



Chorley News

Sept 2019

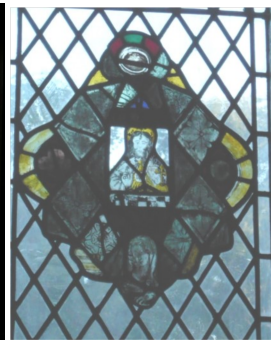
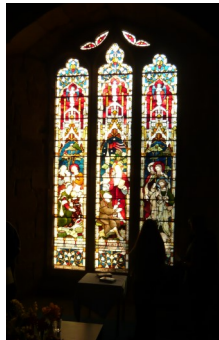
**Chorley Branch of The Lancashire Family
History and Heraldry Society**

Regd. Charity

No 513437

Society Web Site www.lfhhs.org

August Outing Leyland



St Andrew's Church Leyland :Window with Female Farringdons :Early painted Glass



Church organ no longer used : Tower built by Woodcock : Bell and clock tower



17th Century Timber 3 story house



Red Rose of Lancashire, Leyland

September Meeting

Thursday 19th September Sid Calderbank The Lancashire Cotton Famine. How we survived the American Civil War (1851-1865)

Cunliffe Hall (Chorley Masonic Hall) Cunliffe Street Chorley PR7 2BE

October Meeting

Thursday 17th October Gill Rossini Our innocence is all a sham - children's lives and the growth of child welfare in the nineteenth century, covering illegitimate ancestors and social history.

Cunliffe Hall (Chorley Masonic Hall) Cunliffe Street Chorley PR7 2BE

Prison Treatment—Chorley Guardian 26 July 1916

Local Soldier's Experience in Germany

A Remarkable story of treatment whilst in Germany has been sent by Private Richard Marsh, a Chorley man, of the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment, who is now in England. I was wounded on May 8th near Ypres. I had a bullet wound in my right leg, shrapnel wound in my right arm, and was also bruised by the debris, as our trenches were completely blown up. Very few of our men were left. I was dragged out of the trenches by the Germans, and hit at the back of the neck with the butt of a rifle and shot down at two yards range, my shoulder being completely blown away. I was then left lying for dead for thirty hours, when I was picked up by two young German soldiers and taken to a field dressing station. My clothes were cut off me in a very rough manner in order that the wounds might be dressed. I was in the most terrible condition.

Then I was forced to march about two miles to another dressing station, where I stayed for nearly six hours. Being placed in a motor ambulance I was taken to another field dressing station, where, along with a number of prisoners, I lay all night on straw. I must thank Private Richard Harrison, Lyons Lane, Chorley, of the same regiment as myself, for the great help he gave me. He was wounded in the foot. I was taken to Ghent Military Hospital where I stayed for five days. Private Harrison was conveyed to another hospital, and I have not seen him since. Following my stay in Ghent I was conveyed to Cologne where I underwent two operations. I must say that the hospital bed, clothing and medical attention were good. We used to have sneers from the guards and attendants. They used to say that England was finished, and that there was neither food nor money in England. But they had quite altered their minds when I left the hospital on October 28th.

I must say that food is very dear, and there is little of it. Butter is 3s per pound, and you cannot possibly buy a steak of meat under 2s 6d. When discharged from the hospital I was taken to a camp at Stendal, about 50 miles from Berlin, where there were about 5,000 Russians, 3,000 French and 1,000 English and Belgians, divided into eight companies. I was in no 2 Company. The beds and food were

terrible—the beds were made up of sacking, pillows filled with shavings and newspapers, and two blankets. Our food was a drink of coffee without sugar or milk, and one slice of black bread at 5am. Then we turned out for roll call for half an hour, no matter what kind of weather prevailed. From 11am to 6pm we had one bowl of soup that was not fit for pigs to eat. We called it herring soup, because it contained herrings, swedes, cabbage leaves, and a few potatoes all boiled together. After that there was another roll call. All Englishmen fit to work do so around the camp, and some are sent in parties to work on the railways. I have known men to be tied to posts for two hours each day as punishment.

On December 26th we had a very bad time in camp owing to the refusal of the Russians to dig trenches in Belgium. Three shots were fired by the artillery—the guns are ready fixed in case of disorder, and as a signal for all prisoners to get into camp. We have never been warned of this, and there was no regulation posted up informing us of the fact. When the artillery fired a number of prisoners were outside the camp. An officer came down the compound with dogs of the wolf hound breed, and calling out 'English swines!' turned the dogs on us. When I spoke to the officer he threatened me with his sword.

The Germans starved the Russians for a week as punishment and then compelled them to go to Belgium to dig trenches.

When the news came to me to pack up on January 31st to go before a special commission at Aachen on the Holland frontier, I thought I was in a dream. Others and myself left Stendal on January 31st and the train journey to Aachen lasted 26 hours. During that time we received the very best of treatment and food. Leaving Aachen on February 5th we travelled through Brussels, Antwerp and Flushing via Holland arriving 6.30pm the following night. We had a very fine reception in Holland, the people crowded in the train to give us food, chocolates and cigarettes. We could hardly realise where we were. Sleeping on the ship all night, we set sail early on Monday morning and arrived in Tilbury docks in the evening. Then we proceeded to Waterloo, where we were greeted by thousands of people. Ladies took us to the hospital in motor cars and we had a splendid time.

Whats New

New WWI prisoner records can be found at <https://grandeguerre.icrc.org/>

Ancestry

[England & Wales, Civil Divorce Records, 1858-1918](#)

Find My Past

[Lancashire Wills & Probate 1457-1858](#)

Manchester, Peterloo Witnesses and Casualties, 1819

FamilySearch

[England, Huntingdonshire Parish Registers](#)

[England, Warwickshire, Parish Registers, 1535-1963](#)

What's needed

Programme Secretary - The branch needs a new Programme secretary to develop a programme for 2020. Any skills members can offer or ideas for meetings are welcome.

Sales Person

To purchase and control the sale of the acid free materials at the Centre.

Projects - Chorley Guardian Military Project

The information includes all kinds of events, even marriages and the birth of children. These need to be indexed so they can be used more widely. You can work on batches at the centre or at home.

Anyone able to index or edit images for this project, please contact Ron Chapman

What's on **Lancashire Archives**

Monday 7th October Behind the scenes for FLA members only 2-4pm £10

Tuesday 8th October Heysham Library 2.00pm

Friday 11th October Family History Friday

Friday 11th October Taking care of the Past—packing and handling archives -Zoe Kennington 12.30-1.30pm

Saturday 12th October Beginning your family history 10am-4pm

Roots Tech London

Registration for RootsTech London Now Open. 24-26 October 2019 ExCeL Centre, London <https://www.rootstech.org/london>

Branch Chairman: Pauline Chapman

Branch Secretary & Webmaster: Steve Williams chorleysecretary@aol.com

Tel: 01257 262028 **Branch Website:** www.lfhhschorleybranch.com

General Enquiries chorleyinfo@lfhhs.org.uk

LFHHS Chorley Family History Research Centre

Website www.cfhrc.com

Appointments If open 01257 231600 **If closed** 01257 262028

Centre Manager : Sheila Gibbons : **Email:** chorleyresearch@aol.co.uk

Email for business regarding the Centre: sheilaresearchcentre@aol.co.uk

Opening Times:

Mon, Wed and Fri 10a.m– 4pm 2nd and 3rd Sat Noon-4pm

LFHHS Oswaldtwistle Resource & Research Centre

2 Straits, Oswaldtwistle BB5 3LU 01254 239919