



County Durham History & Heritage Forum

News from the Forum, Issue 11, Autumn 2011

As autumn is now upon us we can look back to the last few months with perhaps a wish that the sun had made more of an appearance than it did; although at the time of writing there is a promise of some warmer weather over the coming week. The new 'season' is now under way and I'm sure that many of you will have your programme in place for the coming months – so don't forget to pass on those dates and information, to the Forum committee via email at cdhhforum@googlemail.com We would also like to hear about your events, stories and research for inclusion in forthcoming newsletters – this is a good opportunity to 'blow your own trumpet' and share with other Forum members your achievements. The Forum is also an avenue to sign post your concerns about heritage issues, seek advice and share expertise too.

Yesterday Belongs to You, 2011

Did you attend this year's *Yesterday Belongs to You* local and family history event at Locomotion, NRM Shildon either as a visitor or exhibitor? If so, we would like to have some feedback on the new venue and the event as a whole. The Forum committee has expressed reservations about the suitability of the venue and would like to have your thoughts on the matter. Please let us have your comments to help inform discussions over the future of the event.

A Date for your Diary – CDHH Forum AGM will be held on Saturday, 5 November 2011, at County Hall from 09.30 am to 1 pm. The main speaker for the day will be from the Northern Region Film and Television Archive with a screening of excerpts from the BBC's Reel Histories DVD covering Durham, Sunderland and Tees Valley. The Archive holds some fascinating footage and, whatever the theme, their screenings are not to be missed! There will also be updates on ongoing projects from around the County. This is a great opportunity for networking so don't forget to bring along information about your group or society.

Free entry, refreshments will be available for a small charge. Further information to be circulated shortly.

The Minutes of last year's AGM are attached at the end of this newsletter. Since the meeting in November last year two of the founding members of the Forum committee have sadly passed away - Joy Pounder and Doris Fawcett. Both ladies were very supportive of the Forum's aims and very much helped to get us off the ground. They are greatly missed, not only by their families but also the many organisations they were involved with.

Hardwick Park Family Day

On Sunday 26 June the Forum hosted a History Awareness Day for families at Hardwick Park, Sedgefield. A great day was had with fantastic weather and very good attendance. Stalls were situated around the Temple of Minerva with a number of children's activities on offer. As the day was deemed a success the Committee will be holding another similar event on **Sunday, 24 June 2012 so, put the date in your diary.** If you would like to have a stall at the event or host some activities for families please get in touch.

County Durham History & Heritage Forum website

The Forum's website is now up and running again and, although hosted on a different server, the address remains the same - <http://www.durhamweb.org.uk/historyforum/index.html>

You can forward items for inclusion on the site to John Banham at cdhhforum@googlemail.com

DURHAM COUNTY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY TALKS

All talks are to be held at St.Giles parish hall, Gilesgate, Durham DH1 1QQ

Saturday 17 Sep 2011	2.00 pm	John Addyman	How they built them: early civil engineering in County Durham with particular reference to railways
Saturday 15 Oct 2011	2.00 pm	Richard Hird	Nelson & Co. – organ builders of Durham
Saturday 19 Nov 2011	2.00 pm	Sir Arnold Wolfendale	Celebrating the tercentenary of Thomas Wright's birth
Saturday 21 Jan 2012	2.00 pm	Jenny Garnett	The history of Burn Hall
Saturday 18 Feb 2012	2.00 pm	Dr Joan Heggie	The life and art of Viva Talbot (1900-1983)
Saturday 17 Mar 2012	2.00 pm	John L Dixon	Researching the 70 th Brigade

Further information at <http://www.durhamweb.org.uk/dclhs/>

Hon. President: Mr John Grundy.

Hon. Chair: Dr Winifred Stokes

Durham Chatty Matters

Rug Fest & Open Day

Saturday, 5th November

at

Bowburn Community Centre,

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

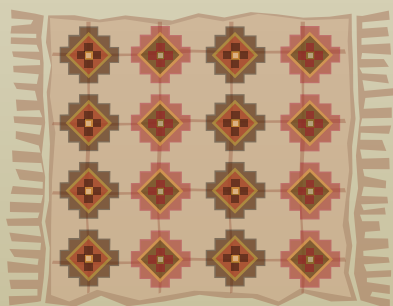
Admission free, Open to All

A chance to socialise with other rug groups, members of the public, family and friends. Exhibition of weaving pieces from our Chrissie Morgan workshops, display of members' work, plus work in progress on a wall-hanging for the Community Centre.

Tea and Coffee available all day. Please bring a packed lunch. Tombola, Raffle, Bric-a-brac, Crafts and Cake stall

Further details:

Elsie Shaw, 0191 3770514



Local History Courses in Durham City

with Dorothy Hamilton

A new programme of adult education courses start in October with sessions held at various locations in Durham City. Dorothy Hamilton will be delivering a range of courses on topics such as:

- The 'later' Prince Bishops
- Framwellgate Moor
- Some Durham Coal Owners
- Explore Durham's History: the Market Place, Silver Street and Saddler Street
- Gilesgate and its history

For further information contact;

Dorothy Hamilton on 0191 373 9252 or email

drdorothyhamilton@tinternet.com

SUNDERLAND HISTORY FAIR - 2012

The 4th Sunderland History Fair will be held at the Seaburn Centre, Sunderland on Saturday 2nd June 2012.

Details will be available later.

For further information

please email: Historyfair2012@uwclub.net

or phone 0191 567 8887.

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The Historic Environment of the Limestone Landscapes

From ancient farmers to modern miners; a history built on rock

with Niall Hammond, Archaeo-Environment

Saturday 1st October, 2011 Seaton Holme, Easington 9.30-4.30pm

AIM: to investigate the historic environment of the Limestone Landscapes

OBJECTIVES:

- to understand the formation of the landscape of the Limestone Landscapes, its relation to biodiversity and how humans have modified it since neolithic times
- To learn about the importance of the historic environment in context with regional and national perspectives
- To study, in the field, the historic environment of Easington

Target audience: anyone who has an interest in the historic environment of the Limestone Landscapes

Course overview:

9.30 Welcome, introductions, The Limestone Landscapes Programme.....Ken Bradshaw, Heritage Officer, Limestone Landscapes Partnership

10.00 Introduction to the Historic Environment of the Limestone Landscapes

11.15 Comfort break

11.30 Easington: much more than a medieval village

12.30 Lunch Break

13.00 A tour of Easington

16.00 Return to Seaton Holme, Feedback and Evaluation

16.30 Depart

This is a FREE course part-funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund

For bookings: email: Ken Bradshaw ken.bradshaw@durham.gov.uk Tel: 0191 383 3359

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Cleveland & Teesside Local History Society - Winter Programme 2011- 2012

Saturday 5th November, 2011

Venue: The Dorman Museum, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough

10.00 - 11.00 The Diaries of Ralph Jackson (1749-1790), The Prince of Cleveland
Speaker: Dr David Wilkinson

11.30 - 12.30 The Multiple Identities of Thomas Chaytor Esq. Of Durham (1554-1618)
Speaker: Dr Diana Newton (Teesside University)

Friday, 9th December, 2011

Venue: The Dorman Museum, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough

7.00 p.m. The Elgee Memorial Lecture
To be confirmed

Organised by the Teesside Archaeological Society and the Middlesbrough
Museum Service

Saturday 11th February, 2012

Venue: The Dorman Museum, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough

10.00 - 11.00 Crazy Castle and The Demoniacs
Cleveland Hellfire Club
Speaker: Dr Tony Nicholson

11.30 - 12.30 Cleveland's Reaction to the Royal Divorce Scandal of 1820
Speaker: Prof. Malcolm Chase (Leeds University)

Further information from [Cleveland & Teesside Local History Society](#)

Contact Us

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Forum please contact:

The Membership Secretary, c/o 22 Oaklea Mews, Aycliffe Village, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6JP, or via email
at cdhhforum@googlemail.com or on dljb333@btinternet.com

If you have items for the newsletter please send via email to the above address or

c/o 19 Aldin Grange Hall, Bearpark, Durham, DH7 7AR

The Committee meets monthly at in the Community Resource centre at Beamish Museum.

Hon. President: Mr John Grundy.

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The following are the minutes from last year's AGM for information



County Durham History & Heritage Forum

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 20 November, 2010

Venue, Education Room, Locomotion: NRM Shildon

Present: John Grundy (Hon. President),

Committee: Winifred Stokes, Allan Harley, Ian Finlayson, Gillian Wetherell, Keith Pounder, David Blair, Joan Harley, John Banham, Julie Hawthorn (JH)

Members: Brenda Ludvigsen (Northern Archaeology Group) (Northern Archaeology Group), Alice Hardy (Wear Tees U3A), Billy Jones (Crowtrees Heritage Group), Brian Gargate (Aycliffe Village Local History Society), Margaret Hedley (Wheatley Hill History Club), Thorpe Thewles Heritage Group x 3, Bill Gordon (South Moor History Group), Stan Easton (South Moor History Group), Louise Gosling (Durham & Northumberland Arch & Arch), Pat Wilcock (Durham Clayport Matters Group), Malcolm Bell (Bowburn Local History Society), Pat Atkinson (Durham Local History Society), John Atkinson (Durham Local History Society)

Non.Members: Joyce Jackson (Teesdale Heritage Group), John Wearmouth (Teesdale Heritage Group)

Apologies: John Smith (Bishop Middleham Local History Society), John L Dixon, William Hatley (Shincliffe Local

History Society), Joy Pounder (Crowtrees Heritage Group), Ian Fawcett (West Rainton Local History Society) Doris Fawcett (West Rainton Local History Society), John Milburn (Annfield Plain Family History Society), Anne McKenzie

Chair's Report: Winifred Stokes welcomed members to the meeting. The Committee has been meeting each month since the Business meeting in February to plan and take forward the development of the Forum. New leaflets and membership forms have been produced and are now available for circulation. The website continues to be updated and we are looking at ways to develop the site further. The programme of events and activities for 2010/11 will be on the theme of 'Our Working Lives'. The first

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event will be a Conference at County Hall on Saturday, 19 March 2011. The planning of this will be finalised shortly but we welcome contributions from members i.e. short presentations on recent or current projects. The British Association for Local History (BALH) are holding their AGM and Local History Day in London on Saturday 4 June. One of the discussion points is 'Saving Local History in an age of austerity'. The morning discussion will be devoted to the topic of Local History in an Age of Austerity. Sue Clayton the keynote speaker will be talking about safe guarding access to records, museums etc. Win Stokes will be talking about 'self help' and volunteering with instances of how to go about it. As the Forum is a member of BALH contributions to the discussion, from members, would be welcomed.

Treasurer's Report: Keith Pounder gave an update on the current financial position. The Forum has recently taken over the administration of the accounts following the setting up a bank account. The funds were previously administered by the Durham branch of CVS. The funds are generated through membership subscriptions and donations. We would like to maintain a reserve of £500 as a backup pot so we need to source other funding opportunities. The Forum was successful in its application for a grant from the Durham in Time Project (Durham County Council) which has enabled us to produce membership leaflets, and has provided some funds towards events and activities next year.

Election of Officers and Committee: The following were re-elected to honorary positions on the committee for the year 2010/11

Chair – Dr Winifred Stokes, Durham County Local History Society

Vice Chair – Allan Harley, Durham County Vintage Collectors' Society

Treasurer – Keith Pounder, Crowtrees Heritage Group

Members – Dr John Banham, Durham County Local History Society

Gillian Wetherell, Friends of Darlington Railway Centre and Museum

Joan Harley, Durham County Vintage Collectors' Society

Ian Finlayson, South Moor History Group

Joy Pounder, Crowtrees Heritage Group

New elections:

Secretary – June Palmer, Aycliffe Village Local History Society

Membership Secretary – David Blair, Aycliffe Village Local History Society & Victoria County History

Committee Members – Margaret Hedley, Wheatley Hill History Club

Julie Hawthorn

Ian and Doris Fawcett did not stand for re-election and they were thanked by the Chair for their support and contribution to the Forum. Julie Hawthorn stood down as secretary but continues as a committee member.

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The Chair thanked Julie Hawthorn for her time as Secretary of the Forum and welcomed her continued involvement on the committee.

General Business: Open Forum. Some concern was expressed over the hosting of Yesterday Belongs to You (the biennial local history day organised by Durham County Council). The Chair informed the floor of her correspondence with Rosemary Laxton, prior to her recent retirement, about plans for the event which is due to be held in 2011. The question was asked about how member groups would attend the meeting – would they attend as individual groups or as the Forum? The Chair will write to the County Council for clarification about the organisation of the event. (Information circulated at the Local History event at Locomotion following the AGM – the event will be held at the museum on Saturday, 14 May 2011).

Members were asked to put forward suggestions for training opportunities, events and ideas to take the Forum forward. Post-it notes were provided for comments (see attached sheet)

One member asked for help in locating a football historian as she had a school boy's diary from 1911 which had numerous entries on football. Julie Hawthorn suggested that she get in touch with Durham Amateur Football Trust for help with this as they had a number of knowledgeable members and contacts. Billy Jones of the Crowtrees Heritage Trust asked for advice on improving access to parts of the Clarence Railway. Winifred Stokes will look into this.

Brian Gargate of Aycliffe Village Local History Society would like more information on members and their activities. The list of members is on the Forum website with links to their webpages. The suggestion was to produce a small booklet about members and/or a spreadsheet of activities. Possibly use the Community News website. Ian Finlayson mentioned the need to recognise individuals in the community who were interested in local history and doing their own research. Forum membership is open to individuals as well as groups and societies.

The Chair closed the meeting by thanking members and Hon. President John Grundy for their attendance and continued support. The meeting closed at 10.30 prior to the guest lecture by John Addyman.

Date of Next meeting: Saturday, 19 November 2011. Venue to be confirmed.

*******Please note the 2011 AGM will be held on Saturday, 5 November at County Hall, Durham. See further information above for the programme*******

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