and creativity, digital and information, and, of course, reading.

The Festival of Libraries programme will take place in internationally renowned institutions from Manchester's rich tapestry of heritage libraries, including Central Library, with its impressive status as the busiest public library in the country, in addition to Chetham's, The Portico, and the John Rylands Research Institute and Library. Also featured will be Greater Manchester's equally important and vital local libraries that deliver much needed support and services to their communities.

You can book your place for all the events as part of the festival right here from this page in May, so get it in the calendar! <https://www.manchestercityofliterature.com/event/festival-of-libraries/>

'Digging for Britain - North' on BBC4 (aired on 5 May) including excavation at New Bailey Prison, Salford, with Dr Mike Nevell. Catch up on BBC iPlayer

Ravenscar - 'The Town that Never Was' - search on YouTube for a very interesting video on original plans for the 'town', also find out more on the website www.thetownthatneverwas.co.uk

National Archives Newsletter - focus on Crime - including a letter from Dorothy L. Sayers
https://clicks.econnectmail.com/view_online/view_online.php?token2=hGJHeY3rr8VpimMn1NDtPcL_SqMG0ZjmX0HUSNWgvtLcMiavOXpqn8F6zLiE0xmLUB3ghip-GWDU0AYbPiYAw..

'The Horngarth or Penny Hedge, Whitby, NY: The History of a Ceremony in its Historic Landscape lecture by Dr Tom Pickles. Whitby is replete with things to satisfy a landscape-lover. Unravelling the real reasons which explain an ancient ceremony is just the sort of detection I like. Also try 'The Anglo-Saxon Origins of Whitby Fish and Chips'. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2yIjlx4qpc>

The Borough of Altrincham see Mike Nevell's recent article
https://archaeologytea.wordpress.com/2021/04/26/the-founding-of-the-borough-of-altrincham-in-1290/amp/?_twitter_impression=true&fbclid=IwAR3S_3RPdRFRHd7pAvkV33UadqJGMYfRJDwtimhVMNoEyiYc0Pd6LgXQTBw

Record Society of Lancashire & Cheshire Volumes I - CXLVI (1879-2012) can be freely accessed online rslc.org.uk Some very interesting records on here, if you don't mind scrolling through digitised pages.

Another Pole

Not a stink pipe but interesting and about to go through development. This is the little car park against the railway on Cecil Road, Hale. It was originally the way to Clegg's Lane (Heath Road) from New Farm, which was where the main car park is, to the farm fields over the railway, originally Peel Causeway Farm fields which stretched from Spring Road to the Bleeding Wolf. During the war, it contained Hale Fire Station and Ambulance Depot with the air raid siren at the back right.

James Balme Video Tours 'Tvpresenter4history'

James is History columnist for Cheshire Life.

He has a video tour of St Wilfrid's Church Mobberley, and others in Cheshire.

Check out his YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNhe4PqrmEeIDjBnu-bimuw>

Query from Stuttgart - Ludwig - Hofer - Hope - Pimlott

We've had a query from Germany looking for information about a grandmother, and a great-aunt who married a butcher in Salford, who changed his name, then when he died, married a local butcher George Pimlott, who had a shop in Altrincham.

Further research using street directories I have at home, and website FreeBMD, and my own index (and my sister checking things on FindMyPast) came up with the Pimlotts - George & Luise (Louisa) living at 'Cloverley', Wood Lane, Timperley (house no longer there). In 1942 Louisa was widowed and a 'pork butcher' at 61 George Street. (Might expand this into an article for the Journal.)



“More Than Oliver Twist” Project

This project by the Workhouse Network is nearing its end. It involved researchers looking into the lives of occupants in selected workhouses in the 1881 Census, and writing up biographies. These are now available on a database. <https://ehive.com/communities/1167/more-than-oliver-twist>

National Archives Newsletter - in Mental Health week

https://clicks.econnectmail.com/view_online/view_online.php?token2=hGJHeY3rr8VpimMn1NDtPcL_SqMG0ZjmX0HUSNWgvsSKaSgwYrFEpvP1dRfvdHHCmMDOzA9lmeQvid5zIwLQ..

And check out the main website

https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/?utm_source=emailmarketing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=weekly_email_13_may&utm_content=2021-05-14

Advance notice - coming soon - a new Occasional Paper on A Pauper Lunatic in Macclesfield Asylum - the terrifying experience of Alice Petschler, the wife of an Altrincham photographer.

Follow up on **Westerwald**

If you remember I asked if anyone knew of a house called Westerwald in Timperley, well we now have confirmation that the house is still there on Park Road, at the corner of Leys Road. It's very difficult to compare photos as there are tall evergreens at the front. Recent checks by one of our members in the Rate Books for Timperley at the County Record Office show that it is the house now called 'Moorlands' and the name was changed between 1914 and 1927.



“In search of Beowulf” Michael Wood video from BBC4 programme about 2013, available on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1C0sFXUOSLo>

(Incidentally STAG Archaeology Group are proud that Michael Wood opened their HQ building at Timperley Old Hall.)

'Deeper than 'The Dig' with Martin Carver' Dig Venture recorded Zoom talk

Featuring Martin Carver, the lead archaeologist at Sutton Hoo from 1983-2005, the talk reveals what archaeologists have learned about this incredible site in the 80+ years since the famous excavation portrayed in Netflix movie 'The Dig'. Expect surprising discoveries, debates about paganism and Christianity, and revealing discussion about how the questions we ask about the past affect the answers we get. It's 1 hour 48 minutes, including introduction and question and answers. As this is a recording of a live session, you get the 'Chat' comments, like it or not. Here's the direct link.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9NoxXl9q1iycMiv7fKUO0cmVypBrfimAlSceZztrlnCj8r74ox_Kkbh583eRJdHdCZcmTIG0JkczlpF.ymsRNca-9povdoCs?startTime=1621014025000&x_zm_rtaid=LowxG13CTEe9pWyYDKof3w.1621025592913.afe4993ec158f7411e0a43e40e2c42c7&x_zm_rtaid=140

If you have to type it in, try this link, then scroll to the talk. You don't need to click on Cookies

<https://digventures.com/2021/05/deeper-than-the-dig-with-martin-carver/>

Time Team - back again! 'Time Team Assemble: Sites, Team and new Dig Watch'.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zWhHExA58M> 20 minute video on YouTube

The new Time Team is using **Patreon** where subscribers pay a monthly amount, £5, £8, £12 or more, to support the creation of the programmes.

Across 20 series and countless specials, Time Team evaluated over 220 archaeological sites from back gardens to Buckingham Palace! Now, after an absence of around eight years, we are delighted to be bringing Time Team back, with two brand new digs confirmed for 2021.

Patreon is a platform where fans can support us and access premium content for a small monthly subscription. Here

on Patreon, we're producing a new and exclusive range of interviews, Q&As and other behind-the-scenes content, providing unique insights into the making of Time Team. Most importantly, we're offering patrons access to archaeological skills masterclasses introduced by key members of the original team.

More information here: <https://www.patreon.com/TimeTeamOfficial>

Enquiries

I was contacted by a man trying to trace the owner of a car - a one-off E-Type Jaguar delivered in 1962 via Ringway Motors (corner of Stockport Road and Moss Lane) to a Jan Oldfield in Timperley, with a special colour combination. The car is being restored and it will be its 60th anniversary next year. I put out a query on Facebook 'Memories of Timperley' group and answers came suggesting, and then confirming, that it was Ian Oldfield, a keen car owner, who had a newsagents in Riddings Road, Timperley and provided wedding car hire.

Another enquiry was about the cottages on Navigation Road near the station. I checked back to an old photo I took in 1982. From this it looked like the left side of the roof ridge had different ridge 'tiles' to the rest, which may have been stone not tile. By 1989 all the ridge tiles had been replaced. There are a few other examples of **stone ridges** in the area - e.g. Potts Cottages, Grove Lane, Timperley; the old building at the junction of Clay Lane and Whitecarr Lane on the Hale/Timperley border; cottages on Church Brow, Bowdon; and others in the area. See if you can spot any more, let me know.

HALE MOTOR CO. LTD.	FORD COMMERCIAL VAN or LORRY £130
	£135 Four Seater FORD Two Seater £125
	ASHLEY-ROAD, HALE, Agents 280, Deansgate, M/C. for FORD

A few adverts from *The Altrincham, Bowdon & Hale Guardian* 21st July 1916.

In between the notices of men killed and wounded in the Somme offensive, and market gardeners asking for exemption at Military Tribunals, you could still buy a Ford (if you could afford one), get building work done or ailments treated.

MASSAGE & HYDROPATHY.	
ALFRED PEARSON having had 25 YEARS, and Mrs. A. PEARSON 16 YEARS' practical experience in the above treatment of disease respectfully solicit your patronage.	
PATIENTS ATTENDED AT OWN RESIDENCE, or	'Phone 568.
Hydro, 18, Hale-rd., Altrincham.	

JONATHAN	PENNINGTON	& CO.,
ESTABLISHED 1847.	JOINERS, BUILDERS AND GENERAL CONTRACTORS.	'PHONE 199 ALTRINCHAM.
Stamford-road & St. Mary's-road, Bowdon.		
REPAIRS, ALTERATIONS AND JOBBING ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO in All Branches of BUILDING TRADE.		
Funerals Completely Furnished.		
Horticultural and Portable Buildings a Speciality. (ad)		

Random memory - from the days before technological social media [6 Sept 2020]

We used to put a notice in shop windows, especially newsagents, post offices etc, of events, items for sale, or services available, tradesmen needed etc. In Timperley village we always looked in the newsagents by the NatWest bank or the Post Office side window. The charge a few years ago was 50p a week for a postcard. Some shops will still display posters of events, or has 'social media' completely taken over?

Looking forward to seeing you soon - I hope to arrange an open air visit to a local site during the summer - informal, but a bit historical (or is that hysterical ?) Don't forget if you have any pieces, large or small for the Journal, the deadline is 15th June.

Best wishes, Hazel.