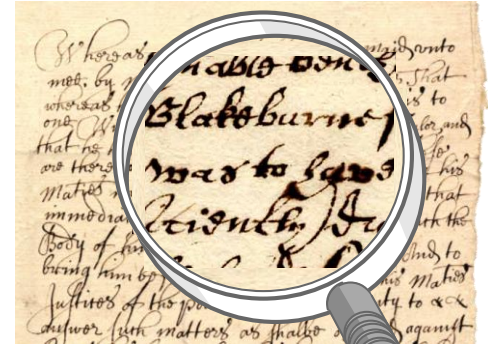


# News from the Archives

Newsletter of Lancashire Archives



 **Archive Service**  
**update**

## Volunteering

1-7 June is national volunteer week. This gives us an opportunity to reflect on the huge contribution made by our volunteers and to thank them for their work and the time they have given to us. Last year we suspended volunteering for 6 months but since the end of September our 48 Monday volunteers have given us 2490 hours of their time. This is equivalent to two and a half members of staff (which in financial terms would cost £25,000). The volunteers have finished listing the Preston Building Plans and are now working on the Accrington Building Plans. Others are working on disputed wills or typing up the lists of documents processed all those years ago by the Will Flatteners, so that we have a comprehensive index of probate records held here. Yet others are continuing indexing the Whittingham Hospital reception orders or, cleaning, repackaging and relisting the early Lancaster Coroners' records. And another is helping with archive

stock-taking. Staff and archive users are indebted to them all.

In addition to our LCC project Anna Watson now runs a new, small volunteer project specifically for members of the Friends of Lancashire Archives – indexing the Blackburn Workhouse registers. A few volunteers are also working for the Lancashire Online Parish Clerk undertaking a similar task with the Burnley Workhouse registers. These will all provide a rich source of information for family historians.

## Ancestors at Sea

The Lancashire Crew lists project is going very well. The volunteers have so far recorded around 16,500 names of men from all over the world who served on some of the ships registered at Lancashire ports. They are uncovering stories which will add interest to family trees such as Roger Dewhurst, cook and steward on board the *British Seaman*, who was jailed at Livorno on 16 October 1871 for assaulting the master; and James Hall of Liverpool, the ship's carpenter who fell down a hatchway on the *Dallam Tower* on New Year's day 1869 and was reported as having died by the time the ship reached Bombay later that year.

Research into the ships themselves also begins to show a picture of what conditions were like: From the Wellcome website the Medical Officer of Health Report for the Port of London records that: 'On the 5th June, 1907, the schooner *Dairymaid*, of Fleetwood, was inspected. It was found that the deck over the lower forecastle was leaking badly, and required to be made tight, the lower forecastle was also found to be damp, dirty and verminous, and in what appeared to be a disused butter keg, which was very filthy, were 15 lbs. of corned meat in a putrid condition. This was destroyed, and arrangements were made to fumigate the forecastle with sulphur for the destruction of vermin. It was afterwards thoroughly cleaned out, and as a result of some correspondence with the owner, the other insanitary conditions were remedied before the vessel left the Port.



Stage 2 of the project to index the names of crew from fishing vessels registered at Fleetwood will start later this month.

The Lancashire Crew list project is being funded by the Federation of Family History Societies.

**Jacque Crosby, Archives Manager**

**[Our next Saturday opening is 10 June from 10am to 4pm](#)**

**[Our next late opening is Tue 13 June until 7pm](#)**

## ***Research and Write about your Ancestors***

### **[A Lancashire Adult Learning Course held at Lancashire Archives](#)**

A group of family history researchers, some new to the activity and some fairly experienced, gathered at Lancashire Archives for seven two hour weekly sessions under the direction of Pam Roberts, who has been teaching *Researching Family History* for eight years.

In the first session we introduced ourselves to each other and formulated our goals. My goal was to write up a family story to leave to my grandchildren. I will go back to my four great-grandmothers & four great-grandfathers, whom I did not know, then my grandparents, my parents and myself. In each generation I will include a special great aunt or uncle. The one I am working on at present is my great aunt Ellen Haarbleicher, my mother's father's sister, who changed her name to Harburn. Ellen was a suffragette and later one of the first women to join the Police. She was awarded a MBE and now I like to think she deserves a blue plaque.

Two class members had the medical records of their ancestors who had been in asylums in the 1800s. The class discussed the difficulties one might encounter in writing about this painful subject and in a way that would be acceptable to the living relatives.

As the first session progressed we planned our research, exchanged information about helpful books and sources and thought carefully about the six genres of *Family History Writing*. None of us were academics so were not into developing reference genealogies, or discussing research methods in genealogical narratives. Those

who attended this series of classes were more interested in *Life Story Writing* which might be for family members only - or for the wider public - or possibly even a family narrative which would be developed around people and settings and woven into a plot that would possibly be commercially published.

We were also introduced to the possibility of editing letters and diaries or writing a family history memoir that tells both the family history and the author's research. The latter would be a bit like the film *Philomena*.

These sessions were very friendly and very informative with homework in-between. Naturally we discussed the episodes of 'Who do you think you Are' and had a chance to relate their work to our own.

Our final session was an additional one kindly provided by Lancashire Archive Staff who gave a talk on the records held in the Archives and a short tour of the building.

This is the second time I have had the good fortune to attend a series of classes given by Pam Roberts. Last time I discovered the date of birth, christening (and death three months later), of one of my maternal great grandmothers' daughters after whom my grandmother, myself and now my cousins, daughter's daughter are all named.

**Jess Mortimer**

## Events and talks in June

**Fri June 9 from 1pm-2pm** at Lancaster City Museum, Market Square, Lancaster, LA1 1HT

**The Archives of Abbott & Co, Stained Glass Manufacturers of Lancaster**

To book a place contact the City Museum 01524 64 637

**Sat June 10 from 1.30pm-3.30pm** at Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE

### Raise the curtain: a creative writing workshop using historic Theatrical Archives

Pablo Fanques' fairy ponies, an incomparable contortionist, frills and thrills with Hylda 'she knows you know' Baker, Tex Martin's Hollywood lovelies and De Hoghton's 16<sup>th</sup> century players are just some of the theatre and drama related stories to be found at Lancashire Archives to inspire creativity! Join Preston Arts Association and Lancashire Archives for a creative writing workshop with a difference.

**LANCASHIRE ARCHIVES**  
Enjoy the real thing

**Raise the Curtain!**  
Pablo Fanques' fairy ponies, an incomparable contortionist, frills and thrills with Hylda 'she knows you know' Baker, Tex Martin's Hollywood lovelies and De Hoghton's 16<sup>th</sup> century players are just some of the theatre and drama related stories to be found at Lancashire Archives to inspire creativity! Join Preston Arts Association and Lancashire Archives for a creative writing workshop with a difference:

**Saturday 10 June, 1.30pm-3.30pm**  
(booking essential)

There will also be a chance to take part in an afternoon of readings at Lancashire Archives for the 2017 Preston Arts Festival on 12 October from 2.00pm

Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE  
Telephone: 01772 533039  
Email record.office@lancashire.gov.uk

**Lancashire County Council**

**PAA**

**HARRY HOUDINI**

**HIPPODROME COLNE**  
THE COLNE VOCAL HARMONISTS  
MONKROYD

The workshop is suitable for experienced writers and for beginners and is FREE.

There will also be a chance to take part in an afternoon of readings at Lancashire

Archives for the **2017 Preston Arts Festival** on **12 October from 2.00pm**

To book a place call 01772 533039 or email [record.office@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:record.office@lancashire.gov.uk).

## ***Beyond Parish Registers Family History Talks***

**Wed June 14 from 12.30pm-1.30pm**

**Coroners' records for family historians**  
Victoria McCann

**Wed June 28 from 12.30pm-1.30pm**

**Probate records for family historians**  
Anna Watson

## ***Collections***

[The following new deposits have been received over the last month:](#)

**DDX 2148** British Velvet c.1880 - 1960  
Pattern Books, fabric samples, weaving patterns, drawings and designs

**PR 3073/14/4/6** Blackburn Cathedral Music and More Magazine 2017 Vol 1, includes reports of events, advertisements and photographs

**PR 3390/ACC12254** St James Westhead Church records including : Church Log Book for the Quinquennial period 1972 - 1977, 1987 - 1992 and notes of changes 2002; faculties 1971; Sketch plan of original churchyard; Plan of easterly extension of the churchyard 9 Feb 1911; PCC Minutes 1982 – 1983, 2001 -2006, 2010; Church Property Register 2015; Terrier and Inventory book 1974 – 2015; Quinquennial Inspection Report 2010; Investiture of Rev G R A Clark 1964; Map of Skelmersdale

and adjoining parishes c.1980; Parochial Church Accounts 1993 – 1998, 1999 – 2001; Ormskirk Deanery papers

**DDX 1291/185** The Road Way to Safety' publication on the reduction of accidents by road improvement measures. Photographic examples many from Lancashire 1951

**DDX 2643/1-7**

1. Notice of a meeting re the Tunstal Inclosure to be held on 13 September 1824. (2 copies)
2. 'To be Let' poster for The Cragg and Broadwood and Mellinghouse farms in Wray with Botton and Tatham, dated 26 August 1848.
3. 'To be Let' notice for The Cragg farm at Botton, dated 3 September 1823.
4. 'To be Sold' notice for timber resources on The Cragg, dated 2 December 1828.
5. ditto, for Cragg Wood and Broad Wood, dated 14 November 1848. Two copies.
6. 'To be Let' notice for Closes Farm in Bolton-by-Bolland, dated 26 September 1842.
7. Farm Account Book, dated 1809, Tewitfield.

**DDX 3169/1** Notes compiled by Mr W S Watkinson former Deputy Borough Engineer of Preston on Heraldic devices painted on the doors of the Public Hall, Lune Street Preston; on heraldic flags hung in the Public Hall Lune Street Preston; on stained glass windows St John's Minster Preston c.1957 - 1974

**DDX 3169/2** Plea At Lancaster Assizes Thomas Eidsforth against Joseph Clarke the elder land and property in Preesall with Hackinsall, Stalmine with Staynal Hambleton, Rawcliffe and Thornton 26 Aug 1786.

**ANY  
COMMENTS?**

*Write to: The Editor, News from the Archives, Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE. Telephone: 01772 533039. Email: [record.office@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:record.office@lancashire.gov.uk)*