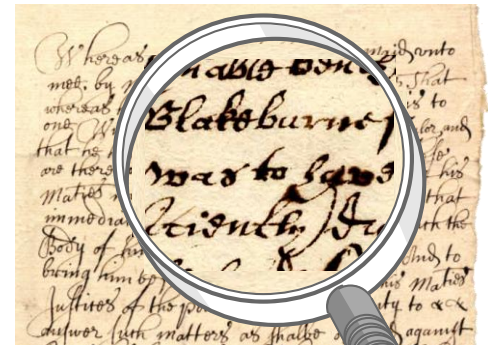


News from the Archives

Newsletter of Lancashire Archives



Archive Service update

ACCREDITED
ARCHIVE SERVICE

New opening hours are now in place (and the new signs to advertise them). I know a few people have arrived when we've been closed, but I hope that in general the new times have not caused you too much inconvenience. I know that a couple of people are taking advantage of the building being open on Monday to come and use the Public Network computers and the microfilms. I am very happy for people to do this although there may be certain days in the autumn when it will not be possible - so it may be best to check in advance.

Our next user consultation meeting will be on **Tuesday 13 September**. Do put the date in your diary if you'd like the opportunity to comment on this and other changes to our service.

While we've been closed archivists have been cataloguing Lancaster coroner's records and digitising Burnley workhouse registers so that they can be indexed. They have also taken the opportunity offered by an empty searchroom to spread out dozens of fabric sample volumes from British Velvet

to carry out a proper appraisal of their content and context and to make plans for their cleaning and conservation.

The searchroom team has been weeding building plans, typing up a draft list of hospital records, stock-checking, working on wills and tidying the library shelves. And the conservation staff have been repackaging some of the 75 treasures and starting a detailed condition survey of the marriage licence bonds (ARR 11). We've been busy!



At the end of July we said goodbye to Annie Starkey as she set off for Italy on the first stage of her Churchill Travelling Fellowship. Annie worked in the searchroom from 2010 before becoming one of our archive conservation trainees in January 2013. I am delighted and proud that both she and

Alexandra Duggan have just been awarded their Certificates in Archive Conservation and, after 3 years of training and hard work, are now professionally qualified. I wish them both every success in their future careers.



We've also said goodbye to Rosie Chew, one of our volunteers, who has a job at Staffordshire Record Office. Rosie has volunteered here for 4 years and during that time has qualified as an archivist and undertaken a huge amount of work, including a fine new catalogue of Accrington Methodist records [MBAC].

Jacque Crosby, Archive Manager

Lancashire Not Forgotten Memory Café

**Burnley Library Wednesday 17 August
2.30pm-4.30pm**

The Heritage Lottery Fund has provided money for a collaborative project to capture the personal stories of people living with dementia and their memories of local places. Events will be held in heritage sites using library, museum and archive collections in Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire. In Lancashire the project will focus on Burnley with the theme: 'how we used to work' and will use collections in Burnley Library and Lancashire Archives as a source of therapy

offering cultural experiences which unlock the memories of dementia sufferers. There will be a dementia-friendly digital record of life in 20th century Lancashire and a project artist will create a tapestry illustrating memories of employment in the cotton mills.

The project will be launched in Lancashire with a tea party in Burnley Library. Everyone with an interest in the project is welcome.

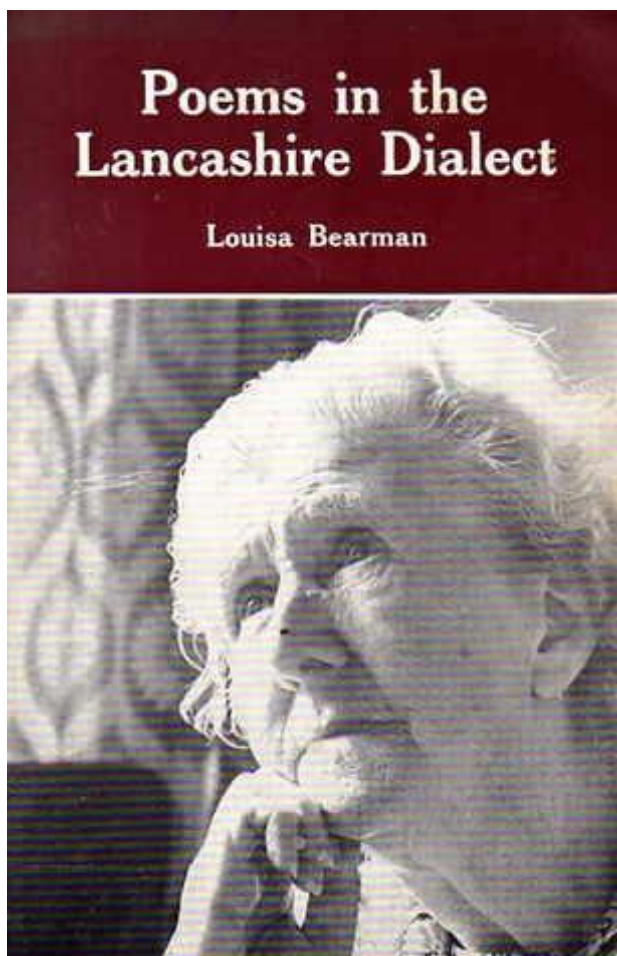
The singer and the song

A recent visit by a ballad singer of Lancashire dialect songs enabled us to revisit one of our collections and expand some catalogue entries. Jennifer Reid is based in Salford and came to do research for projects she's involved with at Queen Street and Helmshore textile museums. She is also helping to develop and deliver "When Lancashire Sings", a schools project devised by our colleagues in the Heritage Learning Team, to which we also hope to contribute later in the year (<http://jenniferreid.weebly.com/>).

Jennifer was looking through some personal stories written for a competition run by the Community Council of Lancashire (now Community Futures) in 1964. Most of these recollections relate to the contributors' early life, so look back to around 1900 (DDX 978). One of the authors, Jennifer pointed out, seemed to have the wrong name. Louisa Bearman was a well-known poet of the Lancashire dialect, but the catalogue described her as Louie Bearman.

Further research suggests that in fact it was the competition itself that gave Mrs Bearman the nudge to become a published poet. Her competition entry is not in dialect, though it is a poem. When she posted her entry she signed herself "Louie", so it seems she became more formal later on. She was born in Bolton in 1899, and her letter accompanying the poem notes that she was approaching her 65th birthday. She writes that her husband has been very ill, because

of which "I have time to sit and think a lot of past years so have put it as compact as possible in Verse".



Louie's creative urges may have been focused by the competition, and having found her means of self-expression she went on to write much more. A selection of her work appeared in "Poems in the Lancashire Dialect", her sole volume of published work that appeared in 1977. It's available in our public Searchroom and includes "When I Wert Queen", "Th' Airdresser's Cheair" and "Wi'v Bin Modernised". It is supported by a few recordings among the Lancashire Sound Collection's holdings of dialect poetry.

With Jennifer Reid's promotion and her engaging style (not to mention the efforts of Sid Calderbank, Mark Dowding and others), our county's dialect poetry ought to be due for a revival, before we all turn into glottal-

stopped estuarine English scripted reality TV speakers. Could it be time for our various creative writing friends and partners to jump aboard?

Neil Sayer, Archive Access Manager

Collections

Each month we bring you the highlights of this month's new catalogues. In June we processed 16 deposits of documents, all of which were selected for permanent preservation.

Lord family of Blackpool (DDX 3086)

A generous bequest from Michael Lord of Fleetwood included numerous papers relating to the career of his father Herbert Lord, a photographer working in Blackpool in the early 20th century. The collection includes a large number of photographs, diaries which record his appointments and the photographs he has taken and family correspondence which can be used to trace the various roles he undertook as training around the country. Also included are papers of Michael and his brother David, who would themselves go on to become artists. The most entertaining are the series of spoof school magazines created by the two brothers and their extensive correspondence which continues to feature the characters they had created.



DDX 1101 ACC12121

Almost 2300 glass slides and negatives deposited by Burnley library

DDX 1291/156

Newscuttings book believed to have been collected by Preston Borough Police force 1926-1954

DDX 1291/158

Various shipping photographs relating to Preston and Lytham [early 20th cent]

DDX 2302

Community Council of Lancashire – Minutes, accounts, reports and other papers 1937-1988; also Brentwood case files c1946-1949 Subject to restricted access

DDX 3151

Margaret Boys of Colne – A teacher and writer whose papers include radio scripts and other writing as well as information on her OBE award and a pilgrimage she took to Jordan and the Holy Land 1837-1994

DDX 3152

James Price research files - Industrial archaeology files and field notebooks; research files on a range of topics mainly relating to industrial archaeology in the Lancaster area; publications and pamphlets produced by Lancaster City Museum; Lancaster Castle prison annual reports 1970s-2000s

DDX 3153

'The Marsden Family by Leonard Marsden'; Geographical magazine including an article on the development of the town of Nelson by Leonard Marsden; photocopy of Paythorne court rolls 1588-1605

PR 3091

Blackburn, the Saviour – register of funerals 1956-1986

PR 3379/11

St Thomas C of E School Lydiate - School

log books 1919-2001; School managers' minute book 1951-1973

PR 5063

Chatburn Parish Council - Minutes 1999-2010; accounts 2003-2009

RCMI

St Peter, Middleton baptisms 1864-1924, confirmations 1884-1920, marriages 1869-1921

RCDJ

St Joseph, Over Darwen baptisms 1914-1922, marriages 1859-1930

RCBO

St Peter and St Paul, Bolton deaths 1967-1986

RCHS

St Mary, Haslingden baptisms 1854-1908, confirmations 1861-1914, marriages 1858-1918

RCSS

St Mary, Swinton baptisms 1908-1933

RCMA

St Augustine, Chorlton baptisms 1900-1920



Ceramics on display at the LAL Art Exhibition last

Our next Tuesday late opening is 9 Aug until 7pm

Our next Saturday opening is 13 Aug 2016 from 10am to 4pm

We are closed on Bank Holiday Monday 29 Aug

**ANY
COMMENTS?**

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