

## ALTRINCHAM HISTORY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER No. 17 November 2021

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Hello Everyone,

We have some sad news, our Vice-President Hilda Bayliss has died, and her funeral is on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 2pm at Altrincham Crematorium. Hilda was 98 and had supported the society right from its foundation by her husband Don, also researching and writing articles and books. If you wish to be present at the funeral please let me know ASAP.

### Christmas 'Party'

The committee has decided that we will have a reduced buffet for the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, cutting out anything that involves a lot of serving, but including snacks, wine and soft drinks, and the usual quizzes. We will have a raffle, but please don't bring in raffle prizes, we will provide a smaller number of prizes. To save a lot of money handling, one strip of raffle tickets will be included in the cost of the evening. The cost will be **£5.00** each - pay on the night, and please **bring exact money** or a cheque. If you have not already put your name down, please book in with Eleanor. Email [eleanor.rogers5@btinternet.com](mailto:eleanor.rogers5@btinternet.com) or phone 973 0829. (If you need Gluten-free please tell us.)

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### News just in - Success for Listing of Air Raid Siren, at Cecil Road, Hale - List Entry Number: 1476688

Historic England has notified George Cogswell of his success in getting the pole-mounted Air Raid Siren listed as Grade II. If you remember it was mentioned in a previous newsletter.

You can read the List entry through Historic England website. <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1476688> Also you can search by map to see other local Listed buildings <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/map-search?clearresults=True>

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### Working Class Movement Library - talks and exhibition and walk - Engels Week 22-28 Nov

Starting on **Friday 19 November 1.00-4.30pm**, and **each Friday afternoon** thereafter until **4 February 2022**, WCML is hosting a pop-up exhibition of a project which aims to understand how industrial workers in Scotland and the North of England, from the 1840s to the 1910s, engaged with literary culture through writing, reading, and participation in wider cultural activities. The exhibition will be accompanied by material from the Library's wide-ranging collections relating to mining and miners. **This free exhibition will be viewable on Friday afternoons, while the Library is open to drop-in visitors.**

On **Sunday 28 November at 2pm** Library trustee **Royston Futter** will lead a radical wander around The Crescent and Chapel Street, starting at the Library, with reminders of Engels and his time in Salford. **Free, no need to book.** During the Week the Library will also be encouraging people to follow links to view films with an Engels theme.

Details on [www.wcml.org.uk/EngelsWeek](http://www.wcml.org.uk/EngelsWeek) and this link for other events <https://www.wcml.org.uk/events/>

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**Trafford Local Studies** has lots of new material on their website

<https://exploringtraffordsheritage.omeka.net/>

Click here to learn how and when to book to consult archives at Sale:

<https://exploringtraffordsheritage.omeka.net/playourvisit>

Click here to view the online catalogue: <https://trafford.spydus.co.uk/.../spydus.exe/MSGTRN/WPAC/ARC>  
1,000+ items have been catalogued this year.

Did you know that you can access 'ProQuest **Historical Newspapers**: The Guardian (1821-2003) and The Observer (1791-2003)' for free?

<https://www.trafford.gov.uk/.../online-reference-library...>

To go search the Historical Newspapers:

1. Simply click on the link above (this will take you to Trafford's Online reference library).
2. Scroll down until you see the section 'Proquest - newspaper articles' and click on the link in that section ('European Newsstream'). This will take you to the ProQuest page.
3. To set your search to the Historical Newspapers: The Guardian (1821-2003) and The Observer (1791-2003), click 'More' and click on 'Historical Newspapers'. That's it! Have fun searching!

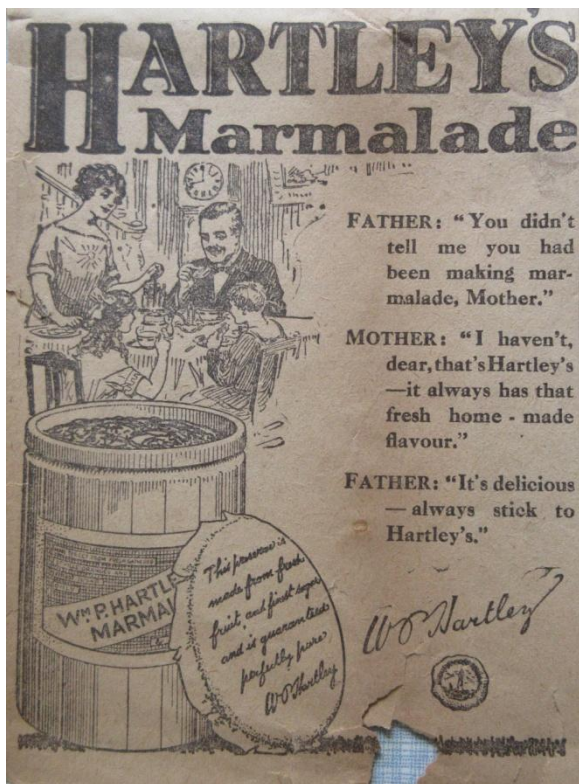
Story of a Nurse from WW1

<https://exploringtraffordsheritage.omeka.net/exhibits/show/trailblazing-women-of-trafford/maria-margaret-netherwood?fbclid=IwAR2cqQWkPC2FyjpOH2CJ9Fxxo6EPA3QLfp7iF0dR-tapVwXqUGJvtg7j5To>

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Looking ahead - Saturday 5 February 2022 '**Outsiders Looking In - visitors' impressions of the North West 1600-1939**. Regional Heritage Centre Study Day with Dr Alan Crosby. May be live at Lancaster University or online. Alan always delivers a range of fascinating topics. He'll be covering early travellers from 1500-1750, tourism and the search for the romantic 1750-1900, the economic transformation 1750-1900 and reporters and reformers and their descriptions 1900-1939. Details via this newsletter <https://www.alumni.lancs.ac.uk/emailviewonwebpage.aspx?erid=7926579&trid=2d21b4b2-c876-4951-83d5-5a9a26b73d3b> (The last study day that I attended there was just before Covid lockdown and was on Epidemics !)

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How about a new cooker (for the marmalade) and lots of steaming hot water?  
No trouble trying to get your 'Nest' digital control system to work with this one!  
Just think of the 'cheery open fire'. But you will need the old coal shed, and preferably a skivvy to clean it out. [Altrincham Guardian Feb 1924]

**The Ideal RANGE for the CHEERFUL HOME**

THE Range that cooks your food just as you want it cooked; ensures a plentiful supply of steaming hot water at all times; provides a cheery open fire; burns brightly, and is easy to light; doesn't fill your kitchen with smoke or dirt; stands long and continuous wear, never gets out of order, and reduces your COAL BILL by ONE HALF is the popular Patent FORESIGHT COMBINATION RANGE.

THE PATENT COMBINATION  
**FORESIGHT**  
RANGE

H. P. BOILER  
SWIRLING WOB PLATE AND TRUCK AFTER COOKING

**INQUIRE FOR PRICE LIST.**

**BOWENS,**  
THE IRONMONGERS,  
26, George Street, Altrincham.

## Cheshire Archives & Local Studies (the Record Office)

Latest Newsletter has some useful links - e.g. to Directories of Cheshire:

[http://cheshiredirectories.manuscripteye.com/index.htm?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](http://cheshiredirectories.manuscripteye.com/index.htm?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

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### Hale Light Orchestra history

David Miller and Jane Smith have compiled a history of the Orchestra, which Jane started. Read about it and see the programmes here: <https://davidmiller41.wixsite.com/altyweb>

On an iPad it is best viewed with the screen locked. Some programmes are missing and may get added later.

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### Publications on the way - two new Occasional Papers are now available:

Portrait of a Georgian Marriage - 5<sup>th</sup> Countess of Stamford & Warrington, by Ann Nosowska & Kath Rigby;  
A Pauper Lunatic in Macclesfield Asylum: the terrifying experience of Alice Petschler, by Joanna Williams.

In preparation is a paper by George Cogswell on the two Newtons, father and son, who were civil engineers. Here's a taster - John Newton became involved in the surveying and planning work for the new sewerage system in Altrincham, following the report to the Altrincham Local Board of Health in 1852. His son Charles Edward Newton was involved with sewerage and drainage works, waterworks and tramways, including Altrincham. He built 'Watling Gate' in Timperley, and left the house and artworks to Altrincham Borough Council.

WW2 Memories of Altrincham, Part 2 is in progress, more stories would be welcome, short or long.

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### Timperley Slaughterhouse demolished !

Where? you may ask. The photos show what was the NatWest Bank and the corner Pharmacy shop at the traffic lights in Timperley village. Development is taking place which will see the bank turned into a two storey restaurant, and the pharmacy extended backwards. My interest is in knowing that when the corner shop was a butcher's, the single storey outbuilding was a slaughterhouse.



I asked the friendly demolition men if they had found any signs of it, and they showed me the oval hanging rack from which carcasses would be hung - maybe 6 feet long by about 4 feet wide. (Sorry, about 2m. by 1.5m.) Very difficult to photograph as it was just above an inserted ceiling. It had been hung by six upright bars, and had pulley wheels so carcasses could be moved round. They asked me if I wanted it, had to refuse as got nowhere to put it, (garage already full of junk.)

The room next to the one with the hanging rack has a floor of stone setts. Work has paused at present, I'll see what they turn up next. You can check the Planning Application if you want details:

<https://publicaccess.trafford.gov.uk/online-applications/> search for 99878/FUL/20.

**1921 Census** is to be released in January 2022 on Findmypast. More information here:  
[https://clicks.econnectmail.com/view\\_online/view\\_online.php?token2=rzoK73KEXmgYL\\_AKghcMyicki6ln5tvJ\\_H2LcjQSVITUCrWFeXWC5C0bD-iysjiai4vs2iW5l-ziryNSw1RSgw..](https://clicks.econnectmail.com/view_online/view_online.php?token2=rzoK73KEXmgYL_AKghcMyicki6ln5tvJ_H2LcjQSVITUCrWFeXWC5C0bD-iysjiai4vs2iW5l-ziryNSw1RSgw..) Hope people don't overload the system as happened when the 1911 Census was released.

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**Sutton Hoo Helmet** - I came across a video on YouTube, by Dr Sue Brunning of The British Museum, about 18 minutes long. Here's the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zYk0GH5iFYI> or you can search on YouTube on TV for "**Sue Takes on the Sutton Hoo Helmet**". I tried finding this on The British Museum website, and had to go all round the houses, but came across a lot of other interesting blogs and videos. Sue also has a video on her favourite Saxon sword - on this page: <https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/death-and-memory>.

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St Mary's Church Bowdon <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yf0vi0Bdm3A> a short video by James Balme about 10 minutes. On YouTube also Nether Alderley Church <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SF3BNuIhmYI> Welcome to episode four of our brand new series 'Ancient Churchyards of Cheshire'. In this episode join me as I take you to Nether Alderley in Cheshire to take a look around the churchyard of St Mary's church. We take a look at this wonderful ancient site once the scene of a major dispute between feuding families of the 16th centuries and beyond. I also tell the story of 19th century body snatchers. With over twenty other Cheshire churchyards to feature in the coming months new episodes will be released soon. (Use the links above to access more of James's videos.)

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**Did you know** - Sir Bernard Lovell lived in Timperley for a while, on Fairview Road, around 1946. Does anyone have more information?

And Cyril Washbrook, opening bat for Lancashire and England cricket teams, lived on Thorley Lane.

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Recent family history research has found a (remote) connection to a **murder!** A young man, Thomas Jenkinson of Goose Green, Altrincham was attacked and killed by some Irish labourers in 1868. He had been going in the early hours to meet with friends and go mushrooming. The Irishmen were going back to the farms where they worked after a night of drinking. It seems a case of being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

[See the article in AHS Journal 35.]

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**Random Memories** Prompted by something on TV - things we don't hear of today - Did you put 'Threepenny Joeys' in your homemade Christmas puddings? - old silver threepenny bits, saved specially for that purpose. I might still have one in a drawer, along with cake decorations of a Father Christmas and a snowman, made of sugar. And somewhere I've still got a small cardboard box with candle holders for the Christmas tree that clipped onto the branches with alligator clips. You have to be very careful where you put them to avoid setting fire to the tree, or singeing the glass baubles. (That's why I have to hang one of the old baubles the right way so you that can't see the smoked part.)

I hope to see you soon. Best wishes, wrap up warm, and pile on the coal!

Hazel

