

HEBDEN BRIDGE LOCAL HISTORY
SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk

Autumn 2017

Fawcett 200

**Celebrate the life of
Reverend John Fawcett 1740 – 1817**

Founder and Minister of Ebenezer

An eminent Baptist

Writer of hymns

Chapel at Wainsgate

Educationalist

The legacy: Hope Chapel

The builder of houses at Machpelah

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

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

Contacts

| | |
|-------------------|--|
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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 2017-2018 and the Literary & Scientific Society Lecture Series. The next newsletter will be in Spring 2018.

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**Receive your Newsletter by email and help keep costs
(and therefore subs) down**

Email membership@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk
with your name and membership number and
while we're thinking about subs....inside back cover

Local History AGM 25th October 2017

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 4th October 2017. Contact details are:

Mrs. Diana Monahan, 7 New Road, Hebden Bridge, HX7 8AD
Email: secretary@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk

Nominations for the Committee

The Society is run by a committee of volunteers who meet six times a year to discuss matters affecting the Society and its operation. It is important that this committee refreshes itself periodically through new people joining it who are willing to be involved in ensuring the future of the Society. New ideas, additional expertise or alternative views are always welcome but just another voice to help guide the Society is key. If you are interested in becoming a more active member, please put yourself forward for nomination by contacting Diana Monahan.

Nominations for Secretary

As Diana Monahan is standing down as Secretary, there is a vacancy for this position and nominations are invited. The role is largely one of acting as the Society's principal point of contact for correspondence from non-members and to distribute that to the membership, individual officers or the whole committee as appropriate. Most correspondence does not require an official reply but where deemed necessary by the committee the

Secretary will reply on behalf of the Society. The Secretary is a member of the HBLHS Committee and provides a summary of this activity to the committee at the meetings held 6 times a year, as well as to the AGM. The Secretary also coordinates nominations for the annual elections of officers and committee at the AGM. If you are interested in helping the Society in this role, please talk to Barbara Atack.

The committee would particularly welcome anyone who would be willing to take the minutes for the six committee meetings per year. It is not necessary to actually be a member of the committee to perform this role if you do not wish to be.

If you wish to nominate someone for the committee, the Secretary or any other position, 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 _____

Secunder _____

Membership number _____

You can copy this page if you prefer

Fawcett 200

Events during Autumn 2017

4th September – 2nd October 'Fawcett, his life and legacy, locally and world-wide'. An exhibition prepared by the society which can be viewed between 9.00am - 5.00pm at the Town Hall, St George's St, Hebden Bridge HX7 7BY.

Saturday 9th September 'The Revd Dr John Fawcett and England's 18th-Century Evangelical Corridor'. 11.00 am Hope Chapel, New Road, Hebden Bridge, HX7 8EW. A talk by Dr John A. Hargreaves, author of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography article on John Fawcett and others who contributed to the remarkable evangelical vitality of the Calder Valley in the 18th Century.

Saturday 9th September Heritage Open Day. 12.00 - 5.00pm Hope Chapel, New Road, Hebden Bridge, HX7 8EW. Find out about chapel life in the past with displays, children's activities and refreshments.

Sunday 10th September Heritage Open Day. 2.00 - 5.00pm at Hope Chapel, New Road, Hebden Bridge, HX7 8EW. Find out about chapel life in the past with displays, children's activities and refreshments.

Sunday 10th September Service of Thanksgiving. 10.30 am Hope Baptist Church, New Road, Hebden Bridge HX7 8EW. A special service to celebrate the re-opening led by Rev. Gaynor Hammond.

Sunday 10th September Heritage Open Day. 2.00 - 4.00 pm Friends of Wainsgate Chapel, Wainsgate Lane, Hebden Bridge HX7 8SU will open the chapel. See the artists' studios, hear the organ, look at Fawcett's listed grave and enjoy Wadsworth Environment Group's fund-raising cake stall. www.wainsgate.co.uk

9th - 24th September South Pennines Walk and Ride Festival will include five Fawcett-themed walks around Hebden Bridge, Wainsgate, Brearley and Peel House, Luddenden.

Fawcett 200

- **Sunday 10th September** **Two Men who left their mark on Hebden Bridge.** Starting at 1.00 pm and lasting about 4.5 hours – 7-mile circular walk from Hebden Bridge Station (HX7 6JE) led by Mick Chatham. Exploring the legacy of John Fawcett and Dan Taylor, two Baptist ministers and visiting the places associated with them. Walking shoes recommended.
- **Saturday 16th September** **Fawcetts at Luddenden.** Starting at 1.30pm, a 2-mile walk from Peel House led by Clive Lloyd. Tour of Peel House (Stocks Lane, Luddenden, Halifax, HX2 6SP) and the site and remains of 2 nearby mills, including Peel House Mills with explanation of the Fawcett family's involvement in the development of the mill. The afternoon will be dog/family friendly. If a volunteer with a car is available to take people with mobility problems to the bottom of the valley, then the tour of the former mill sites would become a gentle walk. Some parking is available at Peel House. Nearest bus services are 574 Halifax – Midgley circular (0.5 mile uphill walk) or frequent services on A646 at Luddenden Foot (1.5 mile uphill walk) or stop on Mount Tabor Road by Stocks Lane and walk down.
- **Tuesday 19th September** **Fawcetts at Wainsgate and Brearley.** 10:15 am, a 4-mile walk lasting 2.5 hours led by Ian Vickridge. Visit Wainsgate Chapel and Fawcett graves in Wainsgate Lane, then walk down to Brearley via Midgley using footpaths and farm tracks. After looking at the Fawcett connections, walkers could either take one of the frequent buses back to Hebden Bridge and catch the 595 bus in Commercial Street back to Wainsgate (2 minutes past the hour and half hour) or take a circular walk of 6 miles. If wished, bring lunch to eat at Brearley. Walking shoes recommended as there may be muddy sections.

Fawcett 200

- **Saturday 23rd September** **Hebden Bridge in Fawcett's Day.** Meet inside Hope Chapel (HX7 8EW) by pulpit at 1.45 pm, leaving at 2.00 pm for a one-mile accessible (including wheelchairs), circular, mostly flat walk on tarmac. Led by Diana Monahan, it will last about 2 hours. If this walk is oversubscribed Diana will repeat the walk later in the day. Places may be booked through secretary@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk
- **Sunday 24th September** **Hope Chapel to Wainsgate Chapel.** Meet at Hope Chapel (HX7 8EW) 9:50 am, leaving at 10, a two-mile uphill walk lasting about 2.5 hours led by Ian Vickridge. Visit to Wainsgate Chapel, then join in with lunch and events at the nearby Community Centre and Hare and Hounds Pub. Walking shoes recommended. Return to Hebden Bridge on the 595 bus from Wadsworth Community Centre on the hour every hour.

23rd & 24th September **Fawcett 200 Weekend - Talks, walks, displays and opportunities for networking for anyone interested in the story of Rev Fawcett and the surname Fawcett.**

- **Sat 23rd September** Hope Chapel, New Road, Hebden Bridge HX7 8EW. 9:30 am refreshments. 10 am talks by Anne Mealia, *Tracing Fawcett descendants*; Diana Monahan, *My journeys with Fawcetts*; and Amy Binns, *Sunday Schools and Working Class Education in the Calder Valley*. Fawcett networking and walk at 2.00 pm 'Hebden Bridge in Fawcett's Day and his legacy in the town' (details above).
- **Saturday 23rd September** **Hope Chapel Open Day.** 12.00 – 4.00 pm: Children's activities, historical displays and refreshments.
- **Sunday 24th September** 10.00 am Walk from Hope Chapel to Wainsgate led by Ian Vickridge (details above) or take the bus and meet at Wainsgate from 11.00 am. View the Art Mile, an exhibition

Fawcett 200

and children's competition – "What Wainsgate means to me" at three locations: the Chapel, Community Centre and Hare & Hounds Pub. Final opportunity for more Fawcett networking.

Sunday 24th September Hope Chapel, New Road, Hebden Bridge HX7 8EW 10.30 – 11:30 am **Fawcett 200 service**, led by Rev Dr K Jones, President of the Baptist History Society.

Autumn 2017 A celebration event including songs composed to celebrate Fawcett sung by Old Town Primary School students past and present. Details tbc.

For more information on Fawcett 200 events:
<http://fawcett200.org.uk> or
<https://www.facebook.com/RevJohnFawcett/>

Literary and Scientific Society AGM

The AGM of the Hebden Bridge Literary and Scientific Society will be held on Wednesday 28th February 2018 at 6:00 pm in The Greenwood Room, at Hebden Bridge Town Hall. As a member of the History Society you are also a member of the Lit & Sci. and so are welcome to attend this meeting.

Your membership also allows you concessionary rates at the Lit & Sci. lectures – details on back cover.

or more information go to the Hebden Bridge Lit & Sci. Soc. website: <http://hblitandsci.org.uk>

Exhibitions

During September, as part of the Fawcett 200 commemoration, there will be an exhibition at Hebden Bridge Town Hall entitled *Glimpses of the life and times of John Fawcett*. This will explore various aspects of his life set in the context of the changes in the area at the time, with an account of the sources uncovered.

From March to April 2018 it is intended to put on an exhibition entitled Seven Centuries of Floods in the Calder Valley as a sequel to the talk by Nick Wilding.

Society exhibitions are displayed at the Town Hall twice a year. Gathering the material for these is interesting work - and demands a little time. Topics have varied from Prehistoric Widdop to 1970s Hippies to World War commemoration. Funds are available to produce materials professionally.

Help is needed to continue this schedule. It would involve working with 2 or 3 others to create the display materials. Topics for the next two years include Flooding in the Calder Valley since the Middle Ages; the end of World War I and Hebden Royd; and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway.

If you are interested by the creative side of this - presenting local history to a wider audience - then contact me and learn a little more about what's involved.

Mike Crawford mecrawford@btinternet.com

The more people involved the better!

Archive Opening Times 2017 - 2018

The Archive 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.

| 2017 | Wednesday 2 - 5 pm | Saturday 10 am - 1 pm |
|-------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| September | 13 | 23 |
| October | 11 | 28 |
| November | 8 | 25 |
| December | 13 | Not open |
| 2018 | | |
| January | 10 | 27 |
| February | 14 | 24 |
| March | 14 | 24 |
| April | 11 | 28 |
| May | 9 | 26 |

Society Publications

Society publications can be ordered via our website (www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk) where there is a detailed description of each book. Copies can also be obtained from the Bookcase or at Society lectures.

Lecture Programme 2017 – 2018

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

27 September 2017

MEMORIES FROM HEBDEN BRIDGE PHARMACIES Linda Powell



Photo: PHDA David Fletcher collection

The Co-op chemist in Albert Street was an essential part of community life. Having worked there in the 1960s and in other pharmacies in Hebden Bridge in a career spanning forty years Linda has many memories to share. Being behind the chemist counter was rewarding, sometimes sad and often funny as the assistants dealt with many and varied medical conditions.

Linda describes herself as ‘very much a local’ having been born in Mytholmroyd and after her marriage moving along the valley to Hebden Bridge. She qualified as an Apothecary Hall Pharmacy technician in 1966 and continued this career in Hebden Bridge. Now she is enjoying a happy and busy retirement.

11 October 2017

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.

25 October 2017

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY AGM

followed by

**HOW THE HIPPIES CHANGED
HEBDEN BRIDGE**

**Chris Ratcliffe and
Jenny Slaughter**

The 1970s was the decade when people seeking an alternative lifestyle – the ‘hippies’ – began to move to Hebden Bridge in significant numbers. The town started earning a reputation for having a radical edge, attracting kindred spirits and eventually being declared the 4th funkier town in the world. Chris and Jenny will cover topics ranging from the Queens Terrace Squat, Aurora wholefoods, new forms of spirituality, the renovation of derelict properties and the wider creative counter culture.

Chris is a former Queens Terrace squatter and now editor of HebWeb. Jenny bought Latham Farm as a ruin in the 1970s and has lived there ever since. Both were involved in gathering material for the recent very popular History Society exhibition with the same title

8 November 2017

THE WITHINS FARMS

Steven Wood

The ruin of Top Withins on Stanbury Moor is internationally famous as the supposed inspiration for the site of Emily Bronte’s Wuthering Heights. In real life it was one of three Withins farms carved out of the moor in the



sixteenth century. The history of these farms provides a fascinating study of the hill farming economy of the Pennine moors from the sixteenth to the twentieth century.

Steven Wood is an independent historian who has been studying the Haworth area for some thirty years. He has published seven books on Haworth and its neighbouring villages of Oxenhope and Stanbury. The most recent is his collaboration with Peter Brears on the history of the Withins farms.

22 November 2017

**TWENTY THOUSAND DESCEND
ON HARDCASTLE CRAGS**

David Taylor

**A virtual walk from the station to Hardcastle Crag and
around, 50 to 100 years ago**



By the 1850s, visitors were coming to Hebden Bridge for Hardcastle Craggs from the mill towns on both sides of the Pennines, all thanks to the railway. By the turn of the century they were coming in their thousands – an estimated 20,000 over the three-day Whitsun holiday in 1897! Using many images from the Pennine Horizons Digital

Archive we will follow in their footsteps to see how different it was all those years ago as they walked from the station to and around the Craggs, enjoying all the facilities provided there.

David has lived all his life in the historic West Riding of Yorkshire, moving to Calderdale in 1988. A member of the History Society and a volunteer with Pennine Horizons, he was involved in co-producing an exhibition on the railway and the visitors to Hardcastle Craggs, which was mounted at Gibson Mill and in the town.

13 December 2017

**FROM CRIME SCENE TO HOLIDAY CAMP
Stories of Hawdon Hall**

Freda Kelsall

In February 1817, a small homestead near Hardcastle Craggs, with a tangle of names - (Hawden - or Hawdon - Hole, Hoyle or Hall) was invaded by notoriety. An aged man of no great fortune was found to have been murdered there; just over a century later, it was providing a welcome for holiday-makers! Local writer and artist Billy Holt may have inspired the idea of Butlins, before setting off with his horse Trigger in pursuit of adventure. His benign influence on the historical record offsets the tragedy of death, detection and retribution.

Freda Kelsall was born in Southport, where she worked for the Public Libraries, trained in speech and drama, and had a novel published, before moving to London to train as a teacher, also beginning to work in TV. After teaching in London and Hampshire, and writing TV plays part-time, her on-going contract (1973-1995) with YTV to write the dramatised social history series, *How We Used to Live*, led her to make her home in Hebden Bridge, where she has lived since 1982.

10 January 2018

TODMORDEN OLD PUB TRAIL

Barbara Rudman

This talk illustrates the speaker's passion for the history of twentieth century pubs, which she believes, reflects our social evolution very closely. The memories of earlier generations have been captured to save a vital part of our local history.



White Hart Fold, Todmorden (PHDA Rene Dawson Collection)

Born in County Durham, Barbara has lived in Todmorden for over fifty years and has been involved with various community charities.

24 January 2018

**THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
OF HALIFAX: 1539 TO 1670**

Ian Bailey

Parish registers and the reconstruction of the population

During the Black Death of 1348, up to a half of the people of England died; it took two centuries before the country reached the same number of inhabitants again. Given that one single event can have such a dramatic impact on the social history of the nation, it is perhaps surprising that local historians have not devoted more time to understanding the size of local populations. Whether it is in order to appreciate the impact of war, famine, disease, economic instability or political upheaval on a locality, it seems that the changing size of its population is an essential element of the local historian's evidential base.

This talk is the result of a group project run in Hebden Bridge by the Society. It aims to demonstrate how Halifax's legacy of parish registers can be used to discover the size of its population, where those people were living and what events impacted on them.

14 February 2018

DAMN YOUR EYES!

**Protection against the evil
eye in human society and
local architecture**

*Mytholmroyd Farm
- the evil eye*

John's recent research has
been into the material

John Billingsley



remains of folk magic in our built environment, comprising carvings, deposits and customs aimed at protecting buildings and households. In this talk he suggests that the evil eye should not be seen as an aspect of witchcraft, but as an aspect of human personality aggravated by the growth of wealth disparity, especially in the 17th century.

John Billingsley's interest in Calder Valley history has focussed on local folklore, particularly legends and aspects of traditional folk magic. He has written or edited seven books and organised or presented various conferences on such topics. He has also edited the antiquarian magazine *Northern Earth* since 1991.

28 February 2018

**SEVEN CENTURIES OF RECORDED
FLOODS IN THE CALDER VALLEY**

Nick Wilding

Why are they getting worse? What can we learn from history?

Has the Environment Agency learnt anything from history?

Using evidence stretching back to the 14th Century, Nick Wilding compares the 2015 Boxing Day floods and other recent inundations to accounts of floods from previous centuries. In the course of doing so, he discovers some interesting analogies. He traces the course of the tributaries that feed the River Calder and finds that the origins of extreme flood events in the past were in many ways no different to the ones that cause them today. However, he finds that today's floods have been exacerbated by a range of late 20th Century and 21st Century factors that were not applicable in days gone by.



Nick Wilding is an ex BBC producer, an independent filmmaker and historical researcher, who has made a string of documentaries on a wide range of local Calder Valley subjects and has prepared talks, interspersed with extracts from his films, based upon his recorded interviews with local people and his own research.

14 March 2018

THE NORMAN CONQUEST OF YORKSHIRE

Dr. Paul Dalton

The Norman conquest of England is often associated with the year 1066, and with the battle of Hastings, fought on 14 October that year, in which the army of William, duke of Normandy, defeated and killed Harold Godwineson, king of the English. In fact, the Norman conquest took many years to achieve. There was much violent resistance to the rule of William the Conqueror after 1066, especially in northern England. This talk will discuss the nature of this

resistance in Yorkshire and the brutal measures William used to overcome it, including his infamous ‘harrying of the North’. It will also explore the dramatic, and in some respects catastrophic, impact of the Norman conquest on the aristocratic society, landholding, government, wealth, and landscape of power in Yorkshire between 1066 and 1087.

Dr Paul Dalton is a Principal Lecturer in Medieval History at Canterbury Christ Church University. He has published widely on Anglo-Norman history, including a book entitled *Conquest, Anarchy and Lordship: Yorkshire 1066-1154*, published by Cambridge University Press.

28 March 2018 The Alan Petford Annual Memorial Lecture

**TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES AND COMMONS
DISPUTES IN THE SOUTH PENNINES**

Dr. Nigel Smith



In upland areas, boundaries across moorland were frequently subject to dispute occasioned by disagreements over grazing and other rights of common. The definition of boundaries thus became an increasingly common issue that reached a litigious peak during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. This talk will cover a number of disputes around the Calder Valley but will focus on two disputes: one between Midgley and Wadsworth that

was still ongoing in the nineteenth century, and one involving protracted litigation by Langfield in the early seventeenth century. This litigation provides evidence of a long-lost boundary that sheds some light on certain early township territories within the Upper Calder Valley.

Nigel's research interests focus on the landscape and agricultural history of the Upper Calder valley and the wider South Pennines. He has recently edited *"History in the South Pennines: The Legacy of Alan Petford"*, a volume of essays dedicated to the late Alan Petford.

Prehistory Section

Thus far this year we have attended meetings in Saddleworth, Skipton and London: hearing Andy Myers (Greater Manchester Archaeology Service) speak on the Mesolithic in the North West; Mary Saunders (University of Bradford) describing her work on the Grassington field systems; and a Prehistoric Society conference hosted by the Society of Antiquaries, with the theme Uplands and Lowlands, where national and international speakers spoke to issues around the influence of landscape on prehistoric activity.

We have continued our informal series of 'exchange walks' where we, and archaeologists concerned principally with Rombalds Moor, the Dales and Cumbria lead each other around 'highlights' of our home areas.

Fieldwork in Calderdale has been somewhat constrained by high reservoir levels, since two lines of current enquiry need access to the exposed valley sides. An unusual cup-marked stone has been recovered and recorded in 3D. It is now archived at Birchcliffe.

Dave Shepherd

Folklore Section

As we move once more towards winter, our local folklore has various recommendations on how to survive the colder seasons ahead. It is said, for instance, that local hero Robin Hood (well, according to legend he died in Calderdale, at Kirklees Priory) could stand most anything but a thaw wind, also known for that reason as a 'Robin Hooder', but a good way to avoid such sensitivity was a 'Briggus dumpling'. I'm sure we've had equivalents in Hebden Bridge.

Henry Krabtree, who became curate of Todmorden St Mary's in 1662, had clear ideas on how best to deal with local climatic conditions, and laid them out in an almanac entitled *Merlinus Rusticus*, published in 1685. He had knowledge of traditional and natural cures and ways to avoid needing those cures in the first place, and made a number of recommendations for inhabitants of the upper Calder valley, month by month. For September, he advised "This Month is good for Physick and Blood-letting; Now take Diet drinks several Mornings together, to prevent Diseases in Winter and to preserve your Bodies in health till the next spring". By Diet drinks he clearly did not have Diet Coke in mind, note. October needed more active intervention: "The time now requires that you consult with your Tailor as well as with your Physician. Therefore a good Suit of warm clothes is worth two Purges and one Vomit. Keep warm betime, for cold creeps upon Men insensibly and Fogs oftimes beget a whole Winter's distemper". Vomiting – along with purging, a kind of early detox – featured high in Krabtree's prescriptions, being advised if one felt run down in February, March and April, but definitely not in July, "whilst the

incidence of the Dogstar ruleth". More attractive advice came for November – "The best Physick this month is warm Cloathes, good diet, and strong Drink" – and December – "The best Physick this Month is good Meat and the strongest Drink you can get, warm Cloaths and moderate Exercise". However, it was really a question of looking forward to May, when "every garden and hedge affords thee food and physick. Rise early, walk in the fields by running streams of water, and feast thy lungs with fresh air. For food, Sage and Sweet Butter is an excellent breakfast. Claryfied whey, with Sage, Scurvy-grass, Ale and Wormwood Beer are now very wholesome".

And of course, in our district the first Sunday of May was Spawn Sunday, when people would visit certain mineral springs, like Cragg Vale and Luddenden Dean, to drink health-giving waters, which were said to be healthier on that day than on any other in the year. And hopefully the bistort, also known as sweet dock, would appear along with nettles with their succulent iron-rich green leaves, ideal for replenishing the iron lost over the winter of poor and un-fresh fare. But though they say further south 'cast not a clout till May be out', Krabtree had a better knowledge of local conditions, and warned that June could still have a nip: "Beware of lying on the Ground this Month".

Today, we keep warmer, but are surely more nesh than Krabtree's generation, so take care of yourselves and be well enough to enjoy the winter's customs (and speakers) to the full!

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 2017 - 18

| | Saturday | Thursday |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| September | 2 | 21 |
| October | 7 | 19 |
| November | 4 | 16 |
| December | 2 | -- |
| January | 6 | 18 |
| February | 3 | 15 |
| March | 3 | 15 |
| April | 7 | 19 |

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

New Family History Course

The Local History Society will be running a beginners' family history course starting in January 2018. The course will be held at the Birchcliffe Centre on Tuesday evenings and run over 10 weeks. More details will be announced shortly but if you would like to know more or are interested in the course, please contact Anne Mealia.

info@evergreenancestry.com

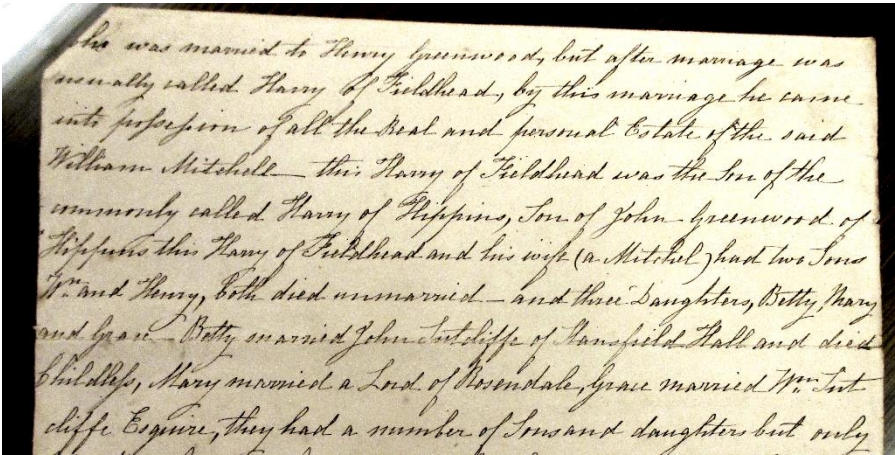
Greenwoods and Sutcliffes

Every year we have several queries regarding the history of Calderdale families and usually somewhere in most local family trees we will come across a Greenwood or a Sutcliffe. These two names originated in the area, Greenwood from families living at or near Greenwood Lee in Heptonstall; Sutcliffe from South Cliffe near Brighouse, though for some reason the Sutcliffe name is more prominent here in the Upper Valley. This was also noticeable when we were transcribing the graves in Heptonstall Churchyard where Greenwood and Sutcliffe graves outnumbered those of other surnames.

We are slowly gathering more information about many of these families. There are so many different branches scattered around the valley but sometimes we are able to follow other links.

Our first and most important tool is a family's knowledge of its own ancestry. Here is an excerpt from one family's archives written in 1839. This sort of evidence is not only helpful to the

family historian but also shows the importance in the past of Family identity.



She was married to Henry Greenwood but after marriage was **usually called Harry of Fieldhead**..... **this Harry of Fieldhead was the son of the commonly called Harry of Hippins, son of John Greenwood of Hippins. This Harry of Fieldhead and his wife (a Mitchell) had two sons, Wm and Henry, both died unmarried...and three daughters, Betty, Mary and Grace. Betty married John Sutcliffe of Stansfield Hall and died childless, Mary married a Lord of Rossendale and Grace married Wm. Sutcliffe Esq. and they had a number of sons and daughters but**

As you can see, it mentions both Greenwoods and Sutcliffes but also shows that many were known more by where they lived to distinguish them from others of the same surname.

Our next line of reference is written documents and especially Parish Registers. Luckily for researchers, the Heptonstall registers for births marriages and burials usually mention the township in which the family resided, there being five such

townships within this part of the Parish, and often even the specific place (e.g. Hippines), where the family lived.

Our third source of evidence is to be found in the churchyard and this is why the task of transcribing the graves is so important to the family historian. Here in the upper Calder Valley it became the custom for families to include their place of residence on the inscription. This probably is associated with the abundance of families with the same surname and the custom of by-names generally in use.

So, although we tend to sigh when queries arrive involving these two surnames, the Local Family History group are building up an archive of these families so we can cross reference when we have new enquiries. Obviously, we would welcome any more contributions to this collection.

Barbara Atack

Unity and the Greenwood Room

The plaque from ‘Unity’, the steam engine that began service at Nutclough Mill, the home of the Hebden Bridge Fustian Manufacturing Company, in 1916, was rescued when the engine was demolished and has been donated to our History Society. Last year was the centenary of the starting of the engine. It was felt that it would be appropriate to mount the plaque and place it in the Greenwood Room at the Town Hall as an acknowledgement of Hebden Bridge’s long history of involvement in the Co-operative movement.

The Hebden Bridge Fustian Manufacturing Company was an early cooperative business formed by a group of local workers

with much influence from Joseph Greenwood. He was a founder member and long-term general manager of the company. Joseph Greenwood was also a long-term member of Hebden Bridge Urban District Council. The Greenwood Room at the new “Town Hall” was named in his honour. It was originally the Committee room of the Council Offices and has recently been refurbished by the Community Association with a grant from the Hebden Royd Town Council.

The unveiling was performed by the Mayor, Pat Fraser and Barbara Attack of the Hebden Bridge Local History Society, with representatives from some of the present-day co-ops.



The unveiling of the Unity Plaque In this photo L-R: Graham Mynott, Jane Scullion (Deputy Mayoress of Calderdale), David Fletcher, Pat Fraser (Mayor), Barbara Attack, Andrew Bibby, Christine Bampton-Smith, Hilary Darby. (Photo: After Alice Project)

Local history at a glance

2017

| | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| 5 Sept – 2 Oct | Fawcett 200 events and exhibition | See pages 4 -7 |
| 8 – 10 Sept | Heritage Open Days | |
| 27 September | Memories from HB pharmacies | <i>Linda Powell</i> |
| 11 October | The Whittakers and the Holme in Cliviger | <i>Roger Frost</i> |
| 25 October | Local History AGM Followed by: How the hippies changed Hebden Bridge | <i>Chris Ratcliffe and Jenny Slaughter</i> |
| 8 November | The Withins Farms | <i>Steven Wood</i> |
| 22 November | Twenty thousand descend on Hardcastle Crag | <i>David Taylor</i> |
| 13 December | From crime scene to holiday camp | <i>Freda Kelsall</i> |
| 2018 | New family history course starts | See page 24 |
| 10 January | Todmorden old pub trail | <i>Barbara Rudman</i> |
| 24 January | The people of the parish of Halifax 1539 - 1670 | <i>Ian Bailey</i> |
| 14 February | Damn your eyes! | <i>John Billingsley</i> |
| 28 February | Seven centuries of recorded floods in the Calder valley | <i>Nick Wilding</i> |
| 14 March | The Norman conquest of Yorkshire | <i>Dr Paul Dalton</i> |
| 28 March | The Alan Petford Memorial Lecture: Township boundaries and commons disputes in the south Pennines | <i>Dr Nigel Smith</i> |

Other history events throughout the year include **Calderdale Heritage Walks**. The programme is available at the Information Centre or www.CalderdaleHeritageWalks.org.uk

Membership

The subscription for 2017/18 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 2017/18 season will be issued at meetings if possible to save postage.

Alternatively you can renew membership at a meeting.

The Hebden Bridge Lectures

Hebden Bridge Town Hall • The Waterfront Hall • 7:30 pm • Bar/Café open at 6:30 PM



Friday Oct 6 Jeff Forshaw

Before the Big Bang

Professor of particle physics at the University of Manchester. Jeff is co-author with Brian Cox of *Universal: A guide to the cosmos*.



Sat Nov 18 Judith Weir

A Composer's Life

Judith is one of the country's leading composers. Appointed Master of the Queen's Music in 2014.



Sat Dec 9 Tony Fremont

Biomarkers: why medicine is about to undergo the biggest single change ever.

Tony is Professor of Pathology, University of Manchester.



Sat Jan 27 Tom Mills

The BBC: Public Servant or State Broadcaster?

Tom lectures in sociology at Aston University. He is the author of the recent book *The BBC: Myth of a Public Service*



Sat March 10* Melvyn Bragg

William Tyndale: the greatest Englishman?

Melvyn is an author and broadcaster.

*the date may be changed to another date in March

Season Tickets All five lectures £40/ £32 concessions on sale now.

Each lecture £10/£8 concessions from the Town Hall approx. 4/5 weeks beforehand. Members of Hebden Bridge Lit & Sci and Local History Society qualify for concessionary prices.