

## ALTRINCHAM HISTORY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER No. 19 January 2022

Hazel Pryor  
11 Thorley Lane,  
Timperley  
Altrincham  
WA15 7BJ

Hello everyone,

Here is the usual mixture of news, events, sources of information and titbits.

First, we have a **change of speaker for the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> February** due to illness of our booked speaker (not Covid though). Instead we have a talk by Brian Groom on '**Northerners: A History. From the Ice Ages to the 21st Century**'. He has a book of the same title due out in April. Brian is from Stretford and Sale, and went to Manchester Grammar School. He is a journalist and has been an assistant editor and political editor of the Financial Times and editor of Scotland on Sunday. Hopefully we can have Rev Bryan Corke at a later date.

Don't forget we still have some restrictions on numbers, so you will need to book with Eleanor by email: [eleanor.rogers5@btinternet.com](mailto:eleanor.rogers5@btinternet.com) or by phone on 0161 973 0829. Also please wear a mask (unless exempt).

-----

**Late News** The Dee Valley: from source to Liverpool Bay. Chester Society for Landscape History has a talk on **Sat 29<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm** at Upton near Chester. I hope to be going, if you fancy coming let me know ASAP as we have to book a place.

-----

### Books

Book Sale at The National Archives - I would recommend two by Oliver Rackham - 'History of the Countryside' and 'Trees & Woodland in the British Landscape' with lots of others, at less than half price. <https://shop.nationalarchives.gov.uk/collections/sale-books>

Second-hand local history books - Bob Dobson, from Blackpool has his latest catalogues of books on Cheshire and Lancashire. Some good books on his lists, and 50% discount if you are willing to go to Blackpool to see what he has. Let me know if you are interested and I will forward the catalogues.

-----

### Virtual Walks

Here's a new way to explore history - check out a new virtual low tide trail that discovers some of the hidden women's history on the Wirral, including the ship *Wye* built at the Cammell-Laird Shipyard. <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/7c86a168d70d44078d3c87ce4539ebff> (You may need to click on Women of Wirral to gain access) - and it's not just for women. The site includes aerial photos, and you could do an actual walk if you fancy blowing away the cobwebs.

### More Virtual Walks on YouTube

How about a virtual walk round Nantwich Town Centre. This link is from the Peak & Northern Footpath Society newsletter. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kIV0y72UY3M>

And another round Wilmslow [https://youtu.be/xbR\\_xhk9YW8](https://youtu.be/xbR_xhk9YW8) - Town Centre (4 k)

And Macclesfield [https://youtu.be/5Q7UDo\\_RZfE](https://youtu.be/5Q7UDo_RZfE) - Macclesfield town centre walk

-----

**The National Archives - the 1921 Census is here**, available on Findmypast and at Manchester Central Library. You can find out more about what to expect and how to research the 1921 Census of England and

Wales with a video and a talk

[https://clicks.econnectmail.com/view\\_online/view\\_online.php?token2= hGJHeY3rr8VpimMn1NDtPcL\\_SqMG0ZjmX0HUSNWgvvGOsAGKrcnQMsUoX51LQLtqpaPBOB\\_eQDj1Q\\_ChCd1Q..](https://clicks.econnectmail.com/view_online/view_online.php?token2= hGJHeY3rr8VpimMn1NDtPcL_SqMG0ZjmX0HUSNWgvvGOsAGKrcnQMsUoX51LQLtqpaPBOB_eQDj1Q_ChCd1Q..)

Taken on 19 June 1921, the census is a survey of 38 million people living in England and Wales, during a period of economic turmoil following a world war and recovering from a global pandemic.

This Census is particularly interesting - not least because it is the last one for 30 years.

The first thing that makes this census so interesting is the detailed depiction we gain of how the country adjusted to peacetime and the lasting impact of the First World War, on a societal and individual level.

In addition to this, the census also gives us greater insight into the lives of 1920s people, with information on divorce, occupation and children.

Following from this there are 3 talks on the 1920s - check this link

[https://clicks.econnectmail.com/view\\_online/view\\_online.php?token2= hGJHeY3rr8VpimMn1NDtPcL\\_SqMG0ZjmX0HUSNWgvrsrOYUpVPDZLjAp8sY24q3JJgldSzjw4dBP1XP-9meYg..](https://clicks.econnectmail.com/view_online/view_online.php?token2= hGJHeY3rr8VpimMn1NDtPcL_SqMG0ZjmX0HUSNWgvrsrOYUpVPDZLjAp8sY24q3JJgldSzjw4dBP1XP-9meYg..)

---

## Archaeology Tea

Mike Nevell has done a podcast on Digging the Moat: Timperley Old Hall Moated Site, talk lasts about 15 minutes. More podcasts on Mike's website: <https://archaeologytea.wordpress.com/> 'Episode 7 of the Archaeotea Podcast is now available free to download. In this episode I look at the archaeology of Timperley Old Hall moat in Trafford, Greater Manchester and over 20 years of research on the site by the South Trafford Archaeological Group.'

---

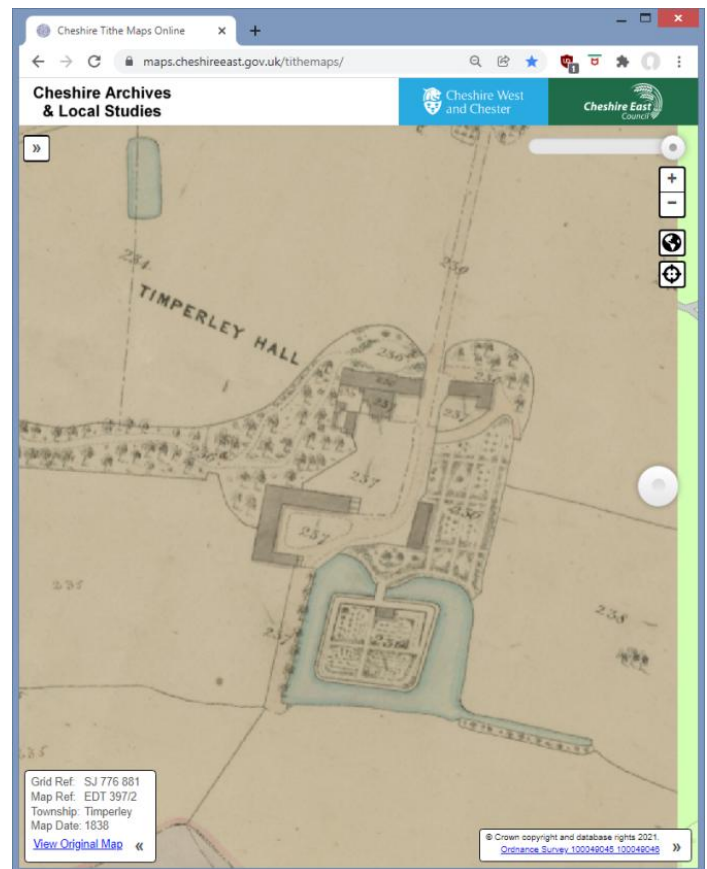
The archaeology of Trafford in twelve objects.

Mike Nevell has also uploaded details of 12 objects demonstrating the archaeology of Trafford. For each object he gives the background history. Here's the address:

<https://archaeologytea.wordpress.com/2021/12/24/the-archaeology-of-trafford-in-12-objects-a-seasonal-introduction/> Scroll down the site to find them all.

This map extract is from the Cheshire Tithe Maps Online website

<https://maps.cheshireeast.gov.uk/tithemaps/>



---

I've been reading a book called '**Northern Pride**' by John Grundy, sub-titled: the very best of Northern architecture. (Published by Granada in 2003.) Note that he considers Cheshire to be not northern! It's easy reading and very good, makes me want to visit more of the northeast and Cumbria that I have missed. Writing about new uses for old mills he mentions Chorlton New Mills in Cambridge St, Manchester. They were built from the 1790s over a period of 20 years, and were owned at one time by Robert Owen. In the 1820s and later they were owned by a man called Mackintosh who invented a way of waterproofing material. He patented his invention and introduced Mackintoshes to the world - very useful in Manchester! The mills were converted to housing in 1998-2001, with 'loft' style apartments still showing the fire-proof construction. I wonder what they cost now.

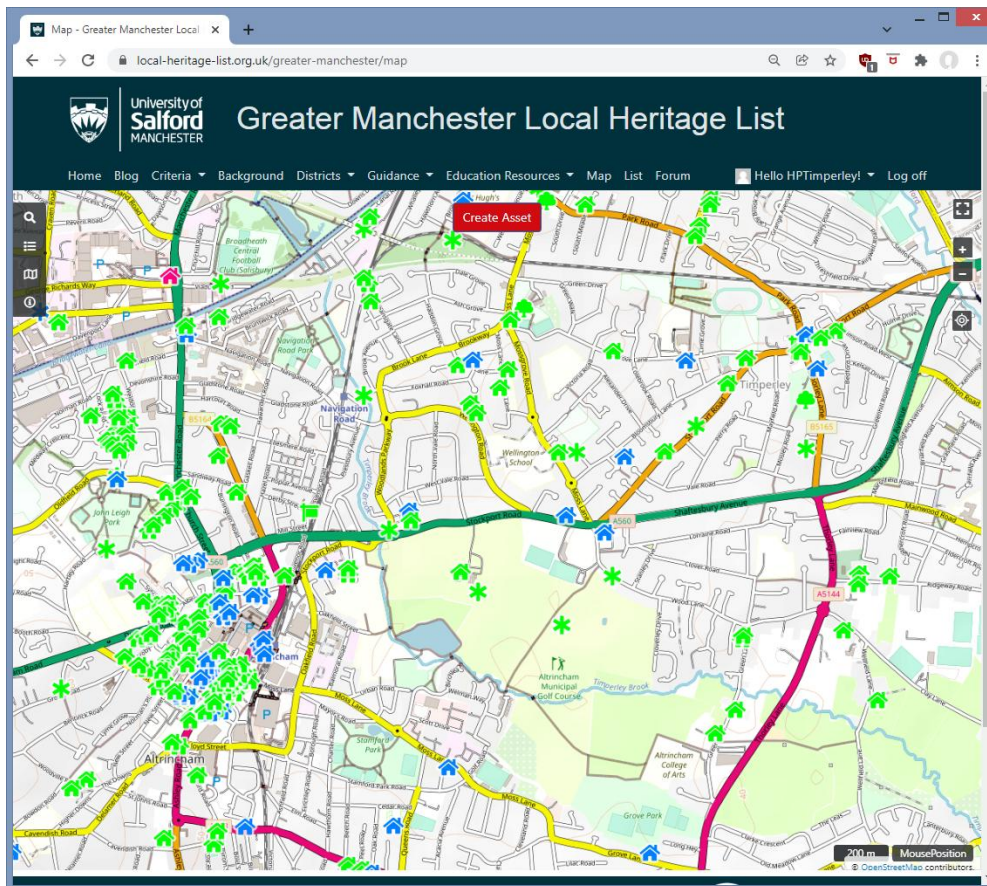
---

**Altrincham Town Hall** - see this link for lots of detail, and more on buildings with Runcorn sandstone. <https://www.facebook.com/stuart.allen.3538/posts/1578893725829278>

## Local Heritage Listing Project

The deadline for adding 'assets' to the list for Trafford ended on 31<sup>st</sup> December, with a last minute flurry of activity. (I ran out of steam at 9pm, my typing was getting very erratic.)

The process now is that the 'candidates' for the list will be reviewed. I'm not sure if you can still register on the site, if you can, and then log-in, you can click on Map at the top and view the sites that have been added.

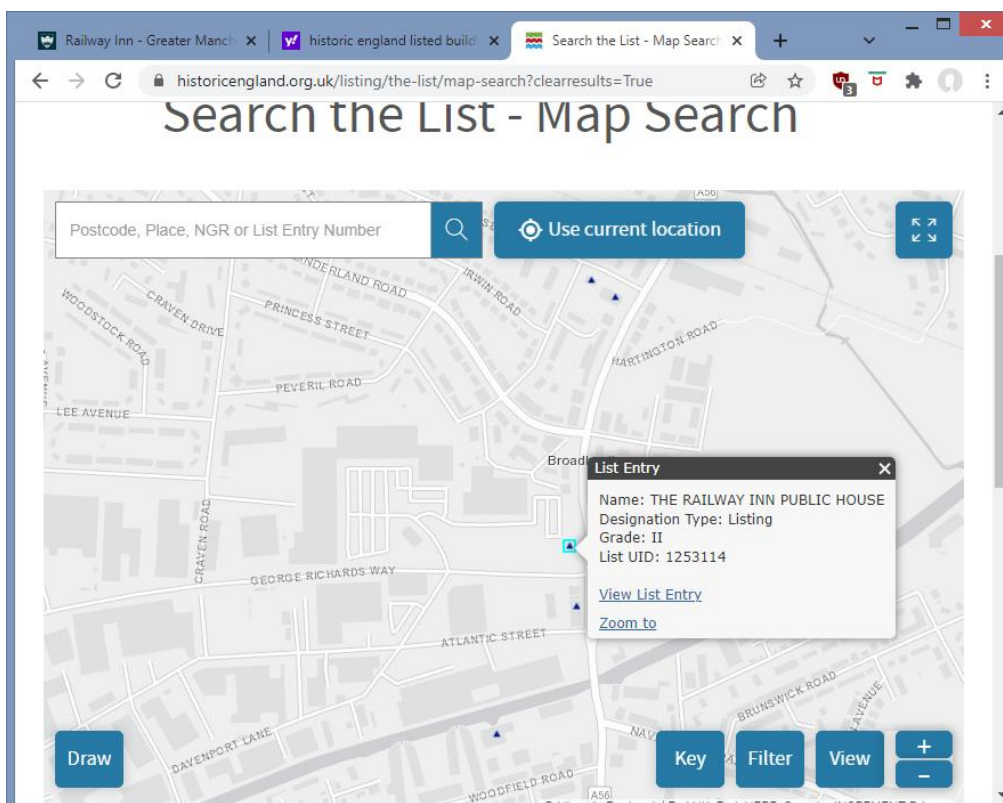


The red marker at top left is the Railway Inn in Broadheath, that has been 'rejected', but don't worry, that is because it is already Listed Grade II.

If you click on List at the top, you can Filter by area for Trafford and look at the entries for each 'asset'.

(Have you ever thought how many 'Moss Lanes' there are in Trafford.)

You can check on **Listed Buildings** on the website of Historic England - <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list> Scroll down to 'Search using a map'.



You can compare the two maps and see just which buildings/structures are either already Listed with Historic England or have been proposed for the Local List.

I kept thinking of some that I had not added, check a couple and realised that someone else had, but there are still more 'assets' that I forgot about. I hope we can add more once the list has been established.

Cottage Core - 500 years of life at home, the way that a building will have changed over time illustrated Time Team interview with Dr Richard Parker. 35 minutes  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQKxgxXG12c>

---

**Tit-bits found** - this one is at Tameside Local Studies - Ref. DD42

Title: Dukinfield Independent Riflemen. 'Order of proceeding to Timperley. Dukinfield & Ashton-under-Lyne Volunteers to accompany the Sheriff's coach to Timperley.' Dated April 11, 1807. (I wonder why the Sheriff was heading for Timperley? Was it a regular tour, something ceremonial, or had the locals been naughty?)

---

### **Two Bowdon men in 1536**

From the latest copy of Cheshire History (No. 61, 2021-22, p35, 39) in an article about Thomas Cromwell, control of the county and gentry feuds in Cheshire. Leaders of the Pilgrimage of Grace in Yorkshire, were overheard by two Bowdon men and their comments are quoted from 'Letters and Papers of Henry VIII':

'Raynold Ryley and Ric. Barlow of Bowden, Cheshire, say they were in Pomfret [Pontefract] on Saturday after St. Andrew's Day, to sell salt and herring, and saw the captains of the commons come in. [Details of the leaders and where they were lodging]. The hosts say they care not for Lancashire, for the lord of Lancashire rules over all the shire; nor for Cheshire, for the rulers there, Sir William Brereton and Sir Piers Dutton, cannot agree.'

This shows how far Cheshire men went selling salt, and the importance of herring as a preserved food. By coincidence another article mentions remains of herring bones found in a pit at the mediaeval site at Poulton, south of Chester.

---

Whether you knew about **Frank Sidebottom** and liked him or not, I've recently watched his "Magical Timperley Tour" - about 7 minutes on YouTube - spotting people I remember - Barbara Shaw (nee Marsland) outside the Co-op at about 30 seconds in, and I think it's Nancy A. posting a letter. And no, I don't think Shaftesbury Ave was built as an emergency runway. You can watch it here  
<https://www.stevesullivan.co.uk/magical-timperley-tour>

---

Another titbit

Bowdon in 1920 - Bowdon, North Dakota, that is !

I think those are grain 'elevators' in the background.

I wonder who named it?

And there's a Bowdon in Georgia, USA as well.

---



**Photo Quiz answers** - How did you get on?

1. Date-stone from Altrincham Town Hall front door
  2. Detail at corner of Market Street and Post Office Street
  3. Altrincham Town Hall
  4. Passage at side of Bricklayers Arms looking towards George Street
  5. St Vincent's Church, Groby Road.
  6. Dunham Road Unitarian Church
  7. Detail on Market Hall, Market Street entrance
  8. Bowdon Church, St Mary's, from The Firs
  9. Railway Street, with Goose Green on the right, the Stamford Arms and The Woolpack on the left.
  10. The George & Dragon
  11. Old Market Place, with old thatched house on corner of Victoria St.
- 

Hope to see you soon, best wishes, Hazel.