



ALTRINCHAM HISTORY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER No. 46. November 2025

Hazel Pryor
11 Thorley Lane,
Timperley
Altrincham
WA15 7BJ

Hello everyone,

I'm writing this on Bonfire night, but away from the 'bangs', in Mid-Wales, although the RAF are busy somewhere above the clouds.

So here are reminders of some events that you might be interested in, and some public consultations, and intriguing bits of local history.

Don't forget our **Christmas party** is on Tuesday 9th December. Tickets £10 each - on sale at the November meeting – cash or cheque only please. If anyone wants to reserve a ticket by email, please contact: eleanor.rogers5@btinternet.com

What's On

'**Rowvember 2025**' – a celebration of The Rows in Chester – every day throughout **November**, various events, including pop-up art events, a tour of historic pubs, and others. For details go to: <https://www.heritagechester.co.uk/> [See 1895 photo at the end.]

Sat 8 November at Knutsford Little Theatre - Catherine Warr, a young YouTube historian who produces short documentaries about a wide range of subjects (surfing in Britain, airships, Special Operations Executive, Vikings, and many more), has a stage show which is a kind of "Horrible Histories" for grown-ups, and is coming to Knutsford Little Theatre in November. There will also be sets from two Sheffield based folk/acoustic artists, Mark Beltane and Duncan Parsons.

This link has more details about the event - <https://wegottickets.com/event/669239/>

Tues 18th November 7pm - 8.30pm 'Church Going: a Stonemason's Guide to the Churches of the British Isles' an online talk from British Assoc for Local History.

Join master stonemason Andrew Ziminski for an illuminating journey through Britain's medieval churches, revealing hidden stories, artistry and architecture. The cost is £5. Use this link for details and to book:

https://www.balh.org.uk/event-balh-church-going-a-stonemason-s-guide-to-the-churches-of-the-british-isles-2025-11-18?utm_medium=email&utm_source=BALH&utm_campaign=newsletter-4602

List of Local Heritage Assets ("Local List") drop-in sessions - consultation on the draft list

Weds 19 November at Trafford Town Hall 4pm -7pm

Mon 24 November at Sale Waterside 4pm-7pm.

Closing date for comments – **before 1 December 2025**.

Some people (HP included) spent a long time in the process of suggesting local buildings, looking at them against criteria and deciding what should go on the Draft Local List.

This is a list with photo and description of lots of buildings (and structures) within Trafford. Divided up so that you can look at each area separately. Worth having a look at just to see the variety of buildings in the area. NB the Local List does not include buildings fully Listed by English Heritage.

You can view the Draft List and comment online at <https://www.trafford.gov.uk/planning/List-of-local-heritage-assets-consultation/List-of-local-heritage-assets-consultation.aspx>

There are also Drop-in sessions with Officers available on

Weds 19 Nov 4pm-7pm at Trafford Town Hall and Monday 24 Nov 4pm-7pm at Sale Waterside

Friday 21 November STAG A.G.M. 7.30pm at STAG HQ behind Old Hall Hotel Talk by David Stanley on ‘Defence of the North West in the 14th century’.

Tuesday 25 November 2025 ‘Will the Real Oliver Cromwell Please Stand Up?’ by Peter Gaunt (University of Chester) The first of a series of free public lectures at University of Chester.

These will be taking place over the next few months at the CML016 Cinema/Screen Room, Chester School of Education, Exton Park Campus, Parkgate Road, CH1 4BJ. Parking on campus is free and close to the venue. Culture and Society Research & Knowledge Exchange Institute at the University of Chester.

TICKETS are free and available via ticket tailor using the link below

<https://buytickets.at/universityofchester1/1765013>

Information can also be found on the University of Chester website, using this

link, <https://www.chester.ac.uk/about/events/event-details/international-slavery-museum--the-journey-the-progress-and-the-plans-with-michelle-charters-obe.php>

Sat 29th November 2pm – Chester Society for Landscape History has a Lecture by Dr Mike Nevell on **The Warburton Archaeological Survey**. This is at Newton on the outskirts of Chester. If you are interested Hazel has more details and can probably provide a lift. Visitors’ fee £4 (includes tea and ‘proper’ cake).

Exhibitions Reminders

Railway 200 - until 4 January 2026 at Weaver Hall Museum

A Celebration of the Railways in the Northwich Area.

<https://weaverhall.westcheshiremuseums.co.uk/>

TREASURE - HISTORY UNEARTHED - at Museum of Liverpool until March 26 – celebrating Treasure from the North West. Find out more about it and tickets here <https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/whatson/museum-of-liverpool/exhibition/treasure-history-uneearthed>

I’ve read an article about this, and it looks really good, with items from the Huxley Hoard and others from Chester and Knutsford, as well as from Lancashire and North Wales. Also stray finds including gold rings with inscriptions (poesy rings) highlighted by digital photography to show tiny details.

Odd things people save . . .



A small lens wiping cloth from B. Freeman, Optician on Shaws Road, Altrincham.

(NB The phone number just has 3012, without an exchange name or number. When were they introduced? My exchange was Ringway.)

I’ve got one like it from Jenrick’s in Timperley Village. As well as more recent ones from Specsavers.

On YouTube

‘Medieval Monopoly: How 12 Guilds Controlled all of London’s Wealth’- a 48 minute video talk about peasants, landlords and a medieval abbey. Starts with basic information about medieval farming – the three field system, etc. Using Denny Abbey in the Fens as an example. Part of the History Hits channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fq5nZrfXD9w>

‘Basingwerk Abbey and Greenfield Valley, Flintshire: a busy summer of excavations!’ an article on recent digs in the grounds of the abbey. <https://heneb.org.uk/basingwerk-abbey-and-greenfield-valley-a-busy-summer-of-excavations/>

(Heneb is the Trust for Welsh Archaeology). Chester Society for Landscape History had a talk about this last month, very interesting. The site is worth a visit, AHS had a trip there many years ago.

‘Worcester Cathedral Tour’ - a 16 minute video tour by Worcester Cathedral Learning Team
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=84jxB9Ymxow>

News

The Orange Tree pub, Old Market Place. A Historic England inspector visited in September and has produced their report, giving architectural/historic details about the building. We’ll have to wait and see if this will result in protection for the remaining features.

The George & Dragon near Sandiway is now closed. I went past the day after the last pint was pulled, and already the metal signs with the George & Dragon were gone, and the car park was screened off, with a skip parked there. There is no planning application as yet.



Here are The George & Dragon and The Wheatsheaf, showing also houses along Church Street that were demolished when that road was widened.

There is an additional planning application for The Wheatsheaf, with alterations to deal with some structural problems.

More on Neville Cardus – or rather . . . more on **Eliahoo Joseph**, rumoured to live somewhere in Timperley. [See the last Newsletter for the start of the story.]

Well, I did a search online for Eliahoo Joseph, and found a reference to a newspaper article. So I looked on British Newspaper Archive (BNA) and what an ‘interesting’ man he was!

In 1891 he was charged with defrauding a railway company – wow, sounds bad, but he was travelling on the Midland Railway without a ticket. Various other mentions show that he was a shipper, trading as E. Joseph & Co, in Queen St, Manchester. Then in 1892 he was sued for breach of promise by the daughter of a merchant in Port Said ! [A lot more to come about that.]

Then in 1903 it looks like his company as a shipper of cotton and woollen goods failed (a meeting of creditors) and it gives his residence as ‘Glencoe’, Park Avenue, Timperley. There’s more to come, but this at least gives an address. So, back to the 1901 Census, and we just searched for a Joseph surname in Timperley and there he was, but listed as Elihoo (not Eliahoo). But there is another mention with his name as Elishoo. British Newspaper Archive works on optical character recognition in scanning old newspapers, and an ‘s’ could easily be seen as an ‘a’. So do I now go back to the BNA and search again for Elihoo and Elishoo? What fun. And the Cardus connection? Staying with Elihoo in Park Avenue in 1901 was a certain Beatrice Cardus. More to come on that as well.

More . . . Odd things people save

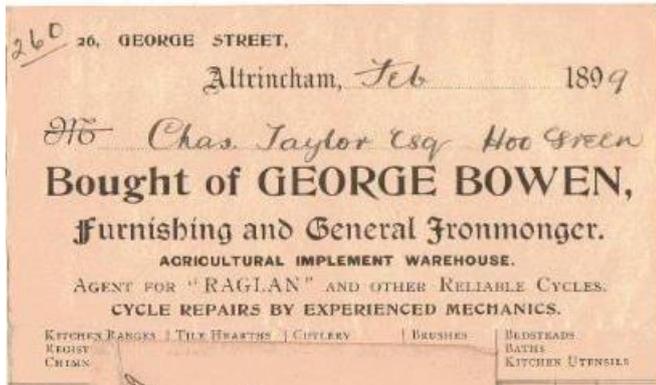


Curved metal nameplate (about 7 inches across and heavy) – came off a chaff cutter that Bryn Mallion bought at an agricultural dispersal sale. The cutter went into use at a local allotments. Bryn passed it on to HP in 2021.

George Bowen's shop was on the corner of George Street near the Axe & Cleaver pub on Kingsway. [On the right in the postcard.]

A billhead from 1899 lists: Furnishing and General Ironmonger. Agricultural Implement Warehouse. Agent for 'Raglan' and other

Reliable Cycles. Cycle Repairs by Experience Mechanics. Kitchen Ranges; Tile Hearths; Chimney sweeps; Cutlery, Brushes; Bedsteads; Baths; Kitchen Utensils.



Sad to say that Bryn died recently. He was a member of AHS for a few years, and gave us a talk about his memories of Altrincham shops. He was a member of Altrincham Court Leet for a long time, and an Alderman.



I think this will be my next trip out; a look around the Rows, check out Booth Mansion to see if it is open, and allow enough time for Evensong at the Cathedral.

See you around,

Hazel