



Pendle & Burnley
Branch

The Gazette

Issue 57 January 2015

www.lfhhs-pendleandburnley.org.uk

Branch AGM 18th March

The nomination sheet will be available at the January and February meetings for you to propose and/or second the nominees proposed by the Committee. We also need at least one other nominee for the Committee and a nominee for Vice Chairman.

Period	Official	Nominee
1 year	Chairman	Christine Windle
1 year	Vice Chairman	
2 years	Treasurer	Janet Knowles
2 years	Librarian and Minutes Secretary	Margaret Heap
2 years	Committee Member	Mary Jackson
2 years	Committee Member	Geoffrey Riley
2 years	Committee Member	Sylvia Marshall
2 years	Committee Member	Christine Haworth
2 years	Committee Member	

The qualifications for being on the Committee are simple – all you need is enthusiasm and ideas.

The Committee meets 4 times a year and all posts are for a two year term.

Dates for your diary

Alterations to our Branch Programme

The July meeting will be on the 29th and will be an
Open / Practical Evening

The Christmas meeting on December 2nd
will be a local quiz organised by Andrea Smith

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Lancashire Archives, Record Office, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE
01772 533039
record.office@lancashire.gov.uk

Come to one of our FREE 'Getting to Know' sessions on the second Friday
of every month from 2.30pm-4.00pm. Booking is essential please.

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Sunday 6th September Society Lunch at Waddow Hall Clitheroe.
Hosted by Ribble Valley Branch

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Saturday 19th September LFHHS Family History Fair
10.00am to 4.00pm
King George's Hall Northgate Blackburn BB2 1AA

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MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

**A reminder that subscriptions were due on the 1st of
January.**

Ordinary £14, Pensioner/Student £12, Family £15, Overseas £16

**Colne Library
digital records week**

**On Saturday 7th February we are going to be
demonstrating the various Family History
Websites that are available.**

We need volunteers to man 8 computers.

If you can help please contact Jean

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**Note that Colne Library now closes at 6.00pm on
Wednesdays. Access for meetings will now be by
the back door on the car park after 6.45pm.**

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Branch Contacts:

Family History Queries

Jean Ingham email: enquiry@lfhhs-pendleandburnley.org.uk

Secretary

Arnold Slater email: secretary@lfhhs-pendleandburnley.org.uk

Gazette Editor

Arnold Slater email: editor@lfhhs-pendleandburnley.org.uk

Branch Website

www.lfhhs-pendleandburnley.org.uk

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GAZETTE – Editor – Arnold Slater

Articles for the **April 1915 Gazette** by the **end of March** please.

Please send articles to Editor at lfhhs-pendleandburnley.org.uk or by post to the Editor,
c/o 6 Sussex Street, Barnoldswick, Lancashire BB18 5DS

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Change of address

Would you please ensure that the Secretary is informed of any change of address – **including email address**

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DROP-IN FAMILY HISTORY HELP SESSIONS

will be held at Colne Library on the following dates:

January 28th
February 25th
March 25th
10 am to 12 noon

Volunteers welcome

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Query Corner

If you have any of the following people on your family tree please let Jean know.

LENNOX, SAUNBY and TRAYNOR

Looking for information on William and Maria LENNOX (nee SAUNBY) who lived in Burnley from 1882 to about 1890. William's birth place Aberford, Yorkshire. Maria born Lincolnshire.

Also would like any information on any LENNOX family living in Greenvale St, Burnley in 1877-78. There was a Susan LENNOX (mother's maiden name TRAYNOR) of this address age 4 months buried in Burnley cemetery in 1878.

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KENNETH LUPTON 1932 – 2014

Everyone at Pendle and Burnley Family History Society will be saddened to learn of the loss of yet another of our long standing members, Ken Lupton, who died very suddenly at home in November, 2014. He was 82, and until very recently regularly attended our meetings at the Library.

Ken had been a member of our Branch from the very early days and his contribution to the Society just cannot be quantified. On our meeting nights he was regularly seen, seated at the Branch computer, helping members with their queries - he had been instrumental in its initial setting up and for also inputting a lot of the data on it. He was one of the initial members of our team of volunteers who, over twelve years ago, started working at Burnley Register Office to put on the Lancashire BMD site all the birth, marriage and death records that we all find so very helpful to-day, but perhaps tend to now take for granted.

Perhaps we should all say a quiet "Thank you Ken".

2015 PROGRAMME

- 21st Jan **"Bene and Hot - The Tommies' Tipple. From Palais Benedictine to Plumbe Street, Burnley"**
Denise North
- 18th Feb **"The buried treasure of James Dixon"**
David Pilkington / Harriet Roberts
- 18th Mar **A.G.M. and Practical Workshop**
- 15th Apr **"Preston Record Office"**
David Tildsley
- 29th Apr **Practical Workshop**
- 20th May **Out visit**
- 17th June **"Origin of place names"**
Peter Watson
- 29th July **Practical Evening / Open Evening**
- 19th Aug **"Lady Randy" Winston Churchill's mother**
Pat Osborne
- 16th Sept **"Wills and Probate Records"**
David Lambert
- 30th Sept **Practical Evening**
- 21st Oct **"Who was my uncle Bilbarrow?"**
Tony Foster
- 18th Nov **"Grandmother's Letters"**
Alan Crosby
- 2nd Dec **Christmas Party and Local Quiz**
arranged by Andrea Smith

Printed copies of the programme are available

Raising Albert's headstone – by Diana and Rod Moorhouse

Many members will know about the work being carried out to restore the churchyard at St John's church in Barkerhouse Road, Nelson. Until 1895 this was the town's main cemetery and it contains seven thousand graves within its six and half acre boundary. The churchyard had been neglected for many years and was overrun by Japanese knotweed, large shrubs and tall grasses. Many of the headstones and the graves themselves had become unsafe. In the year 2005 a group of concerned local people came together and began to gather support to clear the churchyard. They called themselves 'The Friends of St John's Churchyard' and embarked on a ten year plan which was to include knotweed spraying followed by clearing undergrowth and saplings, surveying the headstones, removal of uninscribed kerbstones around the graves to facilitate maintenance and finally reseeding the ground with low maintenance grass.

In the summer of 2013, after many years of hard work and relentless fundraising, we were delighted to hear that the enormous task of clearing the cemetery to a point at which it is safe and accessible is almost complete. In August there was an open day to publicise and celebrate the Friends' achievements and to invite the public to view the restoration work.

From several sources we knew that Albert Elliott, Diana's great grandfather, was buried at St John's. We asked a friend who lives locally to search for his grave. After it was found she then told us that the headstone was intact but leaning forward with the face downwards and almost impossible to read. This news left us with a strong feeling that the headstone should no longer be neglected but ought to be raised to a vertical and safe position. As we live some two hundred miles away from Nelson we wondered how this might be achieved

We wrote to the Secretary of the 'Friends' explaining our dilemma and asked who we might approach to make arrangements to reinstate the headstone. In reply it was suggested that we could approach a firm of monumental masons who had done some work in the churchyard or contact one of the 'Friends' group who had previously carried out safety work on headstones. We decided to write to him. He was most helpful and in reply told us that he could do the necessary work. He also gave

us a price. Within a very short time he and his grandson raised the headstone onto a concrete base. The grandson very kindly sent photographs of the finished work and we were very pleased to discover that after so many years the headstone is undamaged and readable

This was a very satisfying experience which left us with the certainty that Albert's headstone is now safe and Future generations will be able to read its inscription in situ. Hopefully the information in this article may be of use to other members who may have an interest in the churchyard or find their headstone fallen or damaged.

The Secretary of the Friends of St John's Churchyard can be contacted at secretary@friendsofstjohns.co.uk

The friends can be found on:

Facebook at [friendsofstjohnschurchyard](#)

And on twitter at [friendsofstjohns](#)

Footnote

Albert Elliott was a well known figure in Nelson. For many years he ran a family printing business on Leeds Road in partnership with his son, Harry a printer, daughter Clare, a bookbinder and her husband Clifford Bellingham, also a printer. The family lived in Barkerhouse Road opposite St John's church. Albert played the organ at the church for many years and his daughters, Gertrude, Laura and Claire were all married there.

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ARCHIVES NEWS

A number of Archives are reporting revised opening times, some to due to refurbishment and others due to the restrictions on finances. If you intend to visit any of these Archives you are advised to check the opening times and availability of the collections before arranging a visit.