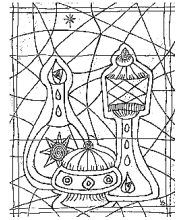




The Friends of Lancashire Archives

NEWSLETTER



'Gold, frankincense & myrrh' by StushieArt

Priorities and anniversaries in 2018

Epiphany Quarter, 2018

Charity Registration Number
518611

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Alan Crosby, FLA Chair

Welcome, a little belatedly, to another year of research in the archives, historical explorations, and support for Lancashire's written heritage. Elsewhere in this issue of the Newsletter I've listed what the Friends of Lancashire Archives achieved during 2017, in our work of supporting and promoting the archive service. We're trying to make a real difference in overcoming some of the challenges which the record office faces in these difficult times and, while there's always a lot more to do, I think we're succeeding and having a very positive impact.

The coming year will see the implementation of our most ambitious project so far – the cataloguing of the Dalton of Thurnham archive. This will be paid for in full by the Friends of Lancashire Archives – we will pay for the employment of an archivist for a one-year contract. He has been appointed – he's James Towe, who for several years has been the archivist at Chatsworth (so he's swapping one masterpiece of architecture for another!). James will provide cover for Vicci McCann, who will catalogue

the collection. The archive is owned by Lancashire County Council, an important consideration since if it was privately-owned there might have been legal and financial complications (not least, spending charitable funds to benefit, albeit indirectly, a private owner). So, sometime in Spring 2019 we hope to be celebrating the completion of the Dalton of Thurnham project.

One of our thoughts, in discussions with archive staff, is that it would be wise to draw up a longer-term cataloguing strategy so that we can begin to plan our priorities and expenditure over the coming years, and so the record office can pinpoint those collections which are 'top of the list'. Considerations might be, as just noted, the question of ownership, but also (for example) making sure that different parts of the county benefit; ensuring that collections to be catalogued will be really well used and have a wide appeal; and thinking about finishing off the work on collections where cataloguing was started in the past but was then suspended. We aren't making any commitments at this stage, but we want to ensure that the

[Estate Map of Warton: page 4](#)



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money which we have is spent in the best possible way.

Commemoration of anniversaries is an integral part of 'public history' these days, and we've quite a few coming up. In March 2018 we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of John Horrocks, the greatest of Lancashire's early cotton magnates. Of course there's the imminent centenary of the giving of the vote to many (but by no means all) women, and towards the end of the year the solemn occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Armistice which ended the Great War. At the beginning of 2019 many family and local historians will be aware that a hundred years ago the Spanish 'flu raged, killing more people than the war itself, while August 2019 marks the

bicentenary of one of the most dramatic and politically-charged events in British history, the Peterloo Massacre.

This all seems (John Horrocks and votes for women excepted) to be a catalogue of darkness, but while we will be looking at our county archives and finding documents that relate to these events, we'll also be looking on the bright side and enjoying a great programme of talks, workshops and special days during 2018. I'd like to thank everybody who has helped to make 2017 such a good year (special thanks go to our outstandingly good treasurer, Peter Bamford, for husbanding our resources so skilfully) and thank you, too, to all the Friends. We hope to see as many of you as possible at events in 2018, and don't forget to encourage your friends to join the Friends!

Membership Matters

Peter Bamford, Membership Secretary & Treasurer

theflatreasurer@gmail.com

Hello

Since our last edition we have two new members and we welcome to our group

Trevor Simm of Penwortham

John Grimbaldeston of Woodplumpton

We look forward to meeting them at one of our events.

Goodbye

Shortly after our last edition we were informed of the death of Vicky Barlow a long standing Friend and volunteer with the will flattening project. Her cheery smile and wicked sense of humour will be greatly missed.

Two other members, Margaret Purcell and Carole Kampf have decided not to renew their membership. We're sorry to lose them but wish them well for the future.

Renewals

The majority of memberships have now been renewed but a few remain outstanding. If you haven't yet paid an early settlement would be much appreciated. If you have decided not to renew please let us know to save having to send reminders. Thank you.

How did the Friends support Lancashire Archives in 2017?

Alan Crosby, FLA Chair

During 2017 the Friends of Lancashire Archives spent (or agreed to spend in the future) no less than £45,000 on our core task of supporting the work of Lancashire Archives. The range of projects and materials which we funded is very wide and really impressive, as the list below demonstrates, but we have also enjoyed an interesting and rewarding programme of events. In the coming year we'll be continuing to hold workshops and talks, undertake fundraising and work very closely with the archive service to maximise the benefits which our contribution can bring. Here's what we did last year:

- we held two very successful workshops which focused on key types of archives held at the record office (Archdeaconry of Richmond ecclesiastical court records, quarter sessions records)
- we arranged several talks on aspects of the history and archival heritage of the North West ('Stephen, Count of Mortain and the honour of Lancaster', 'An introduction to the earldom, duchy and palatinate of Lancaster and their records', 'Getting away from it all – seaside resorts and the Lakes', 'Music in a Lancashire country house – Rufford Hall in the 1730s')
- we held two guided walks to places of historic interest in the county (Westfield Memorial Village at Lancaster, and Slaidburn)
- Anna Watson and her team opened Café Archive four times during the year; and we bought a new teapot to help with FLA catering at events in the record office (essential equipment)!
- all of these activities covered their costs, and the profits went straight into our funds to assist and support the archive service
- in October we had a 'behind the scenes' event at the record office, for members of the Friends of Lancashire Archives, looking at treasures from the Horrockses archive
- we continued to support the cataloguing and related work on the Horrockses collection (DDHS) including raising money to help the completion of the project (the total cost was £6250)
- we have helped with the now-completed work on the archive of Abbots of Lancaster, stained glass manufacturers (DDAB), including a travel grant to allow Lindsey Sutton to visit the National Stained Glass Museum at Ely to obtain professional advice on the project
- we agreed to contribute £1000 towards the ongoing 'Whittingham Lives' project, centred around the cataloguing of the Whittingham Hospital Archive (HRW) and a wide range of related historical and cultural activities
- we gave a further £500 for the detailed cataloguing of the very important mining plans from the Hulton archive (DDHU), which was purchased for the record office with our help in 2014, and also gave £1344 to repackage part of the collection
- £700 was given to the archive service to

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employ a temporary archivist for a few days to make a detailed inventory of Anglican church registers, microfilms and microfiche, to prepare for work with external partners with a view to generating income for the archive service

- we paid £87.50 (50 per cent of the purchase cost) for an 18th century estate map of Warton [Carnforth], now catalogued as DDX 3202/1; we joined with Mourholme Local History Society to make this purchase
- we bought a humidification membrane for the conservation workshop (£265), to be used initially for the Honor of Clitheroe archives (DDHCL)
- we bought fifteen laptops for use by volunteers working on projects at the record office – at a bargain price of £3812; we've also agreed in principle to buy a new printer for these projects and for use in workshops and training sessions
- we have helped to promote the record office and archive service by funding the printing of leaflets and booklets with the programme of events
- we have also agreed to fund a one-year contract for an archivist to provide cover, while a senior archivist sorts and catalogues the Dalton of Thurnham archive (DDDA); this will operate from April 2018 and will be by far the largest contribution we have ever made to the work of the record office – about £30,000, drawn from the very generous legacy made by Miss Joan Gardner
- under the guidance of Anna Watson, a group

of volunteers from the Friends are indexing the thirteen volumes of the Blackburn Workhouse Registers (1885-1913) and have completed almost 5000 entries so far



Two of the laptops purchased by FLA, in use in the volunteer room

Are you having problems with your family history?

The Preston Branch of the Lancashire Family History and Heraldry Society are now running family history surgeries in the Lecture Room at Bow Lane on the second Friday of each month between 10 and 12 noon.

Why not pop in and see if a fresh pair of eyes can help break through a brick wall or point you in new directions to help your research. It's free and refreshments are provided.

The next session is on Friday 9th February.



Blackburn Workhouse Project

Anna Watson

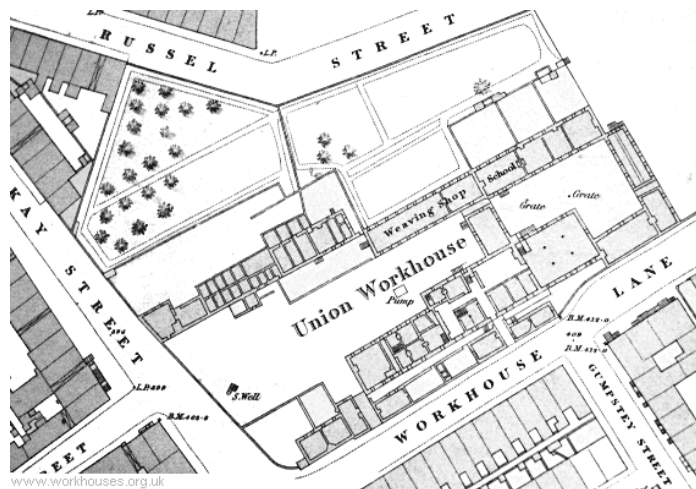
As we move into 2018, the volunteers indexing the workhouse admission registers are nearing 5000 entries. Once this milestone is reached, the committee will look into making this first tranche available on-line, probably on the FLA website.

Currently we have 4 volunteers working on the registers but there is room for 3 more. Unlike most other volunteer projects, the volunteers work in the searchroom on their own, at any time convenient for you when the Office is open. You would need a Reader's Ticket and must be a member of, or join the Friends. A laptop is provided and it is useful (but not essential) to have a

knowledge of spreadsheet programs eg Excel, LibreOffice Calc, Google Sheets etc. The index can be typed straight into a pre-prepared format but if you prefer not to use a computer, we also have paper forms that can be filled in. If you think this would be of interest and would like to know more please contact

annawatson55@virginmedia.com.

To read more about the project and stories from the registers go to <https://annawatson.weebly.com/blackburn-workhouse.html>



Blackburn Workhouse 1848, ordnance Survey

Contact FLA

The Friends of Lancashire Archives can be contacted via our website www.flarchives.co.uk

You may direct letters to any committee member via Lancashire Archives Bow Lane, Preston, Lancashire
PR1 2RE

Phone enquiries by text or voice message: 07565327598

News from the archives

Jacque Crosby, Archives Service Manager

There have been a lot of good things in the last 3 months. Most important: we heard that we had kept our status as an Accredited Archive Service. The letter from The National Archives stated that the Accreditation Panel "... recognised the significant impact of finance and staffing reductions on Lancashire Archives since the award in 2014. However, they also recognised the service's considerable achievement in continuing to develop and to deliver a positive service throughout this very difficult time. The Panel congratulated the service's staff and management on this success."

The Friends of Lancashire Archives have played a significant role in supporting us through the challenging times of the last few years and I am very grateful for the committee's willingness to assist with both funding and practical help which allows us to continue to provide a good service..

In November Simon Williams, chairman of the Mourholme Local History Society, brought in the late 18th century estate map of Warton which the Mourholme Society and the Friends have jointly purchased and donated to Lancashire Archives. It is a significant addition to our collection of estate plans and we are very grateful to both organisations.

As reported in the July issue of the FLA newsletter, this is a fine estate map but it has suffered somewhat at the hands of a mid-20th century bookbinder. It seems reasonable to suppose that the map, a working estate document, had become rather dog-eared and was taken to a bookbinder for restoration. It has been washed



[the ink has run slightly], trimmed, cut into rectangular sections and mounted on linen, with spaces between the sections so that it folded into a conveniently sized slip case. In this format it is easy to use, but it has been ruined. When the plan arrived I took it into the conservation workshop where Niki removed the green bookcloth panel and replaced it with an appropriate paper. We have kept the slip folder but the map is now well-protected in one of our archive boxes. Please do come and look at it. The reference is DDX 3202/1.

In addition to the Dalton of Thurnham cataloguing project which you will read about elsewhere we are involved in three other major projects. In the next newsletter I will write more about the Whittingham Lives project, to which the FLA is contributing £1000, but I wanted to tell you about the exciting partnership with Lancaster University and the regional map digitisation project.

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Fiona Edmonds, Lecturer in Regional History at Lancaster University and Director of the Regional Heritage Centre, has been successful in obtaining funding from the ESRC for a 3-year collaborative doctoral studentship. The student will be based at the university and at Lancashire Archives and will research 'the economic and social evolution of Lancashire's coastal areas circa 1150-1550' looking at the evidence of minor place names. We hope that by transcribing and analysing mediaeval deeds held here, and enhancing our catalogue entries in the process, the student will uncover important aspects of historical land use in West Lancashire. We also hope to gather minor place names which contain rich evidence on landscape and land use and will contribute to the data being collected by the Lancashire Place Name survey. This is a first for Lancashire Archives. I am delighted to be involved with this and look forward to an exciting new project from October.

The other project is even larger in scale and will benefit all archive services in the North West. I am working with Robert Baxter and Tony King of Cumbria Archives on a proposal to digitise our tithe maps. We have just applied to The National Archives for a small amount of funding to enable us to consult widely about our proposal and, if appropriate, to prepare an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund. If we obtain this funding Friends may expect to be asked for their views over the next few months.

After all that good news there is, unfortunately, a sting in the tail for some of our users. In order to increase our revenue we have had to raise the charge for supplying copies of probate records. From 1 April 2018 these will now be £10 per item instead of £7.50. They are of course still free to use in the searchroom and researchers in person may photograph many items for the £10 per day facility fee.



Some of the objects donated for schools' use

FLA Support for Schools Outreach

David Tilsley, Archivist

Thank you to those who responded to our appeal for items to use in school sessions. I have received kind donations of coins and banknotes, old pens, World War 2 ephemera and a manual typewriter. A gas mask would still be much appreciated!

Sylvia Birtles (1937-2018)

Anna Watson

There are people reading this who won't remember Sylvia but for about 17 years she worked at Lancashire Record Office (as it used to be) in the searchroom. As a new archivist arriving in 1983, Sylvia was the first person I saw and she no doubt thought me very wet behind the ears. In this she was particularly justified as I barely knew what part of England I was in, never mind county! If she pointed me in the right direction that morning, she continued to do so and I, personally, am very grateful for all she did for me.

Sylvia was quite a blunt Lancastrian, very proud of her roots, into farming, pigs, cats, teaching, motor-cross, motorbikes and many, many more things. She was born in Pilling but lived most of her life in Much Hoole. Although Sylvia had qualified as a teacher, she found herself coming to work at the archives in the

Paul D. Swarbrick

Peter Bamford

It is with deep shock and sadness that I report the sudden death of Preston's 'Mr History' Paul Swarbrick at the age of only 67.

Paul was one of Preston's colourful and most knowledgeable characters. He would go out of his way to share his profound knowledge of Preston history and in particular that of its buildings. He was a founder member of 'Blog Preston' and together with his partner, Gill, was the driving force behind the development and reinvigoration of the Preston Historical Society.

Paul was not a member of the FLA but he was a true friend of us. He produced, at his own ex-

1970s and stayed till she retired in 1992. She was a very organised person and kept the few of us who worked in the searchroom in those days, in order and expected a lot. I think that was very good training for me and I learnt a great deal from her about Lancashire, about people and working. She had her favourite sayings including, "pigs' ears", "give over" and "steady!". I heard the last one a lot if I was getting in a tizz. I still say it to myself now. She also had a well known look that became known as her "Paddington Bear" and you didn't want to get one of those! If I've made her sound formidable well maybe she was but she was a great person to work with and learn from. She had a busy and full retirement and despite being ill for a number of years carried on regardless. I will miss her very much and I think the archives owe her a great deal.



pense, a video to assist fund raising for the cataloguing of the Horrockses collection. He was planning to produce another to promote Lancashire Archives and its collections.



His untimely death is a true loss to Preston's history but it owes so much to him for his contribution to bringing its story to so many people.

A true gentleman; it was a privilege to have known him.

Horrockses at



Lancashire Archives

Saturday 24 March



A workshop to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of John Horrocks, and to explore Lancashire Archives collections relating to the international textile company he founded

Programme

- 10.30 Registration – exhibitions on display; *Café Archive* open for the sale of light refreshments
- 11.00 John Horrocks – *David Hunt*
- 11.35 International trade in the mid-19th century – *Keri Nicholson*
- 12.10 Cataloguing the Horrockses archive – *Lindsay Sutton*

- 12.45 Lunch break: *Café Archive* open for sandwiches; or bring your own packed lunch
Opportunity to watch a Horrockses film; listen to sound archive recordings; talk with Horrockses designer, Wendy Simpson; look at the exhibitions

- 1.30 Working wives and mothers in the cotton industry – *Elizabeth Roberts*
- 2.25 Horrockses Fashions at the Harris Museum and Art Gallery - *Caroline Alexander*
- 3.00 Close

Booking essential. Fee: £5 payable in advance

Places are limited and booking is essential. If you would like to enrol please enquire by email to record.office@lancashire.gov.uk OR telephone 01772 533039 OR ask in person at Lancashire Archives. Once a place has been reserved **payment must be made no later than 21 March 2018** by BACS (see below for details) or by cheque (payable to Friends of Lancashire Archives and sent to Horrockses Workshop, Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, PRESTON PR1 2RE)

For BACS payments please use the following details: Sort Code: 16-28-33 Account number 11771886. Please ensure that you give Horrockses and your surname as reference.

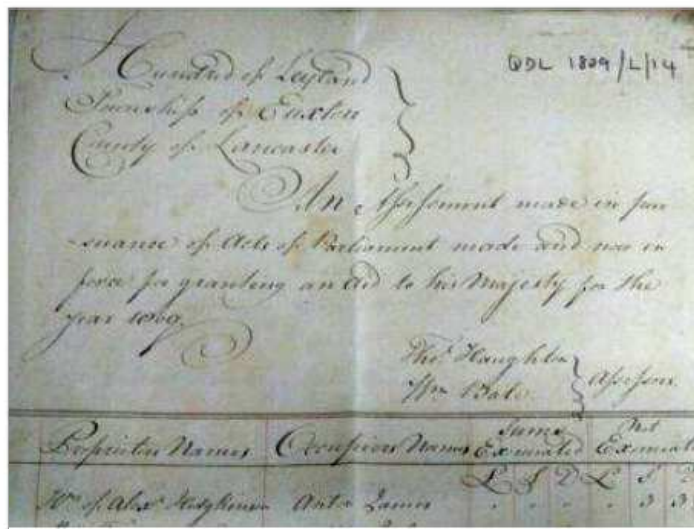
This workshop is being run by the Friends of Lancashire Archives (Charity Registration Number 518611) and Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE



Friends of Lancashire Archives

Charity Registration Number 518611

'There is no such thing as a good tax': Land Tax Assessments, 1780-1832



a half-day workshop on land tax records with tutor, **Anna Watson**

Find out why this tax was introduced. Learn what you might discover about your ancestors from the returns - where they lived and what they were taxed on. Explore how local historians can use Land Tax returns to help to reconstruct the social structure of a community.

Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE

Tuesday 10 April 2018 2- 4pm

£10

Places are limited and **booking is essential**. If you would like to enrol please enquire by email to record.office@lancashire.gov.uk OR telephone 01772 533039 OR ask in person at Lancashire Archives, to find out if a place is available.

Once a place has been reserved **payment must be made no later than 3 April 2018** by BACS (see below for details) or by cheque (payable to **Friends of Lancashire Archives** and sent to ARR Workshop, Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, PRESTON PR1 2RE)

For BACS payments please use the following details:

Sort Code: 16-28-33 Account number 11771886

Please ensure that you give Land Tax and your surname as reference.



Friends of Lancashire Archives

Charity Registration Number 518611

The Poor Law into the 20th century

Dave Burnham



Focussing on Bolton, Dave will explore how the Victorian Poor Law system, centred on the workhouse, developed during the 19th century to provide a more enlightened response to poor relief by 1930.

Friday 9 March 2018 at 7.00pm

Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE

£10 including buffet supper and a glass of wine

Places are limited and **booking is essential**. If you would like to attend please enquire by email to record.office@lancashire.gov.uk OR telephone 01772 533039 OR ask in person at Lancashire Archives, to find out if a place is available.

Once a place has been reserved **payment must be made no later than 2 March 2018** by BACS (see below for details) or by cheque (payable to Friends of Lancashire Archives and sent to: Poor Law, Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, PRESTON PR1 2RE)

For BACS payments please use the following details:

Sort Code: 16-28-33 Account number 11771886.

Please ensure that you give Poor Law and your surname as reference.



2018 Events Programme

Friday 9 March 7pm

£10

Dave Burnham: The Poor Law into the 20th century (focussing on Bolton workhouse); followed by a glass of wine and a buffet supper

[Booking form page 11](#)

Saturday 24 March

£5

Horrockses' celebration. This joint event by FLA and Lancashire Archives will celebrate the completion of cataloguing project and the 250th anniversary of the birth of John Horrockses. Details tbc; including Café Archive.

[Booking form page 9](#)

Tuesday 10 April 2 - 4.15pm

£10

Anna Watson: afternoon workshop: Land Tax records, 1780-1832

[Booking form page 10](#)

Saturday 2 June time tbc

£ cost tbc

Visit to Parrox Hall, near Pilling (rescheduled after cancellation in 2016). Harold Elletson, owner of the hall will give a guided tour of the house and garden.

Saturday 4 August morning time tbc

£10

Guided walk - Alan Davis will lead a surface walk round the Hulton mines including the Pretoria Pit site

Saturday 8 September 11am-3.30pm

FREE

Lancashire Archives Heritage Open Day with Café Archive

Tuesday 11 September 7pm

FREE

FLA AGM and talk by Dr Sam Riches: From Cologne to Preston – a pilgrim badge of St Ursula in context

Monday 15 October 2-4pm

FREE

FLA members only

Behind the scenes. Halfway through cataloguing the Dalton of Thurnham collection, Vicci McCann will describe the process and reveal some of the things she has uncovered

Friday 26 October 7pm

£13

Dr Hugh Doherty, lecturer in Mediaeval History at the University of East Anglia:

Stephen, count of Mortain, and the foundation of the Savigniac abbey at Tulketh, followed by a glass of wine and a buffet supper

Tuesday 27 November 10.30am-12.30pm

Lancashire Day - Café Archive

Friday 7 December 7pm

£13

'A Reet Good Do': broadside ballads and Lancashire dialect songs with Jennifer Reid, followed by a glass of wine and a buffet supper