



Pendle & Burnley  
Branch

# The Gazette

Issue 75 July 2019

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## **PRACTICAL EVENINGS**

At the January Committee Meeting it was decided that we discontinue the Practical Evenings on the fifth Wednesday of the month.

Any queries that you may have can be dealt with after the normal meetings.

## **GAZETTE**

Editor – Arnold Slater

Articles for the October 2019 Gazette  
by the end of September please.

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

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## 2019 Programme

- 16 January     **Respectable Rebels**  
Harold Hoggarth
- 30 January     **Practical Session**
- 20 February    **Four Tins**  
Steve Williams
- 20 March       **AGM**  
**The Secret History of the Victorian Lodging House**  
Joseph O'Neill
- 17 April        **Who Do You Think You Are?**  
Kate Hurst
- 15 May          **Outvisit to Gawthorpe Hall**  
(details to follow)
- 19 June         **The Love Life of John of Gaunt**  
Graham Kemp
- 17 July          **Day Visit to Lytham Hall**  
(details to follow)
- 21 August       **Pride of Preston, The Dick Kerr Ladies.**  
Gail Newsham
- 18 September   **Dating Family Photographs**  
Steven Gill
- 16 October      **The Traditional Buildings of Lancashire and Yorkshire**  
Kevin Illingworth
- 20 November    **The Woollen and Textile Industry in 19<sup>th</sup> C. England**  
Edgar Holroyd-Doveton
- 4 December     **Christmas Party - Christmas Talk**  
Linda Sawley

## **Outvisit To Gawthorpe Hall** **Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

It was a lovely sunny day on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, the day of our Outvisit to Gawthorpe Hall in Padiham. A group of 19 members gathered at the Bistro on the Shuttleworth Mead Industrial estate to enjoy a fine lunch, before winding our way through Padiham to Gawthorpe Hall, a Grade1 listed building set beside the River Calder.

Turning off from the busy Burnley Road, going through the entrance gates and along the narrow drive to the car park, we had left behind the hustle and bustle of urban life for the tranquil surroundings of this Elizabethan house with its garden and woodland walks.

The Shuttleworth family had lived on the site since the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Sir Richard Shuttleworth (1542-1599), a successful lawyer, had become very wealthy and wanted to show this off. His plans for the Hall contained the most modern luxuries and tastes of the time – lots of windows with expensive glass and elaborate plaster ceilings, along with the wood panelling and a minstrels' gallery. But he died in 1599 and it was left to his brother and heir, the Rev. Lawrence Shuttleworth, to oversee the building of the Hall between 1600 and 1605. From the 1700's to early 1800's the family preferred not to live at Gawthorpe.

But in 1842, when Janet Shuttleworth married James Kay, a prominent educationalist, (and taking the surname Kay-Shuttleworth), they commissioned Sir Charles Barry, architect of the Houses of Parliament, to undertake the restoration of the Hall and grounds in the "Elizabethan" style. This was carried out in the 1850's. Furniture and wallpaper was designed for the Hall by Augustus Pugin. Charlotte Bronte, only 12miles away at Haworth, became friendly with the family and came to stay twice.

The last family resident of Gawthorpe Hall was Rachel Kay-Shuttleworth (1886- 1967). She was responsible for putting together a collection of over 30,000 crafted textile items from across the globe, from many periods of history and in a variety of techniques, such as lacework, embroidery, and quilting. As well as studying the various needlecrafts, Rachel Kay-Shuttleworth was also passionate about passing on her knowledge to others. When she

died, Gawthorpe Hall was given to the National Trust and for several years became a college for teaching textile techniques before opening as the present historic house. It is still run in partnership with Lancashire County Council.

We went round Gawthorpe Hall independently rather than as a group. The Dining Room was notable for the Minstrel Gallery and Barry's redesigned, carved stone chimneypiece with the family coats-of-arms and de Morgan tiles dating from c1880. The red flock wallpaper had been reprinted from the original blocks. In the Drawing Room our fellow Branch member Martin Holtby was on hand, on steward - duty, to show us the original inlaid wall panelling and the intricate plasterwork on the ceiling. The walls in the Long Gallery were hung with wallpaper designed by Augustus Pugin and made using the original printing blocks in a bold design of thistles and flowers in gold leaf and maroon flock. The portraits lining the Gallery walls are on loan from the National Portrait Gallery, as are those in the other rooms. The bed hangings and counterpane in the "best bedroom" had been embroidered by Rachel Kay-Shuttleworth herself, and dated 1918.

The exquisite items on display in the Textile Collection are only a small fraction of the entire collection. Most has to be carefully stored away as there is not enough room to display it all. Carrying on the legacy of Rachel Kay-Shuttleworth was a lottery-funded exhibition of colourful banners designed and made by local schoolgirls celebrating inspirational northern women such as Selina Cooper and Rachel Kay-Shuttleworth, and Burnley's textile heritage.

All too soon it was time to head home, back along the drive towards the bustling main road and the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It had been good to be reminded of the treasures we have on our own doorstep.

Sylvia Marshall