

February 2014

Newsletter

The Friends of
Lancashire Archives

Inside this issue:

Lancashire Archives at 75—what's your favourite archive?	2
Membership Matters	8
AGM Report	2
Access to Accrington: in-depth report	3
Book Review: Sugar for the House	4
Markets to supermarkets: Mike Winstanley's lecture	5
Mr Langshaw's Square Piano	6
Booking form for annual Cheese and Wine evening	7

Access to Accrington

Funding for a new archives project

By *FLA Treasurer Peter Bamford*

The Friends of Lancashire Archives are delighted to announce that Stephen Howarth, one of our Friends of Lancashire Archives, has donated £4,000 to the FLA to be used for improving access to the Court Rolls of the Honour of Clitheroe, and in particular those relating to the manor of Accrington.

We are very grateful for this generous gift which will provide vital funds to support the conservation, digitisation and indexing of part of this important collection and build on our previous contribution.

In 2012 the Friends provided £5,000 funding, which was matched from the Archives budget. This was to undertake the cataloguing of the majority of this large Honour of Clitheroe collection. It resulted in improved access and gave the archive service the opportunity to repackage these important records. The resulting catalogue (DDHCL) is now available on LANCAT. Last year the Friends donated a further £750 for a detailed condition survey of all the court rolls and books in the collection. This allowed conservation staff and archivists to assess the work needed to make the collection fully accessible.

Since 2011, two other Friends, Brenda and David Hustler, have been painstakingly transcribing the indexes of surrenders for the manors of Colne and Ightenhill, and the Forest of Pendle, within the Honour of Clitheroe. They have already added more than 27,211 entries to LANCAT. This new project will also continue their work.

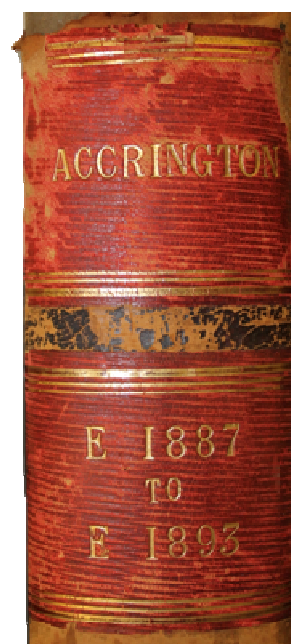
Stephen Howarth's £4,000 donation to the FLA will be applied to increase the resources of Lancashire Archives and make a significant difference to this collection.

As a registered charity, the Friends can reclaim the value of basic rate tax from the Government under the Gift Aid scheme when a donation is made by a taxpayer. There can be further benefits to higher rate taxpayers and those taxpayers who receive the age-related personal allowance.

Could you make a donation to help in further work on this archive collection or on another collection held by Lancashire Archives?

Please contact Treasurer Peter Bamford or Membership Secretary Janet Lane if you would like to help in this way.

Contact details on page 8



From the Honour of
Clitheroe Collection



Lancashire Archives 75th Year

Will your favourite archive feature in the exhibition?

Archives Service Manager Jacquie Crosby writes:

Dear Friends

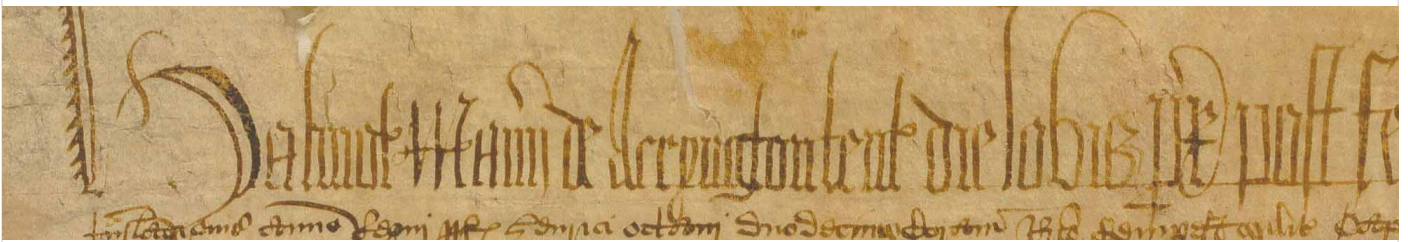
In 12 months time Lancashire Archives will be celebrating its 75th anniversary. We are planning a range of events and activities including an exhibition of 75 treasures.

These will display the exciting diversity of Lancashire's archive

collections over 900 years and cover the length and breadth of the county.

I would like to invite you to nominate your favourite document, or an item which you think we should include in the exhibition

Please contact me **before the end of March 2014** with your suggestion and say what you think is special about your choice of treasure.



Annual General Meeting of FLA

By Membership Secretary Janet Lane

The Annual General Meeting was held on 8th October 2013. The Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2013 were adopted by the meeting and those members standing for election to the committee were returned unopposed. Jacquie Crosby reported on the year at Lancashire Archives. Following the meeting Dr. Bill Shannon gave a talk on 'Dispute Maps in Tudor Lancashire'

The committee elected for the current year:

Chairman: Nigel Neil, **Treasurer:** Peter Bamford

Members: Janet Lane / Membership Secretary
Zoe Lawson/ Events Organiser

Maggy Simms / Newsletter Editor

John Wilson/ Minutes Secretary

David Tilsley

This left us with vacancies for Vice Chairman and Secretary. Since October I am pleased to say we have co-opted volunteers for both these offices. .

You will all be delighted to know Alan Crosby has agreed to act as Vice Chairman this year and has also agreed to stand for election as Chairman at the next AGM when Nigel stands down. Alan needs no introduction to Friends of Lancashire Archives.

A new member, Debra Tabiner, has agreed to take on the office of Secretary. Debra has spent many years in the teaching profession. While working as a volunteer, she discovered a love of archives and decided on a career change. She is now studying for an Archives and Records Management qualification .

We now have a 'full house' but some of us will be standing down at the next Annual General Meeting so please consider if you can extend your support of Lancashire Archives by serving on the Committee.



Access to Accrington: major project in depth

Making records from the Honour of Clitheroe more accessible

Archives Service Manager Jacquie Crosby

The Honour of Clitheroe was a huge manor in East Lancashire. It incorporated the manors of Chatburn, Worston and Pendleton; Accrington; Colne; Ightenhill; Tottington and the Wapentake of Blackburn, as well as the Forest of Trawden and the Forest of Pendle. The Manor of Slaidburn and the Forest of Bowland also formed part of the Honour until 1835.

The Honour of Clitheroe collection consists of records created in administering the various manors between the 14th century and 1929.

All the manors were administered by the steward, based at Clitheroe Castle. Property transactions were recorded in the court rolls which form a comprehensive register of property within the Honour.

The records of the Honour contain hundreds and thousands of entries relating to individuals and families, and are an outstanding resource for people researching family history in this area.

Working on the collection

The collection belongs to Lord Clitheroe and the bulk of it was deposited at Lancashire Archives in 1975. Water damage in the past means that parts of the enormous court books are stuck together. Many of the 17th century parchment rolls have flaking ink and the paper drafts are fragile. Time-consuming conservation work is required to restore them.

Conservation

Stephen Howarth's funding will allow the FLA to buy a bespoke humidification cabinet for the conservation workshop. Conservation staff will be able to carry out large-scale humidification of the parchment rolls and court books (Lifers) which need moisture to relax the parchment and allow it to be cleaned and flattened. The cabinet will also enable more work on

parchment in future.

As a trial, one each of the fragile Accrington rolls and the huge, water-damaged court books will be broken down into individual membranes, humidified, cleaned, flattened, treated and encapsulated in polyester (if required), before being reboxed. The other Accrington rolls and damaged court books will be conserved in the same way.

Digitisation

The archive service has considered buying a new large scanner for the project but this seems to be prohibitively expensive. They will however experiment with the equipment they have already to digitise sample court rolls and pages from the court books. If this is successful a new volunteer project might continue this work.

Indexing

Indexing is the key to unlocking the collections and making them more available. The funding will also pay for a volunteer supervisor to oversee the transcription of the Accrington indexes, which will be added to LANCAT

Next Steps

The new humidification chamber should be built in January and the conservation element of the work will begin soon after that.

Lancashire Archives is keen to recruit Friends to volunteer to transcribe the Accrington indexes of surrenders. They can be done at home or in the record office building in Preston.

Could you help?

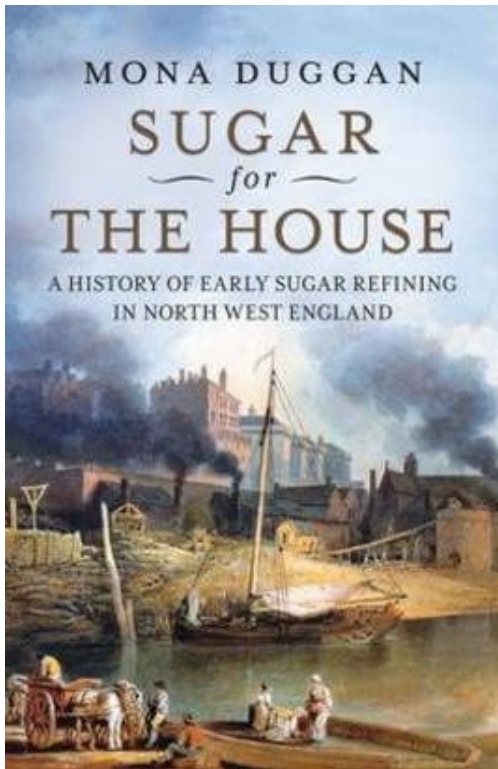
Please get in touch with David Tilsley, Archive Collections Manager

01772 533031 / david.tilsley@lancashire.gov.uk



Book Review

'Sugar For The House', by Mona Duggan



Sugar for the House: a history of early sugar refining in North West England, by Mona Duggan (Fonthill Media Ltd, 2013), 175pp, illus.(pbk), ISBN 978178155403 £12.95

Reviewed by Zoë Lawson

The discovery of an early sugar refinery operating in a cottage in Ormskirk in the 1680s – only 50 years after sugar cane was introduced into the West Indies prompted the author, Mona Duggan, to undertake the research for this book. This is a pioneering work looking at the early development of sugar refining in the North West before Liverpool came to dominate the industry in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The book begins with a brief account of how sugar cane was produced and processed in the West Indies before its importation into the North West. The main body of the text is in four sections, each looking at a different location: Liverpool; Chester; the south of the region (Ormskirk, North Meols,

Preston, Warrington and Manchester); Lancaster and Whitehaven.

The reasons for the establishment of the sugar industry are considered in each area using an array of evidence such as deeds and leases, wills and family papers, maps and trade directories. The author delves into the complex and sometimes confusing negotiations of business partnerships and highlights the links between certain families and towns involved in the industry.

Although there are differences in each area, common themes arise. Merchants with an interest in the West Indian trade were instrumental in investing in the industry, for example William Patten of Warrington was a tobacco and sugar merchant who established a refinery in that town, similarly John Hodgson, a wine and tobacco merchant of Lancaster, built the earliest sugar refinery there in 1670s.

Improvements to the docks in Liverpool, Lancaster and Whitehaven and making the Mersey navigable to Warrington and Manchester were fundamental to the rise of the sugar industry, as was a plentiful supply of local coal for the boilers. There was often a close economic relationship between many of the refineries across the region strengthened by religious bonds, particularly within the Quakers.

With often only fragments of information the author has managed to piece together the development of this industry in the North West. In some cases there is little documentary evidence, as in the North Meols sugar houses which are only mentioned on a survey of 1736-7, and in a house bearing the name *Sugar House Cottage*: as a result there is a certain degree of admitted speculation in the book. Nevertheless, this is an authoritative work and the meticulous research carried out in tracing the transient world of some of these businesses is to the author's credit.

This is a very readable book, well illustrated, with some excellent maps showing the location of sugar houses. It will appeal to anyone interested in early industrial history, food history and to local historians of the towns mentioned.

Postscript: Sadly, Mona Duggan died in January 2014.



Markets to Supermarkets: 200 years of shopping in Lancashire

Report on Dr Mike Winstanley's lecture for FLA

By Zoë Lawson

This is a summary of a talk given by Dr Michael Winstanley for the Festive Treat on 29 November.

The talk began with an interesting early map of Lancashire from 1577, which shows churches and an astronomical sign next to them indicating the market day of the various towns, for example Monday was a moon symbol. This is an early record of the markets trading in the county.

Markets were the traditional way of supplying fresh produce for towns and were usually held in a central place close to official buildings such as town halls and churches. The chaotic market scenes often illustrated in paintings belie the ordered reality: for markets had designated areas for each trade, and most were governed by strict regulations. By the late eighteenth century many markets had expanded under pressure from increased trade and had spread into surrounding streets, causing the blockage of thoroughfares and resultant public health issues from refuse. Towns brought in regulations to resolve some of these problems, such as building dedicated areas for butchers' shops, 'the shambles', as in Preston. Lancaster built a covered fish market to contain the smell. From the early nineteenth century many Lancashire towns established purpose-built covered markets, for example, Liverpool St John's Market was built in the 1820s. Most of these were imposing buildings built with public money from the rates and were peculiar to north-west England, other parts of the country retaining the traditional open-air market. A revealing picture of Lancashire markets is portrayed in the reports of Cecil M. Chapman, who collected data for a government survey in the late 1880s.

Retailing in the modern sense of shops developed rapidly in the nineteenth century

aided by the invention of plate glass, which allowed window displays. Trade directories listing shopkeepers give an indication of the quantity and types available in towns. Surviving records for small retailers are rare but more upmarket grocers like T. D. Smith of Lancaster or E. H. Booth of Preston have significant archives detailing their development and expansion. At the other end of the scale were the corner shops, a nineteenth century version of out of town shopping, established in the terraced streets where the working class lived. The emergence of packaged products supplied by commercial travellers who offered 'tick' enabled these small shops to thrive.

By the late nineteenth/early twentieth century town centres saw the emergence of the chain store with such names as Home and Colonial, Liptons, Boots, Woolworth and Marks and Spencer, which challenged the high street private trader with their cheap prices and mass manufactured goods. Similarly, large department stores like Kendal Milne, Owen Owen and Lewis' were also established around this time, relying on town centre development to provide the large plots of land they required.

In contrast, the Coop offered a different way of shopping with its philosophy of save as you pay. Emerging from the northern textile communities in the mid-nineteenth century, it grew dramatically to become the biggest voluntary organisation in the world by the 1930s.

The theme that comes through the talk is Lancashire's distinctiveness in its retailing traditions. Its concentration of covered markets, many of which still survive intact today; the Coop, which remains largely a northern institution, continues to thrive although the branches are much reduced and tend to be smaller community stores; E. H. Booth, which survives as a local supermarket chain having found its own niche against the supermarket giants. Retailing has undergone many changes over the last 200 years and there will no doubt be many more in the future.



14th March FLA Lecture

'Mr Langshaw's Square Piano' by Madeline Goold

By Zoë Lawson

Madeline Goold, author of *Mr Langshaw's Square Piano* is to speak on this subject at Friends of Lancashire archives Cheese and Wine Evening on 14 March. A clue inside a neglected square piano made in 1807, led Madeline Goold on a quest to uncover the identities of the people who had owned and played it. The square piano, now an almost-forgotten instrument, once held pride of place in drawing-rooms throughout Britain and its Empire and transformed the musical and cultural perceptions of the western world.

In her research Madeline travelled back in time and entered the musical world of Georgian England to meet the people who built and played the square

piano that she found two hundred years later. The maker was John Broadwood, one of the most successful piano-makers in late-Georgian London. Perhaps of greater interest to local history, Madeline discovered that the original owner was a Lancaster musician, struggling to make a living and educate his children in the early years of the Industrial Revolution. Her book *Mr. Langshaw's Square Piano* traces the story of his square piano and sets it, Mr. Langshaw and his remarkable family, against the broader musical and social history of their time.

Much of Madeline's research into the Langshaw family was carried out at Lancashire Archives and the Friends of Lancashire Archives are delighted that she is coming to talk at their Cheese and Wine evening. For further details see booking form opposite.

Visit the 'Square Piano' website and hear the music it played

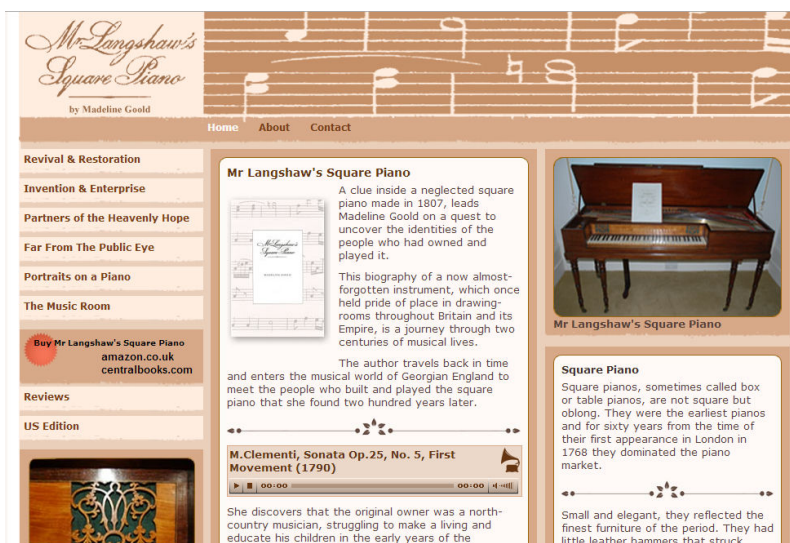
Madeline Goold's website takes you further into the story behind her research into Mr. Langshaw's square piano, complete with music played on one of these rare instruments.

She also includes insights into the world of the Langshaw family, including his wife's sketches and

scrapbooks and even a shopping list enumerating groceries sure as 'sammond', 'limmons', 'mangling' and 'spary gruce'

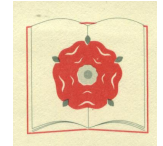
For more information go to

<http://www.mrlangshawssquarepiano.co.uk/>





Friends of Lancashire Archives
Charity Registration Number 518611



Cheese & Wine Evening
with
Guest speaker: Madeline Goold



Mr Langshaw's Square Piano

To be held at Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE
on Friday 14 March at 7.00 pm

Fee: Members £9. 50 Non-members £10

Booking form for Cheese & Wine Evening

Please complete and return to: Brenda Fox, 12 Derby Road, Garstang,
PR3 1EU. Tel. 01995 604379

Name.....

Address.....

Postcode

TelephoneEmail.....

I enclose a cheque for _____ made out to *Friends of Lancashire Archives*



The Friends of Lancashire Archives
can be contacted via our website

Use the online form at
www.flarchives.co.uk

Alternatively you may direct letters
to any committee member via
Lancashire Archives
Bow Lane, Preston, Lancashire
PR1 2RE
01772 533039

More than half of our Friends now
choose to get their Newsletter by
email.

This saves a substantial amount
of print and postage costs,
savings that we convert into
supporting the work of the
archives.

If you would like to be added to
the email list, please contact us
via the Friends' website
www.flarchives.co.uk

Evening talks at the Archives

All talks begin at 6.30 pm

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 4th March | Anna Watson: Great Cruelty and Barbarity |
| 11th March | Dr. Elizabeth Roberts: Working Wives and Mothers in the Textile Industry |
| 18th March | Dr. Jill Liddington: Vanishing for the Vote—the Suffragette Census Boycott |
| 25th March | Andrew Walmsley: Women's Suffrage in Lancashire—Sources and resources |
| 8th April | Heather Davis: God's Glaziers |
| 13th May | Mark Walmsley: The Wolfen Triptych—using archives as inspiration for visual art |
| 3rd June | Jan Bridget: Heathcliff and Richard Sutton—dangers of linking literary and historical characters |

Membership Matters

Membership Secretary, Janet Lane

In Sadness

Firstly I should like to inform you of the death of our long term member Dr Mona Duggan who died on January 14th aged 87. Many of you will have known Mona who was a member of our committee from 1990 to 1995.

Subscriptions

Thank you to all our members who have paid their subscriptions for 2014.

About 70 % of those of you who pay by cheque have paid by January 18th. Please consult your chequebook and see if yours is one of the outstanding ones. It is very easy to overlook payment when the renewal notices are sent out well before payment is due. Renewal forms are to be found with our last newsletter if received by post. I sent the renewal form direct to our email readers so you should find it in your inbox around 24th November.

It is evident from some of the comments I received that I unwittingly set you a conundrum on the renewal form with my question on Standing Orders. However those who noticed were able to make their wishes clear. I will do better next time!