



Pendle & Burnley
Branch

The Gazette

Issue 69 January 2018

www.lfhhs-pendleandburnley.org.uk

Branch AGM 21st March

The nomination sheet will be available at the January and February meetings for you to nominate, propose and/or second nominees.

Period	Official	Currently
1 year	Chairman	Mike Smith
1 year	Vice Chairman	Pat Dyson
2 years	Secretary	Arnold Slater
2 years	Gazette Editor	Arnold Slater
1 year	Programme Secretary	Sylvia Marshall
2 years	Executive Rep.	Martin Holtby
2 years	Committee Member	Christine Windle
2 years	Committee Member	Jill Pengelly
2 Years	Committee Member	Jean Ingham
2 years	Committee Member	Alan Hardman
2 years	Committee Member	Barbara Stainthorpe

2018 Subscriptions

It would help the Society Membership Secretary if you could pay your subscriptions (which are the same as last year) as soon as possible.

A renewal form was in the November journal or you can renew online through the Society's online shop at:
www.lfhhs.org/index.php

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PRACTICAL EVENINGS

At the next practical evening on January 31st Jean will be talking about Lancashire Online Parish Clerk.

We would welcome suggestions for topics for future meetings.

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GAZETTE – Editor – Arnold Slater

Articles for the April 2018 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

2018 Programme

- 17th Jan "Should I Stay or Should I Go?"
Roger Blaxall
- 31st Jan Practical Evening – Online Parish Clerk
- 21st Feb "Elizabeth Parker of Browsholme Hall"
Linda Sawley
- 21st Mar A.G.M. plus short talks by members
- 18th Apr "Thieves, Forgers & Luddites – Executions at
Lancaster Castle during the Bloody Code Era"
Martin Baggoley
- 16th May Outvisit to Southfield Chapel, Nelson
- 30th May Practical Evening
- 20th June Denise Adlard – talk to be arranged.
- 18th July Day Visit to Pilkington's World of Glass
- 15th Aug "The Richardson Family of N. Birley,
Bradford & Thornton-in-Craven"
Derek Clabburn
- 29th Aug Practical Evening
- 19th Sept "The Double Identity of John Robinson of
Colne"
David Tildsley
- 17th Oct "WWI German Prisoners of War in Skipton"
Anne Buckley
- 31st Oct Practical Evening
- 21st Nov "About The Jam, Darling"
Virginia Aighton
- 5th Dec Christmas Party
Jack Hargreaves: Songs and Laughter

QUERY CORNER

Replies please to Jean Ingham

email: enquiry@lfhhs-pendleandburnley.org.uk

Henry SUTCLIFFE and John LANCASTER

I am trying to establish the age at death of my 3xgreat grandfather, John Lancaster, who lived in Burnley for the whole of his life, and died on 3rd June 1871. His stated age in the 1841-1871 census returns is inconsistent. The (legible) memorial inscription in St Peter's churchyard Burnley says that he died "in his 64th year".

But his death certificate states his age as 67 (as does the 1871 census). The informant on the death certificate is "Henry Sutcliffe, present at death, Curzon St". Henry Sutcliffe is not a family member and I know nothing of him. In the 1871 census there are 3 Henry Sutcliffe's in Burnley, but none of them are at Curzon St (just 2 months after the death of John Lancaster). Does anyone have any information about a Henry Sutcliffe of Curzon St?

SUNDAY SCHOOL SOCIETY or SUNDAY SCHOOL SPORTS?

Doreen is seeking information about a small (possibly gold) medallion which belonged to her father. It is inscribed **C & D SSSL Parish Church 1924**. We are assuming that C & D means Colne and District but we are not sure what the SSSL stands for. Any help with this query would be greatly appreciated.

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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

Branch Website

www.lfhhs-pendleandburnley.org.uk

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DROP-IN FAMILY HISTORY HELP SESSIONS

will be held at Colne Library on the following dates:

January 24th

February 28th

March 28th

April 25th

10 am to 12 noon

Volunteers welcome

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Visit to
Southfield Chapel, Nelson
Wednesday Afternoon
16th May
Cost £4
(includes light refreshments)

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ANNUAL DAY OUTING BY COACH
TO
PILKINGTON'S WORLD OF GLASS AT ST. HELENS
ON WEDNESDAY 18TH JULY, 2018
(estimated cost £25 per person)

The cost includes coach travel from Colne/Padiham with Moving People, Refreshments on arrival, A glass-blowing demonstration, Film show, Main course lunch + tea/coffee, Guided tours of galleries and furnace, 10% discount in their shop.

It also includes your return journey back to Colne/Padiham!

1851 and 1891 CENSUS CDs Manchester Area for the price of postage & package only.

The following, now unwanted, CDs are available for £1 each (to cover cost of posting) from Jean Ingham.

Please contact Jean on wj-ingham@pobroadband.co.uk

1851 CENSUS Unfilmed Returns

1891 CENSUS Name and Street Index

Transcripts of the Census for :-

Index only

Ardwick
Ashton-under Lyne
Deansgate
Chorlton-on-Medlock
Hulme
Manchester, St. George
London Road
Oldham Below Town
Pendleton & Pendlebury
Prestwich, Blackley & Harpurhey
Rusholme, Gorton & Openshaw
Salford, Greengate
Salford, Regent Road

Chorlton-on-Medlock
Manchester
Prestwich and Cheetham
Salford

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Surplus compatible cartridges for Epson printer/scanner (DX3800)

One of our members has a number of Epson compatible ink cartridges. These fit the DX3800 printer, but I believe they can also be used on some other Epson printers.

T0611 (Black), T0612 – 14 (Colour)

A donation to charity would be appreciated.

William Pollard moved over the Moors by Rod Moorhouse

At the August meeting of the Keighley and District FHS Graham Mitchell gave a talk entitled '*Why Stanhope Never Got a Railway Station and Other Railway Politics*'. He explained the challenges of building railway branch lines in the Worth valley in the mid 19th century at a time when ambitious mill owners were almost desperate to convert their mills from water to steam powered. To this end they needed large and regular deliveries of coal. Railway connections would provide improved capacity to transport this together with other raw materials and finished goods. Perhaps the most ambitious scheme was a proposal to build a railway along the Worth valley via Stanhope, and then through a tunnel to Colne. Had this been realised then the advantages and opportunities for the cotton spinning and weaving trade in the Worth valley would have been greatly enhanced. But in the event funding for such an expensive scheme eventually collapsed and the upper reaches of the Worth valley were given over to reservoirs.

All this reminded me of an incomplete family story which has been a mystery for many years. Researching the details of this story once again, together with some new ideas, shed a little more light on this rather sad tale.

My wife's Great Great Grandfather, named William Pollard was born in Colne around 1830. In 1850 he married Alice Varley and during the next ten years they had four children. According to the 1861 census they were all born in Colne, the youngest being Thomas born in 1860.

The twist in this story is their address on the 1861 census – not Colne but Sladen Bridge. At some time between the birth of Thomas and the 1861 Census they had moved about 8 miles over the moors to live in a row of small cottages which stand to this day alongside Sladen Beck, adjacent to the road between Haworth and Stanbury. As there was no railway connection between Colne and the Worth valley, perhaps they travelled with all their possessions by horse drawn carriers cart along the old toll roads?

It was always assumed they had come to work at Hollings Mill which was situated along a track beside the Beck to the North East of the cottages. The mill and its dam can be seen on the 6" O.S. map of 1852. Its purpose is said to be "[*Worsted*]"- a

woollen mill. So, was the mill about to convert to cotton weaving and had William been 'head hunted' and invited to work there, perhaps to train the weavers?

These questions are not easily answered; on the face of it there is some conflicting evidence. The 1861 Census suggests that the Sladen Bridge cottages were occupied by families who mainly worked in the weaving industry but they represented a mixture of occupations- e.g. Isaac Wadsworth was a '*wool comber*' and most of his family were, '*worsted weavers*'. By contrast James Shaw was a '*cotton manufacturer*' and his daughters were '*cotton weavers*', also Greenwood Hey was a '*cotton warp dresser*' while William Pollard was a "*Cotton Power loom Overlooker*" and his wife, Alice was a "*Cotton Power Loom Weaver*".

There is a short history of Hollings Mill in a book by Dennis Thomson [1924]. The story begins in 1793 when a local Yeoman named James Robinson bought, "*.... a dwelling house called by the name of Hollings with one new cotton mill.....*" During the years that followed Thomson believes that the mill was leased to a series of manufacturers who were either worsted spinners or cotton spinners. From time to time in the Worth valley - there were several mills - cotton manufacturing took over from worsted, particularly during the period of the Napoleonic war; the worsted trade with Europe had collapsed. Particular to our story are entries in the local Trade Directories which state that around 1861 there were three occupants at the mill. One of these was named James Shaw and the directory confirms his occupation as a, '*Cotton Manufacturer*'.

Information from the sources previously referred to tell us that William Pollard and his family were near neighbours to James Shaw and his family; they both lived in the cottages by Sladen Bridge. It is possible, but not certain, that William and Alice worked for James at Hollings Mill.

At first glance the 1861 Census appears to suggest that James Shaw and his family came from Bingley but a closer look shows that they originated from Lancashire; he was born in Trawden and his wife in Colne! They were a similar age to William and Alice - had they known each other in the past?

The 1841 Census records Alice Varley, William Pollard's wife-to-be living with her parents, John and Sarah Varley, in Colne. She has an older sister named Ann and they have a younger brother named Ormerod. When comparing the family names on the 1861 Census then Ann Shaw's oldest children are named Sarah and John while Alice Varley has a daughter named Sarah, and a son named Ormerod. This name patterning tends to support the notion that Alice Pollard and Ann Shaw may have been sisters. Records of Ann Varley's marriage might confirm or deny these possibilities but to date none have been traced.

Should this family connection be the case then it would lend some strength to our long held view that the reason why William Pollard and his family went to live and work in this isolated place did not happen by chance. When James Shaw planned to start up his cotton manufacturing business in Hollings Mill then perhaps he invited his brother in law to join him as a power loom overlooker and his sister in law to work as a weaver?

According to Dennis Thomson, James Shaw's business did not last for very long. Based on accounts of the events which followed in 1864 he believes that those previous occupiers of Hollings Mill, including James Shaw, "*.... had either moved out or had very little space at the premises for the principle occupier was William Wilkinson.*" This assumption is confirmed by a newspaper report from the 'Keighley News' of the 9th January 1864 describing a fire which destroyed the mill. In commenting on this report Thomson goes on to say, "*Here again it is stated that Mr. William Wilkinson was the occupier. None of the previous occupiers are mentioned.*" So far it has not been possible to discover what happened to James Shaw and his family around the time of these events. Later, the 1871 Census records him as a '*cotton manufacturer*' in Colne.

By contrast there is some evidence to explain the outcome for William and Alice Pollard and their family. Their youngest son, Thomas who was a one year old on the 1861 Census, died and was buried at Laneshawbridge, near Colne in May 1863. It seems therefore certain that they had all returned to Colne before the Hollings Mill fire of 1864. These events may have coincided with the closure of James Shaw's business. Later Census information and knowledge about their descendants indicate that the Pollard family continued to live in the Colne area and always worked in the cotton industry.

In the local dialect in this part of Yorkshire outsiders who moved into an established community, perhaps to find work to support a family were known as *off cumd'uns*. The challenge for such folk must have been the effort to settle in a strange, sometimes isolated place and to feel at home! This story seems to suggest that it did not always work out.

Sources used in the research for this article

KDFS Journal, August 2017 issue, meeting report by Susan Daynes

National Census records

National Births Marriages and Death records

Thomas Pollard's death certificate

'Stanbury - A Pennine Country Village', by Thomson D, 1924, Two Margaret's Publishing, Calgary, Canada [available in Keighley Public Library]. Also includes a chapter on local railways.

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