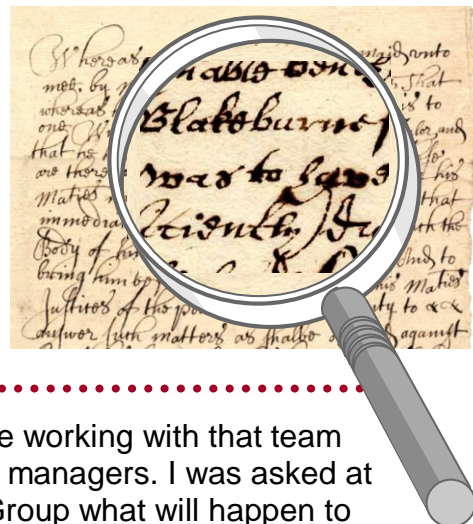


News from the Archives

Newsletter of Lancashire Archives



Archive Service update

We had a splendid Heritage Open Day on 10 September when 89 people visited, had a tour behind the scenes and found out about how paper documents have been repaired over the years.

The last few weeks have seen more staff changes as the new structure is slowly implemented. The sad news is that Neil Sayer, archive access manager has left us after 24 years' service. He will leave a huge gap in terms of his detailed knowledge of the archive collections, his concern to provide the best experience for all archive users and his unrivalled skill in capturing and entertaining an audience. On a happier note I'm pleased to report that Annie Starkey, one of our trainee archive conservators, has been appointed to a post in Cornwall and that Alex Duggan, now Mrs. Calvert, was successful in her application to remain here as one of the archive conservators at Lancashire Archives.

I now have responsibility for the Library Collections team, as well as archives, so in the context of library closures I am spending

a lot of time working with that team and library managers. I was asked at our User Group what will happen to local history material in libraries where it is proposed that the service will cease. I can assure you that this important resource will either transfer to the appropriate district library or to Lancashire Archives.

Please note that we will be completely closed to members of the public on Monday 17 October for a special event.

Northern History

'The purpose of this journal ...is to publish work on the history of the six northern counties... both articles on topics treated regionally and articles on the history of particular localities'. In 1966 Lancashire Record Office subscribed to the first volume at a cost of 25 shillings. In 1973 it increased to £2.00 – the cost of a jumper from M&S –if only it were still priced at that level! An online only subscription for 2017 will cost £211.20 plus an additional charge of about £30 for a hard copy. Unfortunately there is no printed version only option. I am not sure how much **Northern History** is used by our researchers or where else it may be accessed locally, but I do know that it is the most expensive publication to which we

subscribe. I would welcome your views about the value of continuing this subscription.

Please send your thoughts to record.office@lancashire.gov.uk

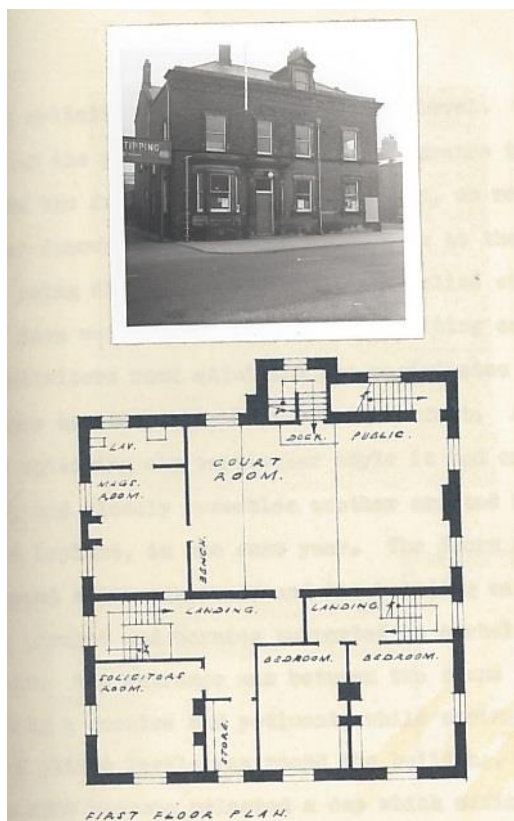
Jacque Crosby, Archives Manager

Collections

Each month we bring you the highlights of this month's new catalogues. In August we processed 7 deposits of documents, all of which were selected for permanent preservation.

The development of police stations in the County of Lancashire (DDX 3155)

For anyone interested in the history of policing in Lancashire, and particularly in the history of police stations, this thesis will be hugely important. It contains a short history of policing in the County before going on to describe each station, including floor plans and photographs.



Some of the other records selected include:

- DDX 1291 Classification of the ancient local courts of Lancashire and Cheshire 1886
- DDX 2816 Lancashire Association of Change Ringers annual report 2015
- P/207 Photocopy diary of Henry Ecroyd of Colne 1774
- PR 3296 Preston, Emmanuel: marriage register 1985-2016; service registers 1993-2013; parish magazines 1943-1956, 1981-2009; PCC minutes 1983-2005; preachers register 1870-2014; Sunday school meetings 1913-1960; miscellaneous papers relating to the church property, school and activities
- RCNE Newhouse St Mary: Registers of baptism, confirmation, marriage and burial and graveyard survey 1796-2016

Preston Arts Festival 2016

Join us this year for an afternoon of readings from the latest creative writing project in collaboration between Lancashire Archives and the Preston Arts Association. *TALES FROM THE ARCHIVES: Literary Lancashire through time*, is a collection of work inspired by literary related archives including letters from Wordsworth, Charles Dickens and Elizabeth Gaskell, anonymous printed poems and handwritten doggerels, and a playbill advertising Hamlet alongside Mons. Gouffe 'the highly celebrated and original man monkey'.

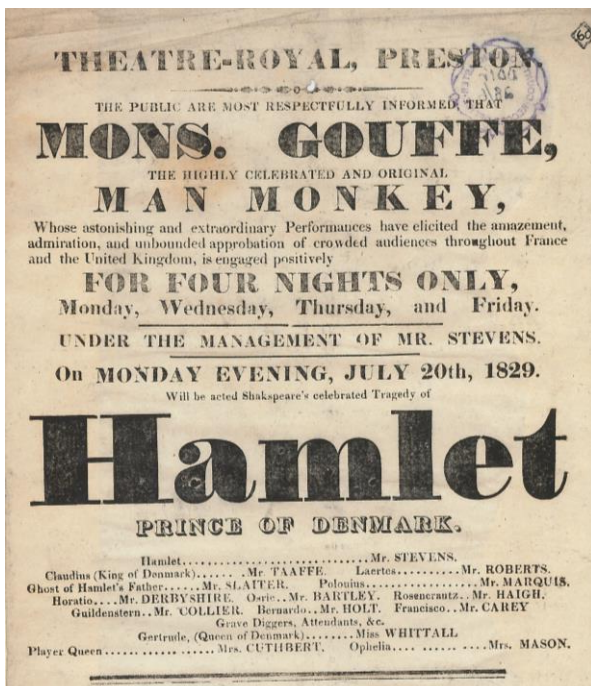
The readings will take place on Thu 13 October from 2pm at Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane Preston, PR1 2RE. There will

also be an opportunity to purchase a copy of the work produced.

In addition on Thu 6 October Lorna Smithers of Preston Poets Society, will be giving a talk on 'Lancashire Folklore: Illustrated with poetry' from 2pm to 3.30pm also at Lancashire Archives.

For details of other events taking place as part of the Festival please visit:

<http://www.prestonarts.com/>



Abbott and Company, Stained Glass Project

Last month I reported that Lancashire Archives had received a grant from the Business Archives Council to catalogue the archive of Abbot and Company, stained glass manufacturers of Lancaster. I am pleased to say that newspaper coverage of the award resulted in some really positive interest in the project. We have received two further deposits of stained glass archives and have had a number of groups interested in using the Abbot archive as an inspiration for new creative works.

Lindsey Sutton has been appointed to catalogue the collection and she starts work next week. A small group of volunteers will be helping her by cleaning and researching individual window designs, and next month's edition will include some examples of what they have found.



Designs from one the newly deposited collections (DDX 3158)

David Tilsley, Senior Archivist

Lancaster Coroner's Inquest Records

As part of our Monday closure we have had the opportunity to work on various projects, such as cleaning, checking, flattening and re-packaging the earliest surviving set of coroner's inquests post the Law of Coroners Act (1889), for Lancaster District (DDHD/CR).

These records survived as part of the Holden Solicitors collection as Lawrence and his son Neville Holden were both in their time coroners for Lancaster. They came to us in folded bundles and were incredibly dirty as a result of a fire at the solicitor's offices.

An important aspect of the project has been to record details about the death to make these records more accessible to researchers. For example, there are many deaths as a result of accidents at work and in particular associated with the Heysham Harbour Works.

Another possible use for these records is to inspire creativity, and although the inquests are a fascinating, if morbid, record of peoples' tragic and untimely deaths, they have already been used to inspire creative writing through the *Time and Tide* project.

There is also surprising evidence of the use of innovations in medical history, a good example being the use in one case from 1899 of 'Dr. Silvester's method for respiratory recovery'. First introduced in 1858 by Henry Robert Silvester (1828–1908), a British physician, this is a method of artificial respiration in which the subject is laid on his or her back and air is expelled from the lungs by pressing the arms over the chest and fresh air drawn in by pulling them above the head.

There are also interesting questions in relation to the history of health and safety measures and inspection, and public accountability due to deaths in prison and at the County Asylum.

So far 1896 through to 1901 have been updated, cleaned, flattened and re-packaged – only another 33 years to go!

Victoria McCann, Archivist

Lancashire Place Names Survey Annual Lecture

Dr Jayne Carroll, University of Nottingham, Researcher; Institute for Name-Studies Shropshire volumes for the English Place-Name Society

Completing the Shropshire place-name survey: landscape, language, history

The talk will take place after the LPNS Annual General Meeting on

Tuesday 25th October 2016 at 19:00 at Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE

Tickets cost £5 each (no concessions) and must be paid for in advance.

Please send a cheque for the full amount due and payable to Lancashire Place Name Survey to:

LPNS, Jennifer Holt, 258 Blackburn Road, Haslingden, BB4 5JF. All ticket orders must reach the LPNS by Monday 24th October

[Our next Tuesday late opening is 11 Oct until 7pm](#)

[Our next Saturday opening is 8 Oct 2016 from 10am to 4pm](#)

**ANY
COMMENTS?**

Write to: Vicci McCann, News from the Archives, Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE. Telephone: 01772 533039. Email: record.office@lancashire.gov.uk