

HEBDEN BRIDGE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY NEWS

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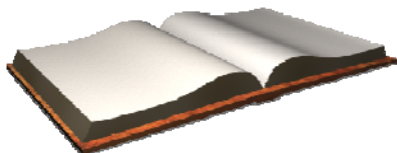
FOUNDED 1949



**The Battle of Heptonstall - Sealed Knot Society re-enactment
Sat/Sun 10 and 11 July 2010**

HEBDEN BRIDGE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
 THE BIRCHCLIFFE CENTRE
 BIRCHCLIFFE ROAD
 HEBDEN BRIDGE HX7 8DG

Secretary: Diana Monahan - 01422 845982 - secretary@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk



Archive Opening Times 2010

	Wednesday 2 - 5 pm	Saturday 10 am - 1 pm
May	12 th	22 nd
June	9 th	26 th
July	14 th	24 th
August	12 th	28 th
September	8 th	25 th

Family History Group Opening Times 2010

	Saturday 2 - 5 pm	Thursday 2 - 5 pm
May	1 st	20 th
June	5 th	17 th
July	No meeting	15 th

BRIDGE·500·EVENTS

As part of the celebrations the Sealed Knot Society will be performing re-enactments of the Battle of Heptonstall at the packhorse bridge and in Heptonstall, and there will be displays and workshops.

For further information see local press or visit:

Hebden Bridge Visitor and Canal Centre

www.hebden500.co.uk

Cover Photo: *Courtesy of John Lilburne's Regiment of Foote*

A LOOK BACK AT OUR WINTER 2009-2010 LECTURES
With thanks to Sheila Graham

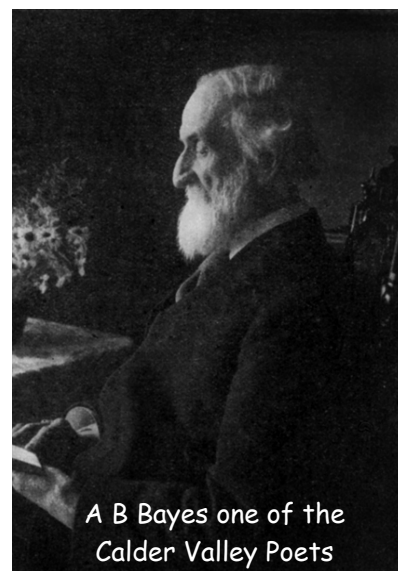
THE CALDER VALLEY POETS

SEPTEMBER 30TH 2009

FAY FIELDING

In 1916 a “cluther of decent writers” called the Calder Valley Poets, published their poems in a book called ‘Biographies Sketches and Rhymes’. Fay Fielding, local speaker and historian, told the fascinating story of the nineteen men and three women whose poems are published in this book, and whose leader and editor, Sam Mellor, described them in such a memorable Yorkshire phrase. (Cluther was a dialect version of ‘cluster’)

The group were mainly local men and women whose formal schooling often ended at the age of eight or nine. However they were living in an age when self-improvement was as important and valued as godliness, and they took full advantage of the various societies which offered the chance to gain a wider education. These ordinary men and women found an escape from their working lives, many in local mills, to walk the countryside and contemplate their surroundings. They would observe nature, make notes and develop their observations into poems which they then read aloud to each other. In 1915 they felt confident enough to form themselves into the Society of Calder Valley Poets and met regularly in the chalet at Hardcastle Crag.



A B Bayes one of the
Calder Valley Poets

Fay Fielding painted a vivid picture of the social and cultural life of the working classes at the turn of the century, aided by some memorable archive photographs. The spirit of the times was shown through these images: the crowds in their Sunday best who would arrive at Hebden Bridge Station and then process up the hill to explore Hardcastle Crag; the motto of the Band of Hope temperance group proclaiming ‘He that overcometh shall inherit all things’; the evening classes run by the Mutual Improvement Society; and the foundation of the Workers Education Association, whose classes still enhance the life of the Calder Valley. The audience shared Fay Fielding’s admiration for these ‘principled men and women’ who were so active in the life of their community, showing that culture and education was for everyone. The themes of their poems

were wide ranging, as the audience discovered when Fay Fielding's band of volunteers performed some of the poems from the book. A love of the natural world and the local landscape pre-dominated, but national events also provided an inspiration, as in Sam Mellor's passionate denunciation of the action of the German military hierarchy in executing Nurse Edith Cavell in 1916. Local events too were recorded; the annual Hebden Bridge 'Blind and Cripples Treat' to Burnsall was given a heart-felt treatment by Daniel Eastwood.

To hear the sincere voices of these 'ordinary' men and women preserved in their poetry was an enlightening experience for the first of this season's meetings.

WAINSTALLS WAIFS

OCTOBER 14TH 2009

KIM WYNN

The poignant inscription on a gravestone at Luddenden Dean recording the deaths of seven girls from Liverpool was the starting point for the investigations of Kim Wynn, secretary of the Wainstalls and Mount Tabor Local History Group. She told the story of how the girls, the Wainstall Waifs, came to be working at Wainstalls and revealed some of the details of their lives and sad deaths.

The stone itself was erected by their employer I & I Calvert, and stands both as a memorial of their desire to give these girls recognition after death, and as a reminder of a system that exploited child labour.

As Kim reminded her audience, children had traditionally been part of the economy of the domestic textile system, working at home alongside their parents, and this had transferred to the factory system in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Children's nimbleness and dexterity were valued, and though local children often worked in the mills from the age of ten, the factories needed more labour. Jonathan Calvert, who owned several mills



in the Wainstalls area, was a devout Methodist and something of a philanthropist, and no doubt saw the employment of poor orphans from Liverpool as an act of charity as well as an economic advantage.

In 1876 a link was made with the Kirkdale Industrial School in Liverpool which provided a practical education for children of families in the workhouse. Although known as orphans, many had at least one parent, but were destitute and reliant on the workhouse for survival. Calvert took only girls from the Industrial School as apprentices, and they were

subjected to medical examination before being dispatched to Yorkshire. Once the girls had been passed as fit, they were put on the train direct from Liverpool to Luddenden Foot (a journey that took only one and three quarter hours). It was not hard to imagine their shock in finding themselves transported from the busy city of Liverpool to the wilds of Wainstalls. Their new employer provided them with clothes and boots, and they were accommodated in one of four orphanages maintained for that purpose. The girls received a basic education, attending Wainstalls School as part timers, and were taken to Chapel on Sundays. Local memory suggests that in some ways, with their leather boots and straw hats, they were seen as more fortunate than local children.

The seven girls memorialised in Luddenden Dean did not die because of mistreatment or factory accident: they were killed by TB, which had escaped the detection of the medical examiner. One death however points up the sadness of lives led separated from family and home. Alice Jubilee Jones was discovered drowned in the mill dam at the age of 15. It is recorded that she had become increasingly distressed that she had not heard from her mother, and took her own life.

In total 230 girls came from Liverpool to work at Wainstalls, and most stayed and were cared for in the orphanages until they were 'loosed' as adults. They were, Kim said, 'woven into the local population' married local men and have descendants who are proud of the little girls transplanted into the Yorkshire hills. Kim described the thrill when family members make contact with her, often providing family photographs and details which give life to the Wainstall waifs.

FINDING THE LONGITUDE

NOVEMBER 4TH 2009

DONALD METCALFE

The *Hebden Bridge Literary & Scientific Society*, in its heyday before TV came along, had over a dozen different interest groups. These days it only has two sections remaining so, for the AGM, this lecture on "Finding the Longitude" by Donald Metcalfe was a perfect marriage for the two sections combining both history and astronomy. A method of determining longitude when at sea was so important that a huge prize was offered for a solution.

John Harrison (1693-1776), a working-class man, developed increasingly



more accurate chronometers (clocks), encouraged by the Board of Longitude, who gave him some money but kept denying him the full prize money for most of his life. Harrison's ingenious inventions included the bimetallic strip which compensated for inaccuracies caused by temperature.

GRITSTONE THROUGH THE AGES GEOFF BOSWELL

NOVEMBER 11TH 2009

When popular local writer and photographer Geoff Boswell promised to take us on a tour of 'Gritstone through the Ages' no-one quite expected the tour to begin nearly fourteen billion years ago.

With the help of some amazing photographs of deep space Geoff outlined the origins of our universe and the earth, focusing on the mere 300 million or so years ago that the familiar gritstone rock of the Calder Valley was formed. At this time, Geoff pointed out, what was to become Yorkshire was just crossing the equator. A reminder of that period is still revealed occasionally in the fossils of tropical plants which emerge when a boulder of Yorkshire gritstone is split.



The gritstone which gives a shape to our landscape in the Pennine's familiar 'edges' of rock and large boulders like Great Rock and Bridestones has been a valued resource for building throughout history. Geoff showed a series of photographs cataloguing the versatility of this local stone and its impact on the landscape and lives of generations of Calder Valley people. This ranged from ancient standing stones; heads carved in the first century; slab bridges to cross the fast flowing streams; crosses and guide-stones such as Reaps Cross and the Te Deum Stone. Local stone features also in the buildings that give the Calder Valley its

character: churches, pubs, mills and houses, not to mention miles of drystone walls, have all made use of gritstone.

The local stone is also prominent in the transport developments of the valley, as Geoff's photographs showed. The early pavements of the causeways; the packhorse bridges and water troughs; canals, railways and turnpike roads demonstrate the rich resource of this familiar stone that was created so many millions of years ago.

How many of us have inherited photographs and wondered who the people are? Being able to date the photos is an invaluable first step. Barbara Attack explained how Family History researchers are able to gather a lot of information from old photos. Once you know what type of photo it is, then you can look for clues in the image itself, and use this information in conjunction with other records to discover who is in the photo.



Photography started in the 1840s with the discovery that an image could be fixed onto a surface. At first, there were *Daguerrotypes*, the image was fixed onto a copper plate, but these were easily damaged, and not many examples are left. Next came Ambrotypes, a similar process, but using a thin glass plate, then came *Cartes De Visite*. Usually made of an albumen print, each photograph was the size of a visiting card, they became enormously popular. Later came *Cabinet prints* which were larger. There was massive interest, and it became very popular to send and collect photos. By the 1860s there were a large number of commercial photographers.

Barbara then explained how to look for dating clues in the image itself, for example the position of the subject, also the type of dress. After the talk everyone had a chance to test their skills at dating a series of photographs dating from 1860 to 1910.

Frank Woolrych then looked at “*What is a Digital Image*”, explaining that they are electronic snap shots, comprising sets of squares called pixels, from **picture elements**; and then asked the audience to imagine a Roman mosaic composed of tile chips, which when viewed from a reasonable distance created the illusion of a continuous tone image, exactly like the construction of a digital photograph.

He concluded with a look at why we digitise and the benefits to be had from an historical point of view, include conservation of the original artefact and increased access to previously unseen material. However, he also explained that digital images could never be considered a replacement for the originals.

Examples of photo restoration were then shown and Ann Kilbey helped illustrate various techniques used. To round off an excellent evening people who had brought along old photos were given help with dating them.

Enthusiastic local historians who have been working to uncover some of the history of the Calder Valley area revealed some of the results of their research to fellow members of our Society. The Society has been running an innovative course, *Agriculture and History in the Pennine Landscape*, with tutors Alan Petford, David Cant, Ian Bailey and Nigel Smith, supporting and guiding the original research.



Seventeenth century Parish registers recording baptisms, marriages and burials reveal fascinating glimpses of individual lives, but more importantly can be analysed to reveal population trends. Spikes in the death rate led the group to learn more about a terrible famine that struck Halifax in 1623, the civil war deaths of Scottish soldiers garrisoned in Halifax, and plague victims of 1645.

Another rich source of knowledge about the past comes from wills and inventories of the goods left by the deceased. Late 17th century wills from Sowerby have now been transcribed, illuminating family relationships and the minutiae of the lives of clothiers, farmers, gentlemen and tradesmen.

The shaping of the landscape itself has been the focus of another group's researches. The enclosure of waste and moorland by Act of Parliament transformed the hills of the Calder Valley in the mid 19th century. Documents held by the West Yorkshire Archive in Halifax include maps which show how the land was carved up; the modern aerial photography of Google Earth reveals how the designs of 200 years ago were translated into the pattern of walls and fields still evident today.

More recent history is the focus of an exciting project to record the memories of those who have seen upland farming change over their lifetimes. The group working to collect photographs and reminiscences has found this exploration very rewarding, recording huge changes in farming and daily life. Fascinating details emerge as people are encouraged to talk – for example the teenagers sent from Skipton to run a farm near Midgley and the bus from Luddenden to Halifax which regularly transported the ingredients for sausages one way and the finished product back!

THE BUILDINGS OF HEBDEN BRIDGE ALAN PETFORD

JANUARY 13TH 2010

Although Alan Petford was prepared to make his way through the snow, it was decided to reschedule his talk in next year's programme.

However, sixteen people did turn up and **Diana Monahan**, secretary, presented an evening not too far removed from the original title of "*The Buildings of Hebden Bridge*".

First, she gave the short lecture that she had prepared for the Town Hall Open evening - "*From the Manor of Wakefield to Hebden Royd Town Council*" which was the story of our local government and involved many photos of our local buildings some now vanished. The evening finished with a look at old photos of the Salem and Hebble End area which Diana had originally presented for the local cubs.

AKROYDS AND ECROYDS

DAVID NORTCLIFFE

JANUARY 27TH 2010

A chance question about a house in Pennsylvania called Edge End, which had been built by a family with the name of Ecroyd, set David Nortcliffe off on an investigative trail. The rise and fall of this local dynasty has been the subject of his detailed research, and he shared his findings with us. The Yorkshire Akroyds and the Lancashire Ecroyds shared a common root, and both families left their mark on the towns where they lived. The name, referring to a place where oak had been cleared, referred to a house near Pecket Well in the late 13th century, and was established as the surname of a family in Ovenden a hundred years later, Mr Nortcliffe explained.

The Akroyds made their money as clothiers, entrepreneurs who oversaw the spinning, weaving and selling of woollen cloth. Then in the 1540s one branch of the family moved to Lancashire, and in time were converted to the Quaker faith, symbolically changing the spelling of their name to Ecroyd, to mark their new lives. It was from this branch of the family that adventurous emigrants set out to establish themselves in North America at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

However, as Mr Nortcliffe pointed out, the lives of the two English branches of the family show some remarkable parallels. Both were at the cutting edge of developments in the textile industry, even indulging in some industrial espionage in order to stay ahead of the competition. At

their base near Nelson in Lancashire, the Ecroyds built their mills, just as the Akroyd cousins built the mills at Old Lane and Bowling Dyke near Boothtown. Both branches of the family were innovators and grew to be the biggest employers in the area.

These hard-nosed industrialists also had a philanthropic side, engaging in the planning and building of model villages, on a small scale in Nelson, but with more grandiose schemes at Copley and Akroyden. Both Akroyds and Ecroyds took a prominent role in civic life, serving as councillors, JPs and MPs, as well as supporting education and religion.

Mr Nortcliffe said it was difficult to explain why such illustrious businesses just faded away in the early twentieth century. It seems that the innovative and entrepreneurial spirit of earlier generations simply declined, and they were no longer able to stay ahead of the game.

However, buildings such as All Souls Church, Bankfield and Edge End House in Nelson, as well as the mills that employed so many, and the model villages that showed their vision, remain to give us a glimpse into the lives of these Akroyds and Ecroyds.

MORE WEIRD CALDERDALE PAUL WEATHERHEAD

FEBRUARY 10TH 2010

A rich mixture of ballad, legend, history and the occult was served up to members when Paul Weatherhead, author of 'Weird Calderdale' explored some of the stories of the area.

Most famous perhaps is Robin Hood – though it is impossible to say which one, as legends with an outlaw of this name are plentiful, and even found in Soviet Russia. The earliest ballads are set in Yorkshire and though incomplete, link him to Kirkstall Priory, where he fell sick, and was bled to death by the wicked Prioress. It was said he fired a final arrow to where he should be buried, and an early grave stone marked with the name Robin Hood is thought to be his final resting place.



The Priory Lodge, Kirkstall Park.

The current 'grave' a nineteenth century invention with an imitation 'old English' inscription, has become a source of ghostly stories. In modern

legend, the wicked Prioress has transformed into some kind of vampire, and various occult societies have attempted bizarre exorcisms.

Nearer to home the story of Tom Bell of Hardcastle Crag, recorded in a nineteenth century poem by William Broadbent, is equally weird. A stone face looks out at the cave where he reputedly lived, stealing from the rich without giving to the poor, and escaping detection by the simple expedient of reversing his shoes so that pursuers went the wrong way. His greed was his doom, as according to stories he ate so much that he burst. In the late 19th century someone searching a cave for Tom Bell's treasure found a skull, and a violent controversy raged in the *Hebden Bridge Times* between the cavists and anti-cavists over the authenticity of the find. The debate encouraged sight-seers and treasure hunters to visit Hardcastle Crag, which as Paul pointed out provided a healthy amount of custom for the cafe – co-incidentally owned by the man who 'found' the skull! Latest research shows the skull to have an even more interesting history, as it is probably neolithic and female.

There is still an appetite for the weird in Calderdale, though now it is recorded in the *Halifax Courier* and *Hebden Bridge Times* rather than in ballads. In 2005 a photo was published of a supposed ghost on the spire of Halifax Square Church, and in 2008 when mysterious orange lights floating in the sky were reported in the *Hebden Bridge Times*, many people preferred to think these were UFOs rather than the Chinese lanterns they turned out to be. Paul is still searching for legends of weird Calderdale which have such enduring fascination.

VICTORIAN & EDWARDIAN LEISURE IAN DEWHIRST

FEBRUARY 24TH 2010

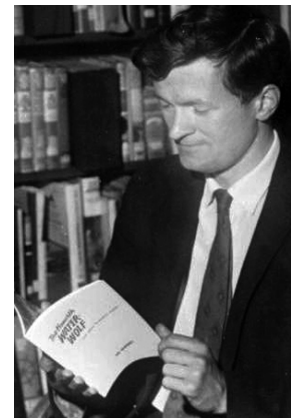
The dusty minute books and magazines of long forgotten societies were the main source of a fascinating picture of the way our Victorian and Edwardian fore-bears spent their leisure time. As local historian Ian Dewhirst MBE explained to members, 'leisure' was a novel discovery for ordinary people in the late nineteenth century, and one which they clearly took up with enthusiasm and extraordinary energy.

Many of the pastimes lent themselves to competitive endeavours, Mr Dewhirst discovered. Keighley Cycling Club, meeting in its own building with storage for 300 cycles, had its world champion for a short time in 1903, when a certain Albert Hunter made the fastest cycle journey backwards from Skipton to Keighley, overtaking a lone motorist on the way. Rambling was a popular weekend activity, with walking matches

organised at local galas, but it also attracted extreme adherents such as Bull Jack, who took wagers on his ability to wheel a barrow upside down to Morecambe and to drive a hen from Keighley to Bingley (which he achieved in eight hours!). Even the sedate hobby of fretwork could be competitive, with bigger and more elaborate structures going on show in exhibitions.

Gardening became immensely popular with the first allotments in the country opening in Keighley in 1848. Competitions in gooseberry growing are recorded, and the allotments themselves became the destination for pleasant Sunday afternoon outings. Chapels were the hub of many communities, and were especially important for the choral singing so typical of this area. Messiahs were 'got up' with the help of professional soloists, and Glee Clubs met regularly and performed at soirees. Outings were a highlight of club life, with trips to Bolton Abbey and the Whit Monday games and processions that were a regular feature of the calendar.

Organised entertainment started to make its mark with travelling theatres and the earliest cinemas being established, but even here there was an element of invention, with cinema proprietors also making their own films.



The final message of Mr Dewhirst's talk was to value the ephemera – the minute books, programmes, letters and notices that contain the essence of our rich social history.

THE CIVIL WAR IN CALDERDALE JOHN SPENCER

MARCH 10TH 2010

As part of our Society's contribution to the HB500 celebrations to mark the 500th anniversary of the town's packhorse bridge, John Spencer, curator of military collections for Calderdale Museums Service, told the story of the Civil War in Calderdale.

A straw poll of the packed hall showed our Local History members and guests divided into Parliamentarians and Royalists in about the same proportions as in Yorkshire at the time of the English Civil War.

But on this occasion, the difference of opinion didn't lead to musket fire. He gave an overview of how Yorkshire came to be embroiled in the fighting. Three young volunteers then modelled costumes of the cavalry

and infantry including a pikeman's and a musketeer's uniforms, before an explanation of how the various weapons were used.



With a musket in his hand, John explained that a misfire or a 'flash in the pan' occurred when the fine gunpowder in the priming pan of a musket went off, but nothing else happened because the touch hole was blocked.

After a major battle at Adderton Moor near Birstall, the Parliamentarians headed for Lancashire, and attention focused on Halifax, with Royalist outposts at King Cross, Sowerby Bridge, Sowerby and Roil's Head.

The Royalist army was not being paid or fed well, so the men began to plunder the area, which roused local hostility. The Parliamentarians heard about this via the churches and rallied at Heptonstall under Colonel Bradshaw.

Various counter-raids and skirmishes took place, so the Royalists decided to take out Heptonstall in November 1643. Disaster struck as they tried to cross the swollen Hebden Water at what is now known as the Old Bridge. The Parliamentarians had a big advantage coming down the hill, rolling boulders down the Buttress. Many of the Royalists were captured, killed or drowned as they were forced back across the river.

The Parliamentarians continued to carry out raids until the Royalists brought in reinforcements and launched another attack on Heptonstall at the end of January 1644. On reaching Heptonstall, they levelled 14 buildings and torched and pillaged the village.

This talk was so popular, another is planned at Heptonstall Museum for the weekend of July 10, when the Sealed Knot will be re-enacting the battle at the bridge and in Heptonstall village

INFAMY, INFAMY, THEY'VE ALL GOT IT IN FOR ME

ISSY SHANNON *MARCH 24TH 2010*

Some of Yorkshire's 'infamous women' made an appearance at this meeting when local writer Issy Shannon shared the stories of some of those who feature in her book of that name. One of the earliest of the strong Yorkshire women was Cartimandua Queen of the Brigantes. She ruled over a huge stretch of Northern England and was perhaps more cunning than her more famous counterpart Boudicca, retaining the support of the Roman conquerors by doing a deal rather than fighting them.



There was a theme of women who survived by trickery or treachery – from the 'spawn of Satan' Mother Shipton to the women accomplices of the notorious Cragg Vale Coiners, who seem to have escaped punishment perhaps by shopping others. Less fortunate were the illiterate Mary Hunter who was hanged for encouraging another girl to commit arson, and in more recent days Elizabeth Agnes Rhodes who in 1933 bludgeoned her abusive husband to death, and was only saved from hanging when local people petitioned for mercy.

In contrast, Issy also told the stories of the women who made the most of living a life deemed scandalous by conventional society – Grace and Mad Nanny of Todmorden, for example, who seemed to thrive as professional beggars despite being labelled as feeble minded. Even more shameless were the 'Queens of Dawson City', Mrs Adam and Mrs Nolan, who presided over the raucous shanty town of navvies building the reservoirs despite the hostility of locals.

TOWN HALL TEAM HONOURS MEMORY OF HEBDEN BRIDGE PIONEER

The committee room in Hebden Bridge's town hall (under community control and management since April this year) is to be renamed in honour of one of Hebden Bridge's nineteenth century pioneers.

At a ceremony to be held on June 21st, the room will be renamed the Greenwood Room, as a tribute to Joseph Greenwood. Joseph Greenwood, who was born in 1834, was a fustian cutter who, as the

secretary and manager of the very successful Nutclough Fustian Manufacturing Co-operative, was to take a prominent role in the cooperative movement nationally and indeed internationally, through links with coops in France. Appropriately the renaming ceremony will be performed by Dame Pauline Green, president of the *International Cooperative Alliance*.

Joseph Greenwood was also a leading light behind the founding of the Hebden Bridge Mechanics' Institute in 1854, in many respects the forerunner of the *Hebden Bridge Literary & Scientific Society*, out of which the *Hebden Bridge Local History Society* has emerged. He was a local councillor and alderman, with 33 years' service on the council. He was also active in the temperance movement.

More details about the renaming ceremony will be available nearer the time on the *Hebden Bridge Community Association* website, www.hebdenbridgetownhall.org.uk

Andrew Bibby

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP NEWS BARBARA ATACK

These are the dates when the Archives will be open for the Family History group in the next few months. Dates tend to be the first Saturday and the third Thursday each month. Unfortunately, I am away the first weekend in July and the following weekend is The Bridge event so there will be no Saturday meeting. All openings are from 2 pm to 5 pm;

Saturday 1st May

Thursday 20th May

Saturday 5th June

Thursday 17th June

Saturday July No meeting

Thursday 15th July

We are soon to have an extra room at The Birchcliffe Centre and now have Wi-Fi access for our own computers. It will be good to have more space and more seating. We now just await the finishing touches to be installed before we can use the new room.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

Thank you to everybody who came to Heptonstall on 18th March and 10th April to continue the transcription work in the churchyard. A big thank you to Jan Parrott and Mike Edwards who have cleared most of the undergrowth around the graves. It made our task so much easier.

If anyone would like to join us in the transcription work, it is a task that can be carried out at your convenience and I would be happy to meet anyone at the churchyard and designate an area to be transcribed.

If you have any queries with your own research or would just like to come and chat, please come and join us at one of our sessions in the near future. We look forward to seeing you.

For further information please contact Barbara Atack 01422 842105
ataxjb@btinternet.com

Local History Society Summer Programme:

As the Society is actively involved in several events this summer there will be no Local History summer programme.

Events for your Diary

May at Heptonstall Museum - *Laureate's Landscape*. Exhibition, and associated walks looking at how Ted Hughes childhood and relationship to the Upper Calder Valley Landscape influenced his work.

May 20th - 27 Years of How We Used to Live - Little Theatre at 7.30pm. With Freda Kelsall, writer of the entire popular TV series.

June 19th - The Bridge Birthday Bash

Come along to the bridge's 500th birthday party. Town crier, jester, packhorse procession over the bridge, mediaeval music and some real surprises!

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AND WILL NOT BE PASSED ON TO THIRD PARTIES**

N.B. There will still be hard copies available for people who do not have access to the Internet or who still prefer a printed copy.

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