

## HEBDEN BRIDGE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk

#### Autumn 2016

### **Woodland Heritage**



## Flood Fund Support Heritage Day

Saturday 22 October 2016

See page 7

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

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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 now due – see back cover

**Welcome** to the Autumn Newsletter. Here you'll find details of the lectures, section reports, exhibitions and events for 2016-2017. The next newsletter will be in Spring 2017.

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

Email <a href="membership@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk">membership@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk</a> with your name and membership number and while we're thinking about subs....see the back cover

#### **Local History AGM 26th October 2016**

#### 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 5th October 2016. Contact details are:

Mrs. Diana Monahan, 7 New Road, Hebden Bridge, HX7 8AD Email: <a href="mailto:secretary@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk">secretary@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk</a>

#### 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.

#### Nomination form

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
Seconder
Membership number

You can copy this page if you prefer

#### **New Lecture Series**

Coming this Autumn: the start of a series of Literary and Scientific Society lectures from eminent speakers

At Andrew Bibby's talk last September he spoke about how the Hebden Bridge Literary and Scientific Society was started in 1905, the result of a desire by local young men and women to improve the opportunities for informal adult education locally. The forming of the Lit & Sci followed the earlier association between the Nutclough Co-operative and Oxford University which for over fifteen years saw Oxford academics lecturing in Hebden Bridge and many young local people attending summer schools at Oxford and Cambridge.

Since 1905, the Lit & Sci has been very active in the town with several groups operating under its umbrella. Gradually these groups have either become independent (such as the Camera Club and the Little Theatre) or disbanded until today only two are left, our own Local History Society and the Astronomy group. The parent Lit & Sci Society has itself been rather moribund in recent years.

The committee of the Lit and Sci feels, however, that there is still potentially a strong demand locally for the original idea behind the society. We are therefore initiating a series of lectures between October and March, the start of what we hope will become a regular Autumn/Winter/Spring lecture series each year in Hebden Bridge. We have set ourselves the task of finding eminent speakers who are leaders in their field, and we are delighted to be able to announce what we feel will be three extremely stimulating lectures.

The lectures this coming season are:

Saturday November 12th 2016. Dr. Nicholas Cullinan, Director of the National Portrait Gallery, London. (Title to be announced).

Saturday February 4th 2017. Prof. Richard Wilkinson and Prof Kate Pickett (Authors of The Spirit Level, why equality is better for everyone): "Inequality and Social Anxiety."

Saturday March 18th 2017. Prof. Angie Hobbs (Professor of the Public Understanding of Philosophy at the University of Sheffield): "Philosophy and the Public Good".

Lectures will take place in the Waterfront Hall of the Town Hall. We will publicise each event beforehand and Local History Society members (as members of a section of the Lit & Sci) will receive early notice of ticket sales and a concessionary price for the events.

#### **Literary and Scientific Society**

There will be an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Hebden Bridge Lit and Sci Society on Wednesday 21st September at 7.30pm at the Birchcliffe Centre in Hebden Bridge.

We need to make a small change to our constitution to change the date of the AGM. The only business at the meeting will be:

Lit and Sci Constitution Section 5

The AGM will be held within 13 weeks of the end of the financial year (31st August)

Change to:

The AGM will be held in January or February each year.

Subject to the above being passed, the Lit & Sci will hold its AGM on Wednesday 25th January, 6.45 pm - 7.15 pm, immediately before the Local History Society talk.

#### **Woodland Heritage Day School**

South Pennine History Group together with Pennine Prospects and Pennine Heritage are holding a Day School on 15th October 2016 at the Birchcliffe Centre.

There will be a range of speakers, demonstrations and workshops followed by an optional site visit to Hardcastle Crags in the afternoon.

More details will be available in September from Robin Gray at Pennine Prospects: robin.gray@pennineprospects.co.uk

Register your interest: info@pennineheritage.org.uk

#### Flood Support Fund Day

Three Local History Societies, Cragg Vale, Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd, have joined together to raise some funds for the local Flood Fund.

To this end we are proposing to host a Heritage event on Saturday 22nd October, at the Methodist Church in Hebden Bridge. As yet we are still finalising the details but it will take the form of two talks, morning and afternoon, both followed by guided walks and displays.

We will circulate the details when we have more information but for the time being, we ask you to note the date in your diaries.

#### Alan Petford memorial book

Preparation of a book containing a collection of essays on topics in which Alan was interested is well underway. Fourteen contributors from across the South Pennines, all excolleagues or students of Alan, are currently writing papers on topics reflecting his wide range of historical interests. These include building history, farming and textiles in probate inventories, pub history, population history, boundaries and textile settlement history, disputes, commons history, enclosure, water power and transport. Eight of contributors are members of the Society and are writing about aspects of our locality. It is hoped that the book will be published in Spring 2017.

The book will be funded by advanced subscription, giving a reduction on the retail price. Members will be notified when application forms are available. All profits from the book will go to the Alan Petford Memorial Fund and be used to encourage historical research in the South Pennines.

#### **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.

#### **Archive Opening Times 2016 - 2017**

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.

2016	Wednesday 2 - 5 pm	Saturday 10 am - 1 pm
September	$14^{ m th}$	24 <sup>th</sup>
October	12 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>
November	9 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>
December	$14^{ m th}$	Not open
2017		
January	11 <sup>th</sup>	$28^{ ext{th}}$
February	8 <sup>th</sup>	$25^{ m th}$
March	8 <sup>th</sup>	$25^{\mathrm{th}}$
April	12 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>
May	$10^{ m th}$	27 <sup>th</sup>

#### Lecture Programme 2016 – 2017

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

28 September 2016

THE BRONTË FAMILY

**Isobel Stirk** 



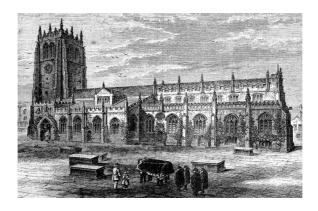
The story of the Brontë family, from the father's humble beginnings, in Ireland, to his death eighty-four years later - the sole survivor of his large family - with everything that happened in between.

Isobel Stirk's particular interest is nineteenth-century English literature and she has lectured extensively on the Brontë family - telling the story of their lives, their writings and the influences which may have caused them to write as they did. She also aims within this particular lecture to show that in the writings of the Brontë sisters fact and fiction come very close together.

#### 12 October 2016

## BURIED ALIVE? PAST FUNERAL CUSTOMS IN CALDERDALE

David Glover



A light-hearted but informative survey of funeral customs from early times down to about 1900 with stories which are spooky, quirky, and even amusing. Learn who was buried alive in Halifax Parish Church, and hear about the burial of eccentric Jonathan Walsh in his own Southowram field. Where did the drunken gravedigger choose to sleep? Were Quakers once buried standing upright, as recorded by Oliver Heywood? Which part of a man's body was given its own burial? This presentation is not likely to cause melancholy!

Born in suburban London, David has lived in Halifax since 1986. He has worked in local government, commercial stationery retail, at a bookshop, and as a family historian. He has had a lifelong fascination with national and royal history. His more recent studies into local history have established him as a regular contributor to the Halifax Courier, and as a speaker around West Yorkshire.

#### 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2016

#### LOCAL HISTORY FLOOD FUND SUPPORT EVENT

Three Local History Societies, Cragg Vale, Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd, have joined together to raise some funds for the local Flood Fund.

There will be two talks, morning and afternoon, both followed by guided walks and displays. Details will be circulated soon.

26th October 2016

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY AGM

followed by

#### MEMBERS RESEARCH REPORTS

Members and guests are equally welcome to the short AGM, which will be followed by the chance to hear from members of the society about their ongoing research. These will include Murray Seccombe on *Transpennine Crossings: Transport and Identity in the South Pennines c.1550-1800* and Hywel Lewis looking at *Woodland Use in the South Pennines: 1600 – present.* 

We are keen to hear more about local members' research projects – so please let us know if you would like to contribute a short report in the future.

#### 9th November 2016

## TRADITIONAL FARMHOUSES AND BUILDINGS IN THE LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE PENNINES

#### **Kevin Illingworth**

This presentation will feature vernacular buildings mainly from about the fifteenth- until the late-eighteenth century, with a few from the period up to 1880. There will be a focus on building materials and architectural features – especially regional variations of these.



Kevin was born and educated in Lancaster and for thirteen years worked for civil engineers Sir Alfred McAlpine Ltd operating excavators and bulldozers on the M6, M1, M62, and M61 motorways. His varied career includes obtaining an Art degree, working for the Cotswold Pig Development Company and then as 'Hard landscaper' or 'Garden builder'. The study

of vernacular buildings has been an interest for many years, and Kevin is a member of several societies, including the Yorkshire Vernacular Buildings Study Group, the Vernacular Architecture Group and Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group.

#### **23 November 2016**

WOMEN, DOWN TOOLS!
The women machinists' strike in
Hebden Bridge, Autumn 1916

**Andrew Bibby** 



For six weeks in November-December 1916 more than two thousand Hebden Bridge sewing machinists and garment workers were on strike, the vast majority of them women. It was the first time local women had taken strike action, two years into a war which had seen rampant inflation and a rapid fall in living standards. Exactly a hundred years on, Andrew Bibby will discuss the context of the dispute, what happened in the town during the strike, and what took place thereafter.

Andrew Bibby is a freelance writer, who has lived in Hebden Bridge for 28 years. He is the author of several books on the Pennine landscape and the outdoors. His history of Hebden Bridge's famous Nutclough co-operative fustian mill *All Our Own Work* was published last year (Merlin Press).

#### **14 December 2016**

#### A LOCAL VIEW OF CAROLS AND CHRISTMAS Diana Monahan

Using mainly local materials, Diana will provide a brief history of carols including the history of the Cragg Carols and a look at past local Christmas traditions.



Diana's interest in local history began through investigating the history of her house in 1992. The extent of her research widened to include the houses and past inhabitants of her neighbourhood and has continued expanding ever since. She soon found herself on the Local History Committee and she is still there! (Luckily for the Society!)

#### 11th January 2017

#### DID I SEE MARILYN?

Alan Stuttard

An amusing look at Alan's time as a National Serviceman, defending Hong Kong and peace-keeping in Korea.

Alan is a retired textile manager and former Parish Councillor who now enjoys telling tales about his varied experiences in different walks of life.

25 January 2017 at 6.45pm

LITERARY & SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY AGM

followed at 7.30 pm by

MYTHOLMROYD

The Development of a Pennine Village

**Rodney Collinge** 



The talk will describe the development of Mytholmroyd from the earliest times, and will be illustrated by around 80 slides.

Rodney taught chemistry at Calder High School for around 30 years, and before that was a pupil

there. He thinks his old history teacher would doubtless be turning in his grave if he knew that his beloved Lit. and Sci. Historical Society was being 'defiled' by an illiterate scientist!

#### 8 February 2016

#### The Alan Petford Annual Memorial Lecture

PEOPLE, PUZZLES AND EARNING A LIVING Mike Crawford



Blow the dust off the wills and inventories, unroll the parchment or paper and get a glimpse of the people, the families and their worries. Why was Henry Crabtree's pig lonely and were widows raking in the cash as money lenders? We can have some idea of how to answer these crucial issues with this peep into the lives of local people on the eve of the industrial revolution.

Mike is a member of the group started by the much missed Alan Petford with the ambitious aim of transcribing the probate documents from the parish of Halifax at the end of the seventeenth century. Two volumes of these local documents have been published by the society, and Mike's study has revealed some fascinating details about the lives led by those who lived and died in this valley.

#### 22 February 2017

GREAT UNCLE PERCY: INVENTOR OF 'CATS' EYES' Glenda Shaw The story of a Yorkshire icon and how he gave me my 15 minutes of fame.

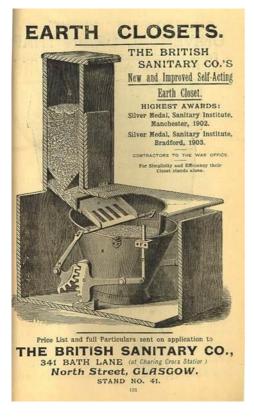


Glenda Shaw is married with two grown up children and one grandson. She practised accountancy – but never quite got it to add up! Her hobby is criticising Rugby League referees and her husband. She is one of Calderdale Council's Living Books and enjoys talking about her famous relative Percy Shaw.

#### 8 March 2017

#### THE STENCH OF VICTORIAN INDECISION

**Tony Boughton** 



Nineteenth-century England lurched from one pollution crisis to another as public officials, health borough politicians engineers and failed to deal with the human waste associated with the ever burgeoning population! This evening's presentation will illuminate the arguments and debates faced by the sanitary engineers as they strove to establish sewerage systems to satisfy the ever progressive Victorian demands.

Tony is a production engineer who has spent all of

his professional life within the manufacturing environment. However, the last six years have witnessed a personal change from that of the production manager to that of an historian: reading history at Oxford Brookes and achieving an MA.

#### 22 March 2016

#### THE ARTISAN NATURALISTS

#### Rob Trueblood



groups of Local taught botanists were a particular feature of South East Lancashire in the early decades of the nineteenth century, and certainly there were adjoining contacts in areas of West Yorkshire. The modest memoirs of two figures - whose graves are in Prestwich Parish Church - portray their development and achievements. **John** Horsefield, a handloom

weaver, led a local society and the wider Manchester regional network while Richard Buxton, a shoemaker, compiled a *Guide* to the Flora around Manchester.

Now retired, Rob is a Prestwich resident with interests in 'history-from-below' and our surrounding environments.

#### **Prehistory Section**

Recent activities by members:

Heard Roger Martlew, at the Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group meeting in Skipton, outline - rather obscurely - his ideas about 'the place of Craven in Central Britain'.

Attended the Grassington Day School (YDNPA) 'Archaeology and the Historic Environment', which was good in parts.

Been present at the sparsely attended and organised Saturday sessions of the British Rock Art Group Annual Conference in Liverpool.

We were flattered to be invited to a private viewing of the extensive Harry Stansfield assemblage of flint from Calderdale currently being curated at the Museum of Lancashire. This easily doubles the amount of flint recovered from the Hebden Water catchment, casts more doubt on any conclusions reached from the lithics so far studied, and underlines the European significance of the hills around Hebden Bridge.

Negotiations with farmers minded to plough have continued, as has field work. One dryish reservoir shore appears to bear traces of Mesolithic tent rings, and possible stake-holes have been recorded below the modern silt, with the permission of Yorkshire Water. This work is continuing. Further south-west, United Utilities seem amenable to an excavation of a possible hunters' camp.

Dave Shepherd

#### **Folklore Section**

The main focus for the Folklore Section this year has been on the array of objects and symbols historically employed in protecting the home from both natural and supernatural misfortune. To this end, John Billingsley was instrumental in organising and presenting at Hidden Charms, Britain's first conference since the 1970s on the magical protection of buildings. This was held at Norwich Castle on April 2, and featured researchers from England and Finland, describing such topics as concealed footwear, witch bottles, ritual marks and deposits, and John's own topic, highly relevant to the Calder Valley, of archaic heads. Details of the conference and of the videos presentations can be here: seen http://www.apotropaios.co.uk/conference-2016.html.

Also this year, historian Ronald Hutton edited a collection of studies by researchers on this topic of home protection – *Physical Evidence for Ritual Acts, Sorcery and Witchcraft in Christian Britain* (Palgrave, 2016). John's contribution was a significant update on his work on the severed head motif and carved stone heads, presented in his *Stony Gaze* (Capall Bann, 1998).

John also spoke at another conference this spring, at Goosnargh near Preston on March 5. This time, the topic was 'Home Security before CCTV', and looked at the variety of protective devices employed in a quasi-magical fashion until comparatively recently. These include carved heads, 'devil's arrow' window mouldings, hearts, spirals, pentacles, 'daisy wheels' and concealed shoes, and are very well represented

locally. This presentation has also been given to local history societies, and one good result was an invitation to a farm near Ripponden where, in addition to a variety of protective carvings, an old charm – consisting of a written (but illegible) nominy wrapped up with iron nails and rowan berries in a small leather pouch – was uncovered during repairs, secreted behind a doorframe.

With so much wholesale refurbishment of local buildings already taken place in the Calder valley since the 1980s, items such as this, or old worn-out shoes and garments and other objects (even dead cats!), may already have been found, and thrown out as rubbish (as with a shoe found at Broadbottom Farm in Mytholmroyd in the 1990s). Such inadvertent destruction of historic materials is a significant loss to our knowledge on the life patterns, folk ways and beliefs of our Calder Valley predecessors.

It is hoped that such presentations to local history societies may raise the profile of such protective placements and hopefully, to avoid such loss. As ever the Folklore Section would ask members to contact the Society, or John Billingsley directly (johnbillingsley@jubilee10.freeserve.co.uk) should they come across deliberately concealed objects or threshold carvings, or any other curiosity they encounter in their homes and buildings.

John is currently writing his next book on this topic of local building protections.

John Billingsley

#### **Family History Group**

#### **Dying Matters Display**

Overgate Hospice held another event in Hebden Bridge in May to highlight various aspects about death and dying. This year the Family History Group put up a display that highlighted the roll of Family History and how it can give us an insight into our lives.

The message we wanted to portray was that the real purpose of Family History is to bring names back to life, by researching where people lived, what jobs they did and how their community changed over time.



One panel in the display was 'One Family's Story' which follows two families linked by marriage. The first, the Uttleys, lived at Gorple Farm, close to the Lancashire border, in the middle of the nineteenth century.

Our interest is with one of the daughters, Grace, who married Crossley Sutcliffe and had a large family. Their eldest daughter, born in 1853, was named Betty.

The second family, that of William and Grace Shackleton, is found further down the hill at Ladyroyd in Wadsworth. Henry, their son, married Betty Sutcliffe in 1885. It was Henry's death in 1896 that was to change the course of this family. Betty was left with three young children and decided they should all go to live with her mother, Grace.

By this time Betty's brother-in-law Roger was making good in the weaving trade and it is believed he advised her to take her family to Canada to start a new life there - he even paid the fares.

The family in Canada kept in touch with the 'old world' by exchanging frequent letters and photographs. Betty's daughter, Nelly Grace, duly married William Bishop and reared a family of her own. It is largely due to her keeping contact with her family and friends in Heptonstall that we are able to tell this story. We thank the family for sharing these items with us for this exhibition and Keith Stansfield for putting the story together for us.

#### **Family History Meetings**

We still 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 2016 - 17

	Saturday	Thursday
September	$3^{\mathrm{rd}}$	15 <sup>th</sup>
October	$1^{ m st}$	$20^{ m th}$
November	5 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>
December	$3^{\mathrm{rd}}$	
January	$7^{ m th}$	19 <sup>th</sup>
February	$4^{ m th}$	16 <sup>th</sup>
March	$4^{ m th}$	16 <sup>th</sup>
April	1 <sup>st</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>

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

Barbara Atack

#### Russell Dean (1927-2016)



It is with sadness that we announce the death of popular and supportive member Russell Dean, who passed away in April.

Russell, who was the founder of the much-respected Burnley Road business, Russell Dean Furnishers, was born in Hebden Bridge on the 23rd October 1927. He went to school in Mytholm but moved away during the Second World War, and drove ambulances in the

Royal Air Force. Later he moved back to the Calder Valley to take an engineering apprenticeship with the Burnley Aircraft Company and became a sheet metal worker. Meanwhile, Russell married his late wife Barbara after they met at a dance and they went on to have two children, Bob and Martin.

In the 1950s, Russell held down that job, but also decided to become a shopkeeper when premises became available in Mytholmroyd. He juggled at least three jobs at the time, including singing semi-professionally, but eventually decided to focus on the shop; and true to his life motto "always move forward, never stand still", the shop, originally a hardware store, expanded in size along with its product range - carpets and furniture soon became staple offerings.

In the 1960s, the business moved to its current premises after he bought the former weaving shed from the council. The business expanded and became one of the prime furniture stores in the region.

Russell retired from the business in the 1980s and enjoyed travelling and looking after his beloved animals, he loved to talk to people, and always had a joke and a tale to tell.

His funeral service was held at Halifax Minster on May 11th 2016.

#### **Exhibitions**

From 5th September to 3rd October there is an exhibition at Hebden Bridge Town Hall entitled *Widdop from 6000 BC*. This will include artefacts and images of neolithic and medieval finds at Widdop and a description of life there from the seventeenth century to 1900 including family history, with an account of the sources uncovered.



From March 6th to April 10th - 2017 it is hoped to put on an exhibition entitled 'How the hippies saved Hebden Bridge'.

With the two exhibitions we have had this year, there have been contributions from 6 or 8 members and non-members. If you have any ideas or information which you think might be helpful or ideas for future exhibitions then please contact me.

Mike Crawford mecrawford@btinternet.com

The more people involved the better!

#### **Quick Guide to Local History Events**

#### 2016

5 Sept – 3 Oct	Exhibition: Widdop from 6000 BC	Hebden Bridge
3 5ept – 3 Oct	Exhibition. Widdop Holl 6000 BC	Town Hall
8 – 11 Sept	Heritage Open Days	10 1011 11411
28 September	The Bronte Family	Isobel Stirk
12 October	Buried Alive? Past funeral customs in Calderdale	David Glover
15 October	Woodland Heritage Day	Birchcliffe Centre
22 October	Local History Flood Fund Support	Details soon
26 October	Local History AGM.  Members' Research Reports including Transpennine crossings and Woodland use from 1600	Murray Seccombe and Hywel Lewis
9 November	Traditional Buildings in the Lancashire and Yorkshire Pennines	Kevin Illingworth
23 November	Women, Down Tools!	Andrew Bibby
14 December	A local view of carols and	Diana Monahan
	Christmas	
2017		
11 January	Did I see Marilyn?	Alan Stuttard
25 January	6.45 pm Literary and Scientific Soc.	AGM
followed by	Mytholmroyd: the development of a Pennine village	Rodney Collinge
8 February	The Alan Petford Memorial Lecture: People, puzzles and earning a living	Mike Crawford
22 February	Great Uncle Percy, inventor of Cats Eyes	Glenda Shaw
8 March	The stench of Victorian indecision	Tony Boughton
22 March	Artisan naturalists	Rob Trueblood

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 2016/17 remains at £12 and is due at the beginning of September 2016.

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.

Alternatively you can renew your membership at a meeting.

Membership cards for the 2016/17 season will be issued at meetings if possible to save postage.