

HEBDEN BRIDGE LOCAL HISTORY  
SOCIETY NEWSLETTER  
[www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk](http://www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk)

Autumn 2018

## Gravestone Transcription Complete!



*An early drawing of the Old Church showing  
gravestones covering the whole area.*

See inside for details

**Published by the Hebden Bridge  
Local History Society  
The Birchcliffe Centre  
Birchcliffe Road  
Hebden Bridge HX7 8DG**

President: Barbara Atack  
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The society has sections for those with a particular  
interest in local prehistory, family history and  
folklore.

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**Subscriptions due - see inside back cover**

**Welcome** to the Autumn Newsletter. Here you'll find details of the lectures, section reports, exhibitions and events for 2018-2019 and the Literary & Scientific Society Lecture Series. The next newsletter will be in Spring 2019.

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### **Literary and Scientific Society**

As a member of the History Society you are also a member of the Lit & Sci. Your membership allows you concessionary rates at their lectures – details on back cover. The AGM will be in April 2019 – details later.

For more information go to the website: <http://hblitandsci.org.uk>

## Archive Opening Times 2018 - 2019

The Archive at the Birchcliffe Centre will be open to members on the afternoon of the second Wednesday of the month and on the morning of the fourth Saturday of the month. In December there will be no Saturday opening.

<b>2018</b>	<b>Wednesday 2 - 5 pm</b>	<b>Saturday 10 am - 1 pm</b>
September	12	22
October	10	27
November	14	24
December	12	Not open
<b>2019</b>		
January	9	26
February	13	23
March	13	23
April	10	27
May	8	25

# Discovery Day

## Food and Farming in the Calder Valley, Past, Present and Future

An introduction to using archive materials  
with a view to encouraging future research



**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

**9.30 am to 4.00 pm**

**Birchcliffe Centre, Hebden Bridge**

This day will include

- An introduction to HBLHS archives with reference to land use and farming, including historic publications, maps, wills, deeds and photographs.
- A closer look at local probate records, the 1939 Farm Survey and farm buildings.
- A question and answer session with farmers who have a lifetime involvement in farming locally.

**Fee £15.00 Lunch and refreshments included**

For more information please contact Barbara Attack

[ataxjb@btinternet.com](mailto:ataxjb@btinternet.com)

# Local History AGM 24th October 2018

## Items for the agenda

Any items/proposals for discussion at the AGM and any nominations for officers or committee members should reach the secretary by 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018. Contact details are:

Hon Secretary, Hebden Bridge Local History Society,  
Birchcliffe Centre, Hebden Bridge, HX7 8DG  
Email: [secretary@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk](mailto:secretary@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk)

## Nominations for the Committee

If you wish to nominate someone for the committee and they are willing to stand, then please complete and send the following information:

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_

For the position of:

President/Secretary/Treasurer/Librarian/committee member in the Hebden Bridge Local History Society or the Hebden Bridge Literary and Scientific Society (delete as required)

Proposer \_\_\_\_\_

Membership number \_\_\_\_\_

Seconder \_\_\_\_\_

Membership number \_\_\_\_\_

You can copy this page if you prefer

## **AGM Reports October 2018**

This year the committee have decided to publish a combined report for the AGM in the Autumn Newsletter. This, hopefully, will shorten the proceedings at the AGM. There will be copies available at the meeting, but it will not be read out in full. The Treasurer's report will be tabled at the meeting.

### **President's Report**

We thank our members and many visitors for your support and encouragement over the last year.

I must also thank the outgoing committee for all their hard work; it is thanks to them that we are able to continue to thrive as a society. We have many activities, not only the series of talks each winter but others that do not always get the recognition they deserve. I'm glad to say that all the committee have agreed to stand again next year.

This year we welcomed two new members to the committee and to specific roles within the committee. Murray Secombe has joined us as Secretary and Julia Maybury as Minutes Secretary. We are very grateful to them for taking on these tasks.

Our winter series of talks was again very successful with a wide variety of topics. Many of the speakers came some distance, notably Dr. Paul Dalton who came all the way from Canterbury. However, it was also good to see so many of our own members sharing their research with us. The attendance was slightly higher than last year with an average of just over 60 people at each lecture. It is provident that we now meet in the Church as the capacity of the hall would have been too small for some of the lectures.

The Committee decided this year to publish the winter programme on our web-site and on HebWeb a month or so before the publication of the Newsletter as some of our members have requested to have this information earlier in the year.

We are interested in all aspects of local history, both past and present, in the Upper Calder Valley and have links with many groups in Hebden Bridge. This year we aided the digitisation of the 1924 film of the HB Carnival by the Friends of the Picture House; we are in close contact with the Friends of HB Station and are planning a future exhibition with them. Our forthcoming Discovery Day is run in conjunction with Pennine Heritage and especially with the Digital Archive and we are members of the HB Partnership. We are (officially) a sub-group of the HB Literary and Scientific Society and are glad to see the relaunch of this group and their successful programme of talks. We also hosted a visit to Hebden Bridge from Clitheroe Civic Trust and aided the local Cubs to attain their history badges.

We have only staged one exhibition during the year, which was titled *700 years of Floods in Hebden Bridge* and was put together by Mike Crawford and Nick Wilding. It had a very good reception at the Town Hall. Again we thank the Community Association for hosting our Exhibitions each year. The next exhibition will be later this year, in November, to coincide with the centenary of the end of the First World War. Our previous exhibition about Pre-History and Widdop was displayed in the Heptonstall Museum throughout the summer and is now on display in the Birchcliffe Centre.

We thank Diana and Paul Monahan for their input and commitment in the funding and making of the Flood Plaques,



now on the wall of the Picture House, that record past flood levels. These were unveiled by the Mayor earlier this year.



*Midgley  
Pace-egggers –  
probably  
around 1913*

I would like to thank everyone who helped us to support the Pace Egg Play this year. The group of ex Calder High School students who have continued to perform the play for the last few years need to be highly commended. However, they would welcome support from local groups and we felt we were able to do that this year both in updating the costumes and helping with transport. We thank Pennine Heritage for offering rehearsal space and Chris Coe and Fiona Harrison for the costumes. We now would like to form a more permanent group to help them in future years. If you feel you would like to be part of this, please contact me?

We are to hold a Discovery Day, hopefully the first of many, with the object of introducing local people to the use of archives with the aim that some may feel encouraged to follow up some aspects of the topic further, possibly with the idea of a talk to the society or some form of publication.

## Archive

- Donations to the collection: As usual the Society has received several donations of items for the Archive during the year and the Society is deeply grateful to all the donors. These include the following:
  - A notable acquisition this year was the archives of Wainsgate Chapel, donated to us by the Chapels Trust on condition that record books of baptisms, marriages and deaths are transferred to Calderdale Archives. We are very grateful to Chris Barnett for actively encouraging this development and for collecting the documents from London.
  - The descendants of Gamaliel Sutcliffe of Stonesheygate have donated further family documents that complement the collection acquired from Stonesheygate in the 1950s. These include a family tree and the travel journals of Gamaliel.
- Collection maintenance: Work has continued on transferring the catalogue to an Endnote bibliographic database which now holds over 4000 records. 21 sections of the catalogue have now been transferred, with 12 left to do. The Society is very grateful to all those who regularly help with the cataloguing and re-cataloguing, in particular Anne Mealia, John Crampton, Sarah Keates and Hilary Fellows.
- Volunteer Librarians: The Society would like to thank David Cant, Hilary Fellows and Diana Monahan for their time and effort in staffing the library on opening days.

## **Family History**

- Monumental inscriptions; after many years of work from several different groups in the Society, we have finally completed the transcriptions of the gravestone in Heptonstall Churchyard. Hopefully these are available on our web site for all to access. We also thank Gabriel Elliott and Jo Sweeny and a team of Heptonstall villagers for the transcribing of all the gravestones in the Burial Ground adjacent to the church.
- Beginners course: Anne Mealia led a very successful Family History course for beginners in the Spring; so successful that we have decided to repeat it this Autumn. Details are in the newsletter and on line.
- Visitors: We have had many enquiries from Family Historians to follow up this year together with visits from people researching their local ancestors, several of whom have travelled from abroad.

## **Probate Group**

A small group is now in its eighth year of transcribing the probate documents for the Upper Calder Valley. The transcription and indexing of all the Stansfield documents for the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries has been completed and work is now focused on the eighteenth century. The group has also transcribed the documents for the townships of Heptonstall, Wadsworth, Midgley and Warley for the period 1688 to 1700, and work is now proceeding on preparing them for publication.

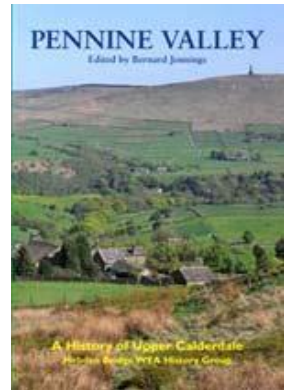
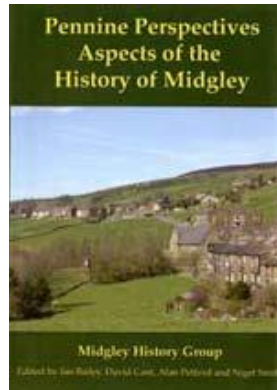
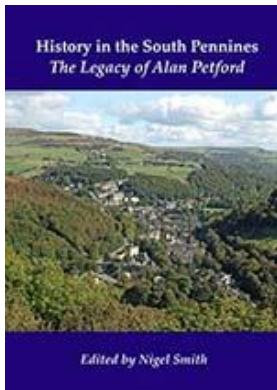
## Latin group

This group continues to meet for 20 weeks a year to learn more about historical documents written in Latin and how to transcribe and translate them. Local documents are used as examples.

## South Pennine History Group

The Society is a member of the South Pennine History Group, together with Saddleworth and Marsden History Groups. The group continues to meet a couple of times a year in order to exchange news and discuss matters of common interest. The group is in the process of establishing a fund to encourage research and other activities in the history of the South Pennines. This is from the profits of *History in the South Pennines*.

## Publications



*Three of the Society's publications*

Three of our other publications are now out of print: *Century of Change*, *City in the Hills* and *Enclosing the Moors*. The Committee has decided to publish three previously unpublished works on the Hebden Bridge clothing industry in one volume. One of these is Tom Greenwood's thesis written in 1982 and only

available in Calderdale Libraries. The other two are earlier documents in our own archive describing the industry.

The Society also expects to publish two other books in the next 12 months: one on *Hebden Bridge and the Railway in the Nineteenth Century* by David Taylor; and the other on the probate records of Heptonstall and Wadsworth by Mike Crawford and Stella Richardson.

Society publications can be ordered via our website where there is a detailed description of each book. Copies can also be obtained from the Bookcase on Market Street.

### **Facebook**

Our Facebook page continues to grow and now has 332 followers. The average number of visits per day is 6, with over 20 on a number of days. The average daily reach i.e. the number who see our posts, which includes those people who are not followers, is 177 with 21 people taking some form of action on a post, such as liking, sharing or commenting.

The Facebook site was particularly useful when we were investigating the status of the Pace Egg Play, as it not only promoted much interest but also put us in touch with the group of ex-Calder High School students who were carrying on the tradition.

*Barbara Atack*

## Exhibitions

The next exhibition will focus on the last months of World War I and how the community continued the sacrifice.

After 4 years of struggle when did they come to realise that it would soon be over? In the last weeks, local men died in France – 12 between August and the Armistice. Fred Patchett was killed in action on the 4<sup>th</sup> November.

As 1918 passed – Spring, Summer, Autumn – German successes and the introduction of rationing were hardly a sign of imminent victory. The sacrifice continued abroad and at home.

### **DISASTER IN THE MIDLANDS.**

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### **EXPLOSION AT SHELL-FILLING FACTORY**

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**Between 60 and 70 Lives Lost.**

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**Official Tribute To Women's Heroism.**

*Headline from the Halifax Courier - July 1918*

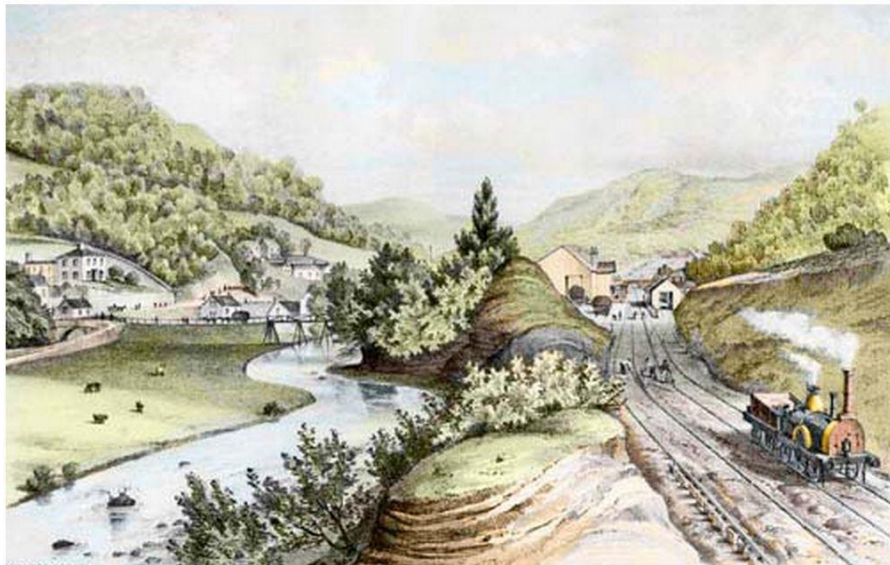
And then it was over – almost – since thousands of men were kept in uniform as part of the army of occupation in Germany or in Russia as part of a forlorn bid to help the Whites.

There was a general election and over 8 million women got the vote and over 5 million men.

And then the flu hit.

The exhibition will be at the Town Hall from Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October until Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November.

In March 2019 another exhibition “Hebden Bridge and it’s railway station” will be on view at the Town Hall.



*Hebden Bridge Station from Tait's Views of the Manchester and Leeds Railway (1845)*

Lastly, I wish to thank those who have volunteered to help with these exhibitions.

*Mike Crawford*

## Lecture Programme 2018 – 2019

Venue: The Methodist Church, Market Street,  
Hebden Bridge, HX7 6EU at 7.30pm

26 September 2018

CHANGING TIMES, CHANGING HEROINES:  
what happened after the suffragettes?

Amy Binns



When women gained the vote a century ago, they also gained a new status. No longer outlaws, they were now citizens, and had to learn to live with a new identity. Local chapel women organised "pageants of great women" to perform a new historical narrative that would support and cement this new status. Come and find out who they chose, and how they staked a claim in our island's history.



Amy Binns is a journalist, a lecturer at the University of Central Lancashire and wrote *Valley of a Hundred Chapels* on the history of Calder valley chapels.

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**10 October 2018**

**THE WHITTAKERS AND THE HOLME AT CLIVIGER      Roger Frost**



*Photo PHDA Local History Collection*

This is the story of a house and the family who lived there for several generations. In its heyday, it was a two-star listed building but subsequently fell on hard times and was burnt to the ground. However, this was not the end of the story!

Roger Frost is a retired teacher and lecturer who was awarded an MBE in 2000. He is a former mayor of Burnley and the author of about 30 publications including many looking back at the history of the Burnley area.

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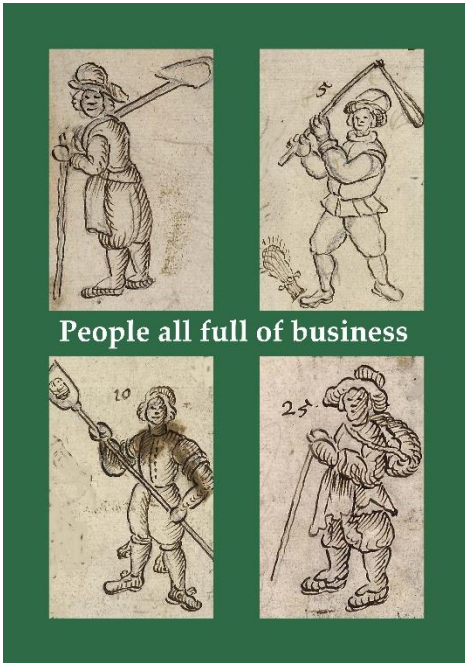
See notice and report on pages 4 – 11.

*followed by*

**The Alan Petford Annual Memorial Lecture**

**PEOPLE ALL FULL OF BUSINESS:  
the inhabitants of Halifax  
from probate records 1688 – 1700**

**Sheila Graham  
& Barbara Hall**



It was Daniel Defoe who was impressed by the industrious nature of the people of the Calder Valley as he travelled through the area. This talk will take a look into lives of these Halifax people – apothecaries, lawyers, drapers, innkeepers, dyers, salters and shopkeepers, as well as the women whose occupations were not recorded. The detailed inventories and wills often written at the point of death

reveal a vivid and fascinating picture of family and economic life in the West Riding at the end of the seventeenth century.

The Halifax Probate Group has its origins in a WEA class led and nurtured by the late Alan Petford. Along with members of Hebden Bridge Local History Society they are close to fulfilling

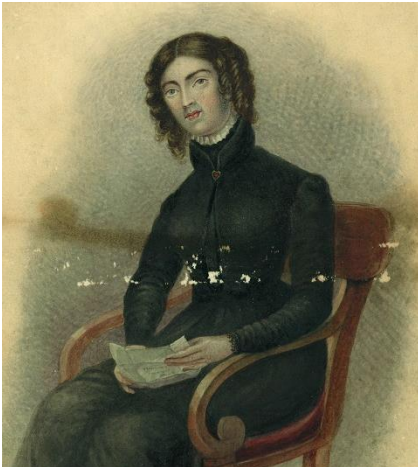
Alan's ambitious plan to transcribe and publish the probate documents for all the townships of Halifax parish for this period at the end of 17<sup>th</sup> century. The latest volume will be available for sale at a reduced price.

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**14 November 2018**

**ANNE LISTER: THE LIFE  
AND LOVES OF A LOCAL LADY**

**Christine Booth**



*Portrait of Anne Lister © West  
Yorkshire Archive Service*

Christine promises surprises, secrets and shocks in her talk about one of the most famous women of Halifax. With filming taking place at Shibden Hall over the summer months, we can get one step ahead on the story of Anne Lister.

Christine has conducted educational workshops for Calderdale Museums' Education Service for many years and has also worked as a volunteer at Shibden Hall,

conducting talking tours to bring the stories of the house and its most famous resident to life.

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28 November 2018

**ALL OUR OWN WORK:  
the story of the fustian co-operative  
at Nutclough Mill**

**Andrew Bibby**



The Nutclough Mill in Hebden Bridge, which was operated for almost fifty years as a worker-run co-operative, achieved national, and international fame. The mill, which produced fustian cloth and ready-to-wear clothing, employed upwards of 300 local women and men, and was profitable throughout its period of operation. The talk will look at the context in which the co-op was started in 1870, how it successfully expanded, its wider role in the town, and its eventual sale to the Co-operative Wholesale Society in 1918.

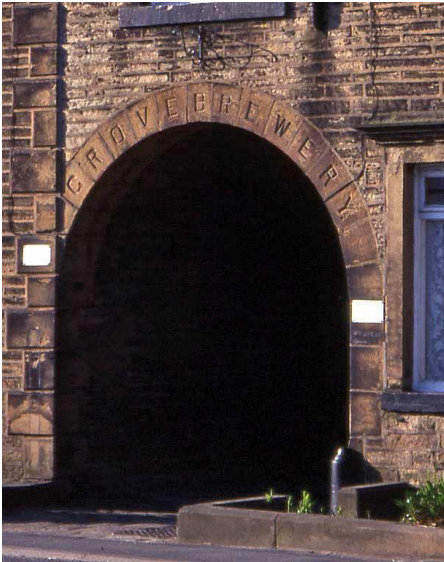
Andrew Bibby is a writer and journalist who has lived in Hebden Bridge for twenty-nine years. His history of the Nutclough co-operative (*All Our Own Work*) was published recently by Merlin Press. He has given talks at Local History Society meetings in recent years on the Oxford University connection with Hebden Bridge and the 1916 machinists' strike.

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**12 December 2018**

**BREWERIES AND LICENSED TRADE  
IN THE UPPER CALDER VALLEY  
DURING THE 19<sup>th</sup> AND 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURIES**

**Peter Robinson**



The talk will aim to explore the effects of urbanisation, the coming of the beerhouse, and the growth of commercial breweries with their tied estates, upon the drinkers of the Calder Valley.

Peter has been a member of the HBLHS for many years and is also Treasurer of the Halifax Antiquarian Society. He has written a number of articles on brewery and pub

history in Calderdale, as well as on industrial history and architecture. In recent years Peter has talked to the society about the early days of brewing and pubs in the area, and this will bring the story closer to modern times.

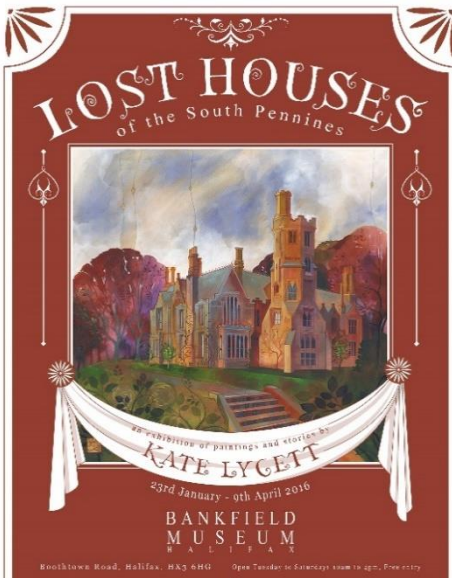
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9 January 2019

**LOST HOUSES OF THE SOUTH PENNINES:  
using the archives with artistic licence**

**Kate Lycett**

In 2015 Kate displayed an exhibition at Bankfield Museum called 'Lost Houses of the South Pennines'. The pictures had taken two years to research and paint. With the help of the archives and some of the archivists she has breathed a little life and colour into the lost and forgotten houses around Calderdale. She will share her experience of how local history inspired an artist and some of the stories she learned. She would also like help with a new idea!



Kate is an artist based in Hebden Bridge who paints landscapes and architecture using inks, gold leaf and threads. Her work has been widely exhibited and she has produced very successful books. This is a great opportunity to get an insight into how she transforms history into art.





13 February 2019

**THE HISTORY OF FARMING  
IN THE INDUSTRIAL PENNINES**

**Dr. Stephen Caunce**

Surprisingly few people notice how little of the Pennines between Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield is actually occupied by towns and rough moorland. Even fewer realise that the rise of industry opened up unprecedented opportunities for commercial farming here, and that local families responded with great determination and flexibility. Given that the surge in population happened at a time when the transport system was very primitive, the local contribution to feeding all these extra mouths was a key part of the Industrial Revolution – on land



*Milk  
delivered  
by churn,  
Golcar  
1928*

described in Tudor times as ‘great waste and moor...not apt to bring forth either corn nor good grass.’



Dr Stephen Counce is a native of south Lancashire and recently retired from his post as Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Central Lancashire. He spent his early career working in museums which influenced his approach to history. His research has explored the lives of ordinary people at times of great transformation and he is the author of several publications looking at farming life, the woollen industry and northern life.

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**27 February 2019**

**WOODLANDS OF THE SOUTH PENNINES:  
their industrial history**

**Hywel Lewis**



The steep, unpromising woodlands of our valleys actually played an important part in the industrialisation of the region, the legacy of which can be seen to this day. Using historical,

archaeological and ecological methods, the history of their use is being pieced together, along with the industries of iron, wool and leather which relied on them.

Hywel is in the final year of his PhD research at the University of Bradford, and has a background in practical forestry. He introduced this topic to the society in a short presentation a few years ago, and is now ready to expand on what his researches have uncovered.

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**13 March 2019**

**REMEMBERING PETERLOO**

**Alan Fowler**



Peterloo was the most significant day in Manchester's history. The death of 15 people attending a reform meeting killed, some would argue murdered, by the Manchester Yeomanry, was an event constantly referenced by Manchester people. Yet despite this there is no major monument in Manchester to Peterloo.

Peterloo is a constant reminder of the need to remember and the talk explores both the event itself and Manchester's attempts to remember and also to forget Peterloo during the next century and beyond.

Alan Fowler is a member of Hebden Bridge Local History Society and taught Economic and Social History at Manchester Polytechnic and Manchester Metropolitan University for over 40 years. He writes on the history of cotton operatives.

27 March 2019

**LIFE AND DEATH IN HEBDEN BRIDGE  
1851 – 1901**

**Anne Mealia**

Administrative County <i>West Riding of</i>		Civil Parish <i>Hebden Bridge</i>					Ecclesiastical P <i>St James</i>	
1	2		3 4 5			6 7		
No of Inhabited	ROAD, STREET, &c, and No. or NAME of HOUSE		HOUSES			Number of Houses occupied if less than 500		
<i>47</i>	<i>St Andrew's St</i>		Inhabited	Uninhabited	In Occupation	Not in Occupation	Building	
			<i>X</i>		<i>Continued</i>		<i>X</i>	

Who was living in Hebden Bridge in the second half of the nineteenth century? Where did they come from and what were they doing there? Censuses,

taken every ten years, are a rich source of information about how people lived. This talk will use examples of families and individuals as well as statistics to gain an insight into the lives of the people of Hebden Bridge over a 50-year period.

Anne Mealia is a member of the society who runs her own genealogy and historical research business. She teaches family history and has written articles on family and local history. Her research interests range from nineteenth-century Todmorden to the lives of music hall artistes.

## Prehistory Section

Meetings and conferences attended since the turn of the year:

- Neolithic and Early Bronze Age Research Students Symposium at Preston.
- The British Rock Art Group Annual Meeting at Ilkley.
- The Prehistoric Society Europa Conference at York.
- A talk on Yorkshire Henges presented to the Yorkshire Archaeological Society at Leeds.

As a part of our continuing link with Aaron Watson, mainly pursuing the thread of 'ambiguous archaeology', we spent a day at a fascinating excavation around the rock art at Copt Howe in Langdale directed by Aaron and Richard Bradley (Emeritus Professor of Archaeology at Reading and one of the most important prehistorians in Europe).

Those interested might do best to Google any of the above, my summary would be inadequate. Other search engines are available.

Our attention was drawn to a report of a possible orthostatic wall near Norland by Calderdale Council with a view to advice about restoration.

John Billingsley drew our attention to his neighbour's curious balls.

Local fieldwork has been limited by time, weather and illness/injury, but we have high hopes of reservoir water levels falling further...

Fieldwork in Cornwall focused on propped stones on West Penwith and Bodmin moors. They are just like the propped stones found in the South Pennines and the Yorkshire Dales and

two papers will appear later in the year. Details of local examples have been uploaded to Megalithic Portal.

Three talks were delivered, to Midgley and Mytholmroyd Historical Societies and to Halifax Antiquarians.

Unfortunately the backlog of images to upload to the HBLHS site has yet to be addressed.

*Dave Shepherd*

## Folklore Section



In April, the Folklore Section was once again involved in arranging and hosting Hidden Charms, the national conference on customs aimed at protecting home and household. This time it was held in The Mediaeval Hall in a rather quiet Salisbury, but with 80 attendees and speakers from Finland, Romania and the USA. From Britain, our local Calderdale

representative, John Billingsley, spoke about the rather less local modern custom in Albania of displaying soft toys at thresholds to divert the evil eye. The event was another successful step in bringing the overlooked magical customs of our forebears into closer examination.

John came closer to home in June with a major article on the folklore of Stoodley Pike in *Northern Earth* 153. An intriguing

aspect of folklore and other perceptions relating to Stoodley Pike and Langfield Common and that area - including a childhood vision of Ted Hughes – is that various entities are said to reside beneath, from a smoking swan to the Gabriel Ratchets, from imps to fairies and from the Devil to the MoD. This meta-narrative implies a local perception of that area of moorland. Copies of NE153 (£2.25) can be obtained from John or may still be available in The Bookcase.

David Cant raised a question about tunnel tales in Calderdale. There are 16 such legends on file, the most celebrated being the one that's said to extend between Tom Bell's Cave in Hardcastle Crag and Hell Hole Rocks in Heptonstall (from where it was said you could hear them stoking the fires in Heptonstall!). Others are said to have linked Old Town Hall with Pecket Wood, Halifax Minster with The Ring o'Bells, St Mary's in Todmorden with Todmorden Hall, Dobroyd Castle with Stones House, and Broadbottom Farm with Redacre. There are 4 in Elland, too! David added one from Luddenden Church to the Lord Nelson. In general, the tales tell of passages which head in a certain direction but are (now) blocked a little way in. If any members hear of other such tales in the area, please let John know for the burgeoning database of Calderdale folklore!

*John Billingsley*

# Family History Group

## Family History Meetings

We meet regularly twice a month and have many visitors, some local and some from far away, who are asking for guidance in tracing their family history. We usually meet on the first Saturday and the third Thursday of each month at the Birchcliffe Centre between 2pm and 5 pm.

### Family History Meeting Times 2018 - 19

	Saturday	Thursday
September	=	20
October	6	18
November	3	15
December	1	--
January	5	17
February	2	21
March	2	21
April	6	18

at the Birchcliffe Centre,  
Birchcliffe Road, Hebden Bridge HX7 8DG

## **Monumental Inscriptions at Heptonstall**

After many years of work by many different groups of people, we are now ready to publish the inscriptions from all the gravestones in Heptonstall Churchyard and the adjacent Burial Ground.

It has been a mammoth task. There are over 2,000 gravestones, many very old, often illegible or difficult to read. Over time different groups from our society have tackled this project and the latest group have been working since 2010 to complete the work started, we believe, in the 1980s.

The final list is to be found on our web-site and we hope it will be useful, especially to many family historians who wish to discover their local ancestors.

We have many people to thank: members of the society past and present, and especially the group of Heptonstall residents who recently undertook the transcribing of the burial ground.

Follow the link *Gravestones* on the website to find the final list of the transcriptions.

### **Local family names**

It has been most noticeable whilst we have been carrying out this work that there are many names that are common locally and, as family historians, we know this is the case throughout the country.

We have in the past mentioned the popularity of two of our local surnames, Greenwood and Sutcliffe, but below we have a list of the most popular surnames occurring in the Heptonstall burial records up to 1812, which we think is of interest.



We have taken this list from the transcription of the Heptonstall and Cross Stone registers, carried out by Douglas Wilson and published in 1998. In this publication Elsie Read has produced a frequency table of the most common surnames found in the burial registers and this corresponds quite closely with our observations.

28,949 entries were transcribed. A few entries were not wholly legible, or irrelevant. The list shows the names with the given number of entries.

Greenwood	2564	Uttley	321
Sutcliffe	2194	Ingham	320
Crabtree	840	Sunderland	303
Horsfall	772	Crowther	281
Barker	699	Law	261
Helliwell	669	Ashworth	253
Stansfield	596	Clegg	247
Mitchell	574	Fielding	245
Marshall	534	Taylor	240
Thomas	504	Bentley	236
Crossley	503	Walton	236
Shackleton	445	Townend	226
Cockcroft	424	Akroyd	214
Wadsworth	383	Wilkinson	210
Pickles	364	Spencer	208
Eastwood	332	Robertshaw	206
Smith	331	Midgley	205

It is noticeable that of the names on the list many are derived from local place names and specific to the Upper Calder Valley. Others are commonly found throughout all areas of the country e.g. Thomas, Taylor and Smith, and are often names related to an occupation or a family name.

For more information contact the Family History Group or come and chat with us at one of our sessions at The Birchcliffe Centre. We are usually there the first Saturday and the third

Thursday of the month between 2 and 5 pm. But do check on-line as occasionally we have to change a date.

The Beginner's Course run by Anne Mealia in the spring was so well received that we have decided to repeat it, this time in the autumn when hopefully the weather won't be detrimental.

*Barbara Attack*

## **Beginners' Family History Course**

Do you want to know who your ancestors were, where they lived and what they did?

Do you want to discover the best sources and techniques for family history research?



Birchcliffe Centre, Birchcliffe Road, Hebden Bridge

Starts Monday 1 October for 10 weeks

7:30 – 9:30 pm

For more information: <http://www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk/>  
or contact Anne Mealia [info@evergreenancestry.com](mailto:info@evergreenancestry.com)

## **Membership**

**The subscription for 2018/19 remains at £12 and is due at the beginning of September.**

You can now pay your subscription:

- By bank transfer or standing order
- By cheque
- In cash

The enclosed renewal sheet gives full details of how to renew.

Membership cards for the 2018/19 season will be issued at meetings if possible to save postage.

Alternatively you can renew membership at a meeting.

# The Hebden Bridge Lectures

**Sat 13 OCT 2018**

*Tim Birkhead*

The Most Perfect Thing;  
the inside (and outside)  
of a bird's egg



**Sat 24 NOV 2018**

*Chris Renwick*

Liberalism and the  
British Welfare State;  
its past and its future

**Sat 26 JAN 2019**

*Susan Owens*

The Appearance  
of Ghosts



**Sat 02 MAR 2019**

*Richard Morris*

Writing Yorkshire

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**Hebden Bridge Town Hall • The Waterfront Hall • Bar/Café open at 6:30 PM**

**Lectures start at 7:30 pm sharp – No admission to lectures after 7:30 pm**

<b>Tickets:</b>	<b>One Lecture</b>	<b>Season Ticket</b>
Full Price	£10.00	£35.00
Concession	£8.00	£26.00
Under 25	£5.00	Not Available

Tickets can be purchased in the Town Hall. Season tickets offering all four lectures at a discount are on sale from 13th August 2018. Individual tickets, approximately 4-5 weeks before lecture dates.

Members of Lit & Sci, and of the Local History Society section of the Lit & Sci, qualify for the concessionary prices.

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Hebden Bridge Literary & Scientific Society was first established by local young mill-workers in 1905 and is today organised by a small committee.

We welcome your interest and involvement. [www.hblitandsci.org.uk](http://www.hblitandsci.org.uk)