

April 2015

Welcome to the Community Heritage Newsletter

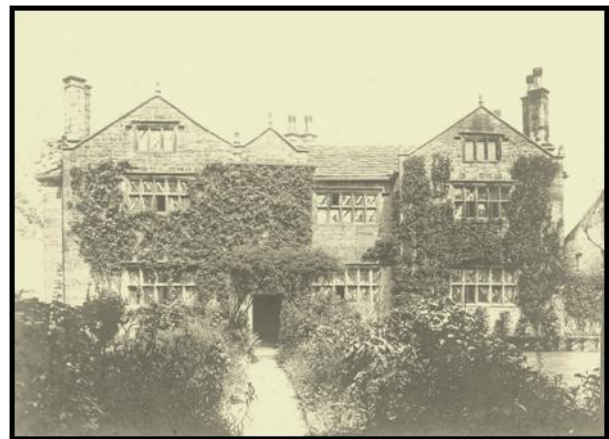
From April 2015 this newsletter will be published quarterly. We hope you will enjoy reading about the local history and heritage activities we have been involved in since the last edition.

'Bringing Your Heritage to Life'

A Fashionable Wedding in Heysham –August, 1876

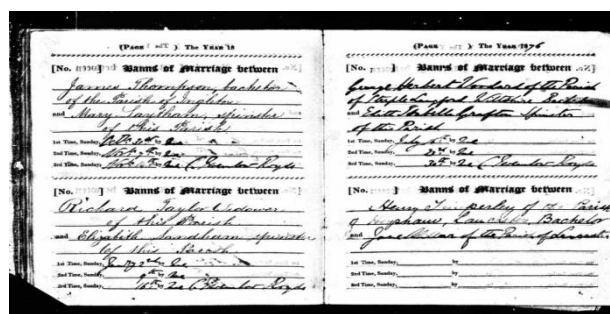


Lancashire Lantern: 27090



Lancashire Lantern: 13902

Andrew Walmsley and Marcia Nursey ran a very successful local history session at Heysham Library for a group of adults with learning difficulties. Everyone participated as we looked at old maps, newspapers and photographs of the Heysham area. By following the story of a fashionable wedding in 1876 the group members were able to relate this story to their own experiences of weddings. The resources telling the story highlighted the wealth of material available across cultural services venues. The session came about as a result of a request from Lucy Belanger, Branch Manager at Heysham Library and the group's co-ordinator, Bernadette Drake, who is from a local NHS trust.'



Marriage Banns 30th July 1876

Talks

George Lyon, the Upholland 'highwayman', and the Walmsleys of Wigan

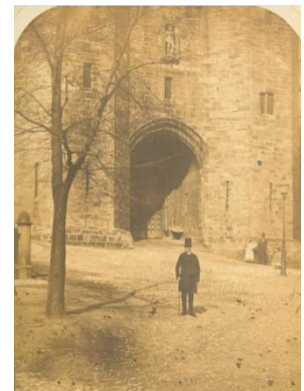
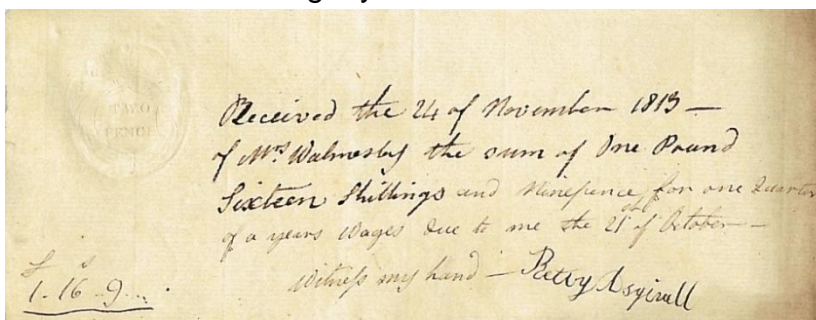
George Lyon was hanged at Lancaster Castle on 22nd April 1815. All sorts of stories attached themselves to him. He is reputed to have held up the Liverpool mail coach near Upholland and to have returned to one of his favourite inns before the distraught passengers came in to tell their tale. This story cannot be proved, but it is likely that Lyon revelled in tales about himself to add to his reputation as 'Captain of Thieves'. His trade was actually as a handloom weaver, and it is likely that such people were suffering a drop in trade as the Industrial Revolution was beginning to provide cheaper mass-produced goods.

To coincide with the bi-centenary, Marianne Howell arranged to give a talk on the subject to two local history societies, three libraries and Lancashire Archives. She also talked to 90 pupils of a high school in Upholland, making a total of over 250 attendees. **A free leaflet about Lyon has been produced.**

George Lyon's story is well remembered two hundred years after his death, but his victim is seldom mentioned. Lyon was hanged with two accomplices for having 'feloniously and burglariously' entered Westwood House, the home of Charles Walmsley, the lord of the manor of Ince in Makerfield, Wigan.

Lancashire Archives houses the family and estate papers of the Walmsleys in 55 boxes. Included in the collection which spans the 14th to the early twentieth century are some documents of direct relevance to the burglary.

One of the few servants in the house on the night the men broke in was a housemaid, Betty Aspinall, who went on to give evidence at the trial. This is a wages slip for her dated just nine months before the burglary.



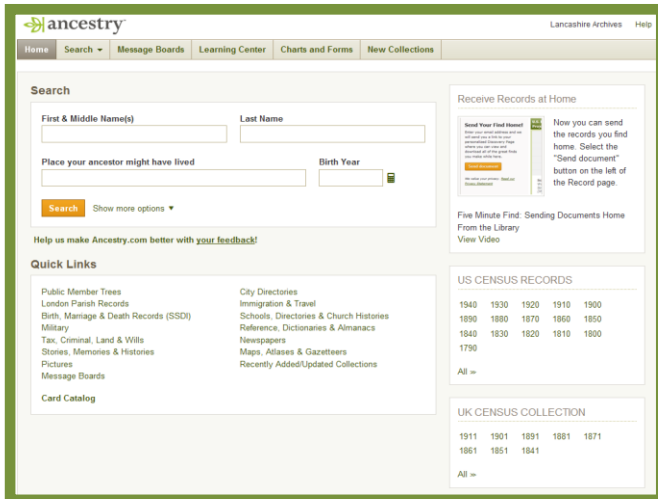
A tour of the Castle can include seeing the cells which housed the prisoners, the very dock and courtroom where Lyon was tried and sentenced, and the courtyard where the hangings took place.



Lyon's grave in Upholland churchyard is barely noticeable – apart from flowers frequently placed there, two hundred years after his death.

Digital Learning Sessions

During 2014 and into 2015 the Community Heritage team has delivered Digital Learning sessions across Cultural Services venues.



These practical sessions look at the lives of two Lancashire soldiers and a man who served in the navy. A range of online sources is used to illustrate how you could trace your WW1 ancestor. Using Ancestry (free to use in libraries and Archives) and other resources it is possible to piece together these heroic stories.

Ancestry Institution website

The record below from Ancestry Institution shows the medals that John White was awarded during his service. They were the British War Medal, the Victory Medal and the 15 Star Medal for service in operations between 1914 and 1919

Private John White
Image no: 20534 Lancashire Lantern

Medal index card

Campaign: 1914-15.				(A) Where decoration was earned.
				(B) Present situation.
Name	Corps	Rank	Reg. No.	Roll on which included (if any)
(A) WHITE	LNLAN.R. Pte		17401	MEDAL
(B) John				VI 4/2/1918 1033
Action taken				15 STAR 11/2/1918 4116
				discharged.



www.lanternimages.lancashire.gov.uk

Lancashire Archives

In 2015 Lancashire Archives will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of its foundation and the 40th of the present building. A variety of events and activities have been planned. These will display the exciting diversity of Lancashire's archive collections over 900 years which cover the length and breadth of the county.

The staff warmly invite you to visit over the weekend and take part in any of the free activities.

LANCASHIRE ARCHIVES

2015



Saturday 25 April, 11am to 4pm

Get into the swing with our 1940s-inspired open day. There is something for all the family

- Enjoy a trip down memory lane with nostalgic displays and vehicles
 - Find out about the history of Lancashire Archives with exhibitions and talks
 - Discover many of the Treasures from the Archives
 - Browse the stalls in our vintage market place
 - Enjoy the refreshments in our vintage café
 - Watch film from the North West Film Archive of Lancashire life in the 1940s
 - Listen for the air raid siren calling you to a tour behind the scenes!
- Plus visit a vintage pop up hair salon.

Anyone in period dress will be most welcome!

Sunday 26 April, 11am to 4pm

Family History Fair, offering information and advice for those just starting out as well as for the more experienced

- Get advice from family history societies from across Lancashire, local archive services and other organisations
- Take part in practical online family history sessions
- Eric Morecambe, John Inman and Jeremiah Horrocks are just some of the family history case studies which will be on display
- Enjoy the refreshments in our vintage café
- Don't miss the behind the scenes tours.

The tour will include the Conservation section and the Conservation team will be on hand to give advice how to conserve your own family history collections.

To find out more telephone **01772 533039** or email

record.office@lancashire.gov.uk

www.lancashire.gov.uk/archives

Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane,
Preston, PR1 2RE

World War 1 Centenary - Calendar of events

The Community Heritage team has organised over 80 events across Lancashire: to be delivered in the year April 2016. They include 4 themed WW1 talks and bookable WW1 family history sessions. The four talks are **Women and the War**, **Read all about it!**, **Military hospitals in Lancashire** and **Prisoners, aliens and Belgian refugees**.

Women and the War. This illustrated talk by the Community Heritage team looks at how the First World War affected home life for the women and children left behind. From fund raising, volunteering as individuals and with various organisations, and taking over jobs traditionally considered suitable only for men, this fascinating talk will reveal the sacrifices and changing roles that women undertook throughout Lancashire and Britain during World War 1. Tickets can be booked by visiting the library or phoning 0300 123 6703.

Ingol Library 24/4/2015 2pm

Coppull Library 8/5/2015 2pm

Clayton-Le-Moors Library 15/5/2015 10am

Ormskirk Library 5/6/2015 6pm

Leyland Library 15/6/2015 2pm

Nelson Library 1/7/2015 7pm

Eccleston Library 8/7/2015 10.30am

Rosegrove Library 13/7/2015 6.30pm

Read all about it! Find out the importance that the press played during WW1 in this illustrated talk from the Community Heritage team. From Lancashire newspapers to the national press, discover how the war unfolded through reports, obituaries, letters from the front, fundraising and even advertisements and how it provides us with a window on yesterday in this fascinating talk. Tickets can be booked by visiting the library or phoning 0300 123 6703.

Morecambe Library 22/5/2015 2pm

Fleetwood Library 4/6/2015 6pm

Military hospitals in Lancashire. Discover the generosity of the Lancashire people in this illustrated talk by the Community Heritage team. From sewing and knitting to donating and equipping whole buildings, find out how Lancashire established Auxiliary Military Hospitals throughout Lancashire to cope with the casualties coming back from WW1. Tickets can be booked by visiting the library or phoning 0300 123 6703.

Clitheroe Library 27/4/2015 2pm

Rawtenstall Library 5/6/2015 7pm

Padiham Library 19/6/2015 2pm

Skelmersdale Library 15/7/2015 2pm

Prisoners, aliens and Belgian refugees. This illustrated talk from the Community Heritage team looks at what happened to the imprisoned, the dispossessed and enemy aliens as war broke out and progressed through Europe from 1914. Using original documentary evidence, photographs, newspapers, censuses and military records it builds a picture of their lives and experiences and shows how you access these resources for yourself. Tickets can be booked by visiting the library or phoning 0300 123 6703 or contacting the Judges Lodgings by phoning 01524 32808

Ansdell Library 16/4/2015 2pm

Brierfield Library 22/4/2015 2pm

Judges Lodgings 13/7/2015 1pm

Poulton Library 6/7/2015 2pm

Coming Soon



Family History –Find out how Community Heritage can help with training and establishing new family history groups. People can then build up and discover their roots and rich heritage.

Lancashire Lantern: 15631. Hartley Family, Nelson

What people have said about Community Heritage

"It clarified many misconceptions" and "the talk about George Lyon was very interesting, Excellent" **George Lyon Upholland highwayman talk, Upholland Community Room.**

"Fantastic & very useful. Also very enlightening. Thank you Louisa." **Digital learning session: Ansdell Library.**

"Can we have more!." **Pendle Murders talk to WEA.**

"very informative given lots more avenues to pursue, clear visuals wonderful sound recordings" **Savick Library, This soldier's life talk.**

"Andrew, this is brilliant, thanks so much for saving me a lot of time delving !!!" **Email reply to an enquiry about "Bradford Dyers School".**

What are you doing to celebrate Lancashire's rich and diverse heritage?

We would like to hear from you if you have recently been successful with a Heritage Lottery funding bid or if you would like any advice and/or support from the Community Heritage team. Please contact ch.enquiries@lancashire.gov.uk

Follow us on Twitter @lanchistory
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