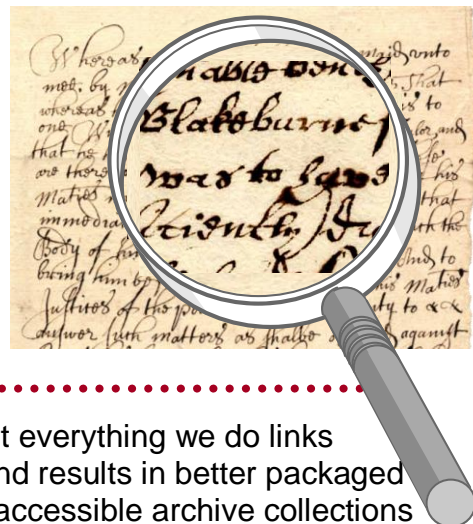


News from the Archives

Newsletter of Lancashire Archives



Archive Service update

I find it hard to believe that we're half way through 2017, and a quarter of the way through our working year at Lancashire Archives; but the calendar must be right! While there is still a lot of uncertainty around, all archive staff are continuing to work in positive and exciting new ways.

We have recently welcomed Niki Pantazidou to our conservation team— to cover Alex Calvert's maternity leave. The team are repairing and repackaging the Whittingham Hospital archives as part of the Whittingham Lives project; cleaning, repackaging and repairing the Archdeaconry of Richmond marriage licence bonds in preparation for digitisation; and re-boxing the Lancashire crew lists. Archivists are dealing with new collections, cataloguing the Horrockses archive, and hosting lots of group visits; while the searchroom team have been kept busy producing documents, answering enquiries and supplying copies to researchers who live too far away to visit. I have been working on potential digitisation projects and on ways to generate more income for the service. We're trying to

ensure that everything we do links together and results in better packaged and more accessible archive collections and encourages people to explore and enjoy our wonderful archives.

This month we are looking forward to another family history surgery with Café Archive on Friday 7 July, and a lino-printing workshop inspired by Horrockses designs the following day. Do come and see us soon.

Jacque Crosby, Archives Manager

An extraordinary tale of the death of a mariner

Relatively few records of church court proceedings from the seventeenth century have survived. However, those documents which were filed with probate bundles have often revealed the most vivid and intimate insights into the lives of ordinary men and women from the early modern period. Parish registers record the date and month of baptisms and burials and occasionally the cause of death. Almost never do we learn the exact time or the circumstances of someone's final hours.

In cases of disputed wills, it was the church courts' duty to decide a fair resolution. This process involved interviewing witnesses while faithfully recording their verbal testimonies as written depositions in response to the allegations made by those parties protesting against unfairness or irregularity.

Patrick Wright was an experienced mariner from Liverpool who had accumulated goods valued at £109.9s.8d, when his inventory was compiled in June 1698. In his house he had five feather beds, an expensive clock and case (£4), items of silverware and 82lbs [38 kilos], of tobacco, his personal cargo perquisite from an earlier voyage to Virginia.

Dwelling in America was as hazardous to health as sailing there. By summer 1697, Wright had been continually unwell for three years and was confined to his lodgings in Virginia. On 27 August, William Coates, a fellow mariner on the outward voyage, who had often visited Wright, (and whose deposition follows), was anxious to return to England bearing details of his final wishes. Meeting Wright's landlord, William Anderton, in the room where he lay Coates confirmed Wright's wife's name was Ann.

"Hee the said Anderton replied it is his wife then. He has given or left it to her. And [Wright] being on his bed near, and hearing and apprehending the discourse ... said, 'Who shoud I give it to?' And no more words past on ye matt'r hee ... seeming a dying man ... When [Coates] was with him the day before his death and ye night also, for hee dyed ab't 5 a clock in ye morning of ye s'd day the deced't being in a fever raved very much and in his fitts or deliriums spoke on ye working and pumping of ye ship and call'd on his company in ye ship, as if he had bine at sea, tho at some intervals hee lay more quiet, silent and easy, muttering to himself, and sometimes made motions for and gave signs of his desire to drink & ye like, but did not make any direct discourse or [mention] of making his will or disposing

of what hee had save ye short answer or Question ... and whether the same were spoke by him aptly & soundly ... or unsoundly and by chance in ye course or effect of his distemper this respondent cannot answer."

When Ann died in March 1700, Patrick's three married sisters made their official protest. We do not know the probate court's decision, but when was Patrick of sufficiently sound mind, and did he intend his goods for his wife only?

Jonathan Cass



Friday 7th July
Café Archive
 with
Family History
Surgery

at
 Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE

Join us for a cup of tea or coffee, a piece of cake or a sausage roll between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

Experts will be on hand to help with your family history queries.



UNESCO Memory of the World

The UNESCO Memory of the World programme is designed to raise awareness of the world's documentary heritage. A key part of the programme are the registers which record documents of outstanding

significance. Nominations are now being invited for inscriptions to the UK register in 2018, and we'd like your suggestions.

Is there a particular document or collection held at Lancashire Archives which you think may be worthy of inclusion? Staff are currently compiling ideas but we'd love to know what our users think. The records may be evocative of a time or place, offer an outstanding example of a particular form or record important social, industrial or artistic development. However the most important aspect is that they must have national significance.

Please send any suggestions to record.office@lancashire.gov.uk by 31st August.

Collections

The following new deposits have been received over the last month:

FRL/ACC12274 Lancaster Monthly Meeting (later Lancashire Central and North Area Meeting) minutes 2000-2005, newsletters 1996-2013 and 2003-2013, and register of marriages 1976 - 1991

Blackpool Local (Preparative) Meeting minutes 1987-2009 (restricted access), minutes of elders 1960-2005 (restricted access) and Blackpool Meeting Visitors Book 1935 - 1998 (restricted access).

DDX 3168 Lancaster Power Station including photographs and news cuttings c.1918 - c.1981

LCC and LAU/8 Feasibility Study and Conservation Plan for Clitheroe Castle and Museum 2003

DDX 3169/3

/1 plan and associated papers relating to lease from London and North West Railway Co and Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway

Company to Leyland Motors of a railway siding (Farington) 1918, 1956

/2/1 Collection of Memorial Cards primarily from Leyland and Ulnes Walton includes memorial card for Queen Victoria 1870 - 1936 [2 bundles c.92 items]

/2/2 Correspondence and papers relating to the Bennett and Harrison families of Longton, Ulnes Walton and Leyland. Includes postcards including multi-view card of Preston c.1904, Christmas cards, ration cards and shopping cards 1918, National Insurance cards 1916 - 1917, Old Age Pension letter 1913 copy certificates c.1895 - c.1948. Includes correspondence from Peter Bennett while serving in the Australian Imperial Forces in Egypt 1915.

/2/3 Photographs including Peter Bennett, anonymous family members, hut in Egypt. c.1870 – 1930

DDX 2804/ACC12276 Lytham Library statistics book. Includes numbers of evacuees tickets issued 1940 – 1979

DDX 2981/ACC12279 Disability Equality North West 1996 – 2017. Annual Reports, project files including the Disc-ateers skydiving project 2003, publicity and outreach material, information booklets, photographs, certificates, newscuttings.

DDX 2460/3 Deed of Feoffment Richard Eccleston to John Dicconson 20 Jan 1581 with transcription and historical notes

Archaeological surveys and historic building reports can be extremely informative for researchers looking not just at a specific property but the wider archaeological and historical context. These are the most recent additions:

DDX 3170 Rubicon Heritage Ltd Archaeological report - Heysham to M6 Link Road. Including Printed Report Volume 1 and Volume 2, Site Survey report sheets, photographs and negatives (eight folders),

CD of digital photographic archive 2013 - 2014

DDX 2856/11 Gifford and Partners
Archaeological Report - Calderstones
Hospital.

DDX 3173 Wessex Archaeology
Archaeological reports, 2016

/1 Furthergate Bus Lane and Gorse Street
to Whitebirk Improvement, Blackburn

/2 Ewood Gytratory, Blackburn

/3 Rigby Road, Blackpool

/4 Land off Ribblesdale Drive, Grimsargh

/5 Project Phoenix Phase 2, Accrington

/6 Moorgate Mill, Blackburn

DD 3172 The Archaeology Co. Historic
Building Surveys 2015 - 2016

/1 House Farm Thistleton

/2 Old Market Hall Bacup

Lino printing workshop

Saturday 8 July from 11am – 1pm

Create a lino cut design with artist Helen Draper, using inspiration from the Horrockses archive to develop unique designs, patterns and shapes. You can create a repeat print for gift wrap, greetings cards, gift tags or personal artwork. Keep your lino cut and use it again - it will last for years!

You don't need any previous experience, as long as you are able to hold a cutting tool and have reasonable dexterity. There will be support to plan and draw your design. All stages of the process will be demonstrated and examples given to guide you through the process.

All materials will be provided to enable you to create a lino cut and print.

Places are limited so booking is essential. This workshop costs £12 paid in advance. Contact Lancashire Archives on 01772 533039 or record.office@lancashire.gov.uk for more information or to book a place.



Our next Saturday opening is July 8 and our next Tuesday evening opening is July 11 till 7pm.

**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