



# Chorley & Leyland News

Society Web Site [www.lfhhs.org](http://www.lfhhs.org)  
President Steve Williams  
Editor Jenny Cree [jennycree@hotmail.com](mailto:jennycree@hotmail.com)

Regd. Charity No. 513437

February 2018

## The First Branch Meeting at Cunliffe Hall

The first branch meeting of the New Year was also our first meeting to be held at our new venue, Cunliffe Hall. The Hall was judged to be accessible, very warm and comfortable, and, despite the reservations of some members, there were no problems with parking. Some chose to park in Cunliffe and Market Streets, while others found there was ample space in the George Street car park, some yards from the Hall.



Our speaker for the evening was Fiona Smithson. She brought with her a large collection of very unusual objects, mostly from Victorian times. In groups, we puzzled about these artefacts, often reaching quite bizarre decisions! The evening was a very enjoyable one, and perhaps we shall remember the uses of some of the objects – a moustache trimmer, a guard to be placed behind brass buttons when cleaning them, a mouse trap, various pieces of farming equipment, a hearing tube ..... these were a few of the items placed before us.

### Website Change

Please note that the Lancashire Local History Federation's new website is:  
[www.lancashirehistory.org](http://www.lancashirehistory.org)

## Branch "Further Steps" Course

The current 10 Friday evening "Further Steps" family history course is off to a good start. As a branch, we are very fortunate to have Ron and Pauline Chapman as course leaders, as well as a small group from the branch committee who support the sessions.



The next course, starting in September, will be a "First Steps" course. This is for family history beginners - no experience of research is necessary. Non members are welcome. If you are interested, please mention this to Ron or Pauline. Ron's contact number is 07730793990.

### New Branch Newsletter Editor

This is my last newsletter – it feels quite sad now that the time has come! However, Wendy Pratt will be taking over from the March issue. Please contact her if you have anything you would like her to include. My thanks to everybody who has helped me over the years.

### Branch Chairman:

Pauline Chapman

### Branch Secretary:

Steve Williams  
[chorleysecretary@aol.com](mailto:chorleysecretary@aol.com)

Tel: 01257 262028

### Branch Website:

[www.lfhhschorleybranch.com](http://www.lfhhschorleybranch.com)

### Webmaster:

Steve Williams

### General enquiries

[chorleyinfo@lfhhs.org.uk](mailto:chorleyinfo@lfhhs.org.uk)

**LFHHS Chorley Family History Research Centre,**  
**Astley Hall Farmhouse Centre Website**

[www.cfhrc.com](http://www.cfhrc.com)

### Appointments

If open 01257 231600

If closed 01257 262028

### Centre Manager

Sheila Gibbons

01257 262028

### Email:

[chorleyresearch@aol.co.uk](mailto:chorleyresearch@aol.co.uk)

### Email for business regarding the Centre:

[sheilaresearchcentre@aol.co.uk](mailto:sheilaresearchcentre@aol.co.uk)

### Opening Times:

Mon, Wed and Fri

10.00 a.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday

12 noon

Closed at 4.00 p.m. on

all above days.

Last appointment

3.00 p.m.

*Booking is advisable on all days.*

### LFHHS Members Only Computer Club

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 7.30 p.m.

### LFHHS Resource & Research Centre,

**2 Straits,**

**Oswaldtwistle**

**BB5 3LU**

**01254 239919**

**Open every Thurs and 1<sup>st</sup> Sat in each month,**

**1.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.**

### **Lancashire BMD Update**

Each week, on the branch's behalf, the Chorley BMD team meets at Lancashire Archives to work on collecting registration data to be added to the Lancashire BMD site. This goes on week by week, and month by month, and has continued for many years.

Graham Robinson leads the Chorley BMD team, and provides the following update:

*We have finished the birth and death records for West Lancashire, and they will be up to 1974 on Lancashire BMD soon.*

*There are some registers from most areas which, for whatever reason, have not been transcribed and put online. These are the areas which we have been asked to look at next, with a couple of projects planned when this work is completed.*

The Chorley BMD team finished the Chorley registers some years ago, and since then the members have been helping other parts of Lancashire to complete their work.

### **News Snippets**

The National Archives has announced that it is seeking a supplier to digitise the England and Wales' 1921 census records. The supplier will digitise, transcribe and publish online, records from the census that was undertaken 97 years ago. Researchers will be able to search the online 1921 census in January 2022, at the earliest. The data gathered in June 1921 was protected by a 100-year non-disclosure rule, to protect confidentiality. Digitisation is expected to begin in May this year and the chosen company will be given a 10-year contract.

The Federation of Family History Societies will be running two public conferences in 2018. "Every Ancestor Matters" is in Bristol from 13<sup>th</sup> –15<sup>th</sup> April, and "Beyond the Census III" is in London on 29<sup>th</sup> September. For more information, please email the Education Officer, Steve Manning at [education@ffhs.org.uk](mailto:education@ffhs.org.uk).

LFHHS One Day Conference and AGM, Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 9.45 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. at St. Cuthbert's Church Centre, Lytham Road, Preston PR2 AR. See February copy of "Lancashire" for programme and booking form.

Lancashire Archives has several Family History talks and surgeries during the coming months. See "Lancashire" for details, email [record.office@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:record.office@lancashire.gov.uk) or tel. 01772 533039 to book a place.

The Coal Mining exhibition in the Chorley Heritage Centre continues until Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February. Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday 12 noon – 3.30 p.m. The Chorley Pubs exhibition in the upper gallery ends on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

### **Branch Meetings**

Welcome to this evening's speaker, Ian Bagshaw of Chorley Heritage Group, who is making a return visit to the Chorley branch. The focus of Ian's talk is "Celebrations in Chorley". Ian's interest in Chorley's history is well known.

On Thursday March 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m., our speaker will be Russell Parry. He will be telling us about the Appley Bridge Meteorite, a fascinating local history event. For anyone who hasn't attended a branch meeting this year remember that we meet on a 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at Cunliffe Hall.