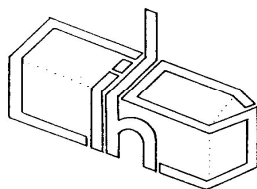


Cumbria Industrial History Society



BULLETIN

[www. Cumbria-industries.org.uk](http://www.Cumbria-industries.org.uk)

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EDITORIAL

I will start with an apology for the thinness of this Bulletin but I am afraid the material to put in it has dried up!!.. Therefore I must make an appeal for material both for forth coming Bulletins and also for the next edition of papers for which again there is very little waiting to be published.

The society is still succeeding despite the lack of material coming forward for publication and the summers programme is coming on nicely. Please note the May walk in Carlisle has been postponed and the venue for the November evening talk is to be re- arranged.

The committee still works very hard on behalf of the members and we are looking to recruit a number of new members this year to help. If you feel like volunteering and would like to know what is involved please contact a committee member or ask at the April conference all people will be gratefully welcomed.

I am sat writing this editorial on a wet, wind and very cold Friday afternoon at the end of March and hoping for a dry and warm summer to let me get out on the hills and into the dales of Cumbria to view some of the wonderful industrial archaeology which the county has. I hope you take full advantage of any fine weather to either join us on one of our trips or to explore new sites yourself. In the latter cases drop me a quick line on what you have found and Roger a few pictures. (See request for photos)

CIHS ACTIVITIES IN 2009

SPRING CONFERENCE & AGM Saturday 18th April 9.30 am

University of Cumbria, Ambleside

The Development of Waggonways and Railways in Cumbria.

There are still a number of places available for the conference and bookings will be taken on the door. It is however too late to book lunch.

FOUNDRIES OF CARLISLE. May

The May outing which was to have been led by Mike Davies-Shiel has been postponed. Mike has recently undergone heart surgery which went well, but since this he is having problems with his legs. He says "the skin has broken down and they won't stop leaking in spite of compression bandaging, consequently I'm not very good on my legs at present and I wouldn't be quick enough to cover everything."

DACRE CLOCKS Wednesday 17th June 6.30 pm.

Meet near Dacre Castle NY 465 260

This is a tour of the workshops of a clock restorer. He has worked on such clocks as the one with Big Ben. This has the rare potential for an interesting evening tour of a fascinating business.

INDUSTRIES OF SOUTH ULVERSTON Sunday, 12th July 10.30 am.

VISIT to be led by Alan Postlethwaite meet at Booths car park.

This will be a walking tour of the industries associated with South Ulverston.

GREENHURTH LEAD AND BARYTES MINES Saturday 1ST August 10.30am.

A walk led by Graham Brooks. Meet at NY 784 353 roadside parking. Packed lunch and bad weather clothing is advised very exposed area but relatively flat walking mainly on a track except when exploring the actual mines. A lot of interesting remains at this site.

OCTOBER WEEKEND FIELD TRIP

This year's field trip is to Surrey, 2nd, 3rd and 4th October 2009.

The weekend field trip next year will look at some aspects of the Industrial History of Surrey. Full details and booking forms will be enclosed in the next Bulletin. Briefly, Friday afternoon will look at Guildford, Saturday at the Farnham area and Sunday at

Reigate and Dorking. It is being arranged by Alan and Glenys Crocker and will be guided throughout and there will be evening talks. It promises to be a fascinating weekend so put it in your diaries now!

See enclosed flyer for more details.

OCTOBER CONFERENCE THE INDUSTRIES OF BARROW

SPEAKERS INCLUDE

CAPT. JOHN GREEN FORMER PORT MANAGER
BRY TRESCATHERIC ON EARLY ENTREPRENEURS
BILL MYERS ON THE STEEL WORKS
BERNARD MAGUIRE EX HIGHWAYS DEPT.

NOVEMBER EVENING TALK Wednesday 1st November 7.30 pm.

Whitehaven and the whaling industry a talk by Rob David.

Due to the cock and Dolphin closing again a new venue is to be arranged. This will be notified in the Autumn bulletin.

NON SOCIETY EVENTS

CUMBRIAN IDENTITIES

UNIVERSITY OF CUMBRIA, AMBLESIDE CAMPUS SATURDAY 25TH APRIL
2009

A conference to commemorate the life and work of Dr John D. Marshall.

Details from Centre for North-West Regional Studies, Lancaster University.

FIELD TRIP TO THE FORMER INDUSTRIAL SITES AND RAILWAYS AT
HARRINGTON TUESDAY 19TH MAY 6.30 PM. Leader Philip Ashforth.

Meet South Side of Harrington Harbour at Town End of Quay.
Part of Cumbria County Council Libraries History Month.

BOOK REVIEWS

**THE MINES OF ALSTON MOOR, 2nd edition. BY RAYMOND FAIRBURN
PP.278 Price £19.99**

This book was first published 15 years ago as the Northern Mines Research Societies, British mining No. 47. It has now been updated with recent research and an update of the text and covers the mines and smelt mills of the Alston Moor area.

An increase in print size and also page size to 22 x 18 cm makes this book easier to read than the normal British Mining books but it certainly no longer makes it a pocket book.

**THE ULVERSTON AND LANCASTER RAILWAY: THE CHALLENGE OF
MORECOMBE BAY. By LESLIE R. GILPIN. Published by Cumbrian Railway
association. ISBN 978-0-9540232-7-0 96 pages price £13.50.**

This book follows the usual format for the Cumbrian Railway Association publications and is of their usual high standard.

The book starts by looking at the various pre-railway transport methods for getting across and around the bay. He then deals in the usual high detail with the various schemes that were put forward over time to get a railway across the bay. Chapter three looks at the actual building of the Lancaster to Ulverston Railway and the problems encountered. These included the sinking of the cast iron supports into the treacherous tidal channels of both the Kent and Leven estuaries. There also had to be provision provided for ships to continue to access these rivers. On dry land there was also the problem of the exposed coastal route and crossing unstable peat.

He then goes on to look at the effect the opening of the railway had on the area with chapters on People and places and the industrial development near the railway.

The final chapters cover the structures on the line in great detail with diagrams of the various station buildings and a whole chapter on the viaducts, which are a feature of the line. This section is very well illustrated with both new and old photographs and numerous very detailed diagrams and maps. The final chapter looks at the different train services that have been run over the line during its long life.

With over 70 photos (9 colour) and 21 maps and plans this book is well illustrated but is by no means one of the many railway photo books that are out there. It is a must for your book shelf if you have an interest in the industries, transport and personalities of south Cumbria.

ROUGHTON GILL AND THE MINES OF THE CALDBECK FELS. BY IAN AND JEAN TYLER.

Hardback 320 pages with 160 photographs and plans. Price approx £20.00

This is said to be Ian's last mining book. Hopefully it will be in print by the time this Bulletin is distributed.

The text will tell the fascinating story of all the mines on the Caldbeck Fells from the 16th Century German miners through to the barites mining of the 1960's. It also attempts to embrace some of the social history related to the mines in Caldbeck and Hesket Newmarket.

Knowing how long it takes to get a book through to publication there is already the possibility that the beginning of this book will be out of date with the recent discoveries by Warren Allison and others in Silvergill. (To find out the details of these discoveries you need to attend the Spring conference.) But no doubt this book will be in Ian's usual style and will interesting snippets of information to the public domain to help others with their research.

USEFUL WEB SITES

For those of us who are interested in sites before 1860 and the publication of the first edition Ordnance survey maps, then there can be great difficulty in tracking down copies of all the private maps published before then. The majority of these maps were based on either Cumberland or Westmorland counties and do number a great number and date back to the early 17th century.

Two web sites now allow high quality images of the majority of these maps to be downloaded for free. The quality of the scans of these maps on both sites are very good, much better than the commonly available scans of Ordnance Survey maps.

The first in Lancaster University library web site www.libweb.lancs.ac.uk/lakedistrictmaps . These have about 13 maps on the site which can be downloaded as pdf files. The site also contains similar maps for Lancashire.

The other site at Portsmouth university www.geog.port.ac/webmap/thelakes is a much larger site with not only downloadable files for each map but the maps can be searched. For example if lead mine is entered into the search box it will list all the maps with lead mines marked on them. The index of what can be searched for is very extensive.

This site also contains a number of transcriptions of early tourist guides to the Lake District which again are searchable.

GOOGLE BOOK

For those who require copies of books the use of google book can be quite revealing a large number of both modern and old books are now available either in full text or samples for free use and again these are fully searchable. These are by far one of the easiest ways in which rare books can be obtained in the county.

THE CIHS LIBRARY

Over the years the society has required a number of publications and continues to do so. Due to the lack of space in committee members property a decision was taken a number of years ago to deposit our publications with the C&W library which at present is housed in Cumbria University Brampton Rd facility.

The library is available for all members to use on application to the librarian. Opening times for the library are available on the university website.

The library consists of a number of publications but the main runs are

AIA Bulletin Vol. 5 – Vol. 17.

AI News Vol 90 – 142

IA Review Vol 20 – 29 with a few odd earlier volumes

English Heritage Monuments Protection Programme Step one reports. A full set of step one reports are available covering the majority of industries. Some step 2 and 3 reports are also available.

There are also a number of books on a wide range of subjects which are on the general shelves of the library.

At present due to the changes at the university and the possibility of the C&W removing its library to another site no further deposits are being undertaken at present.

Anyone wishing to see a full list of the societies deposit can contact the editor.

PHOTOS ANYONE?

Do any of you have photos that you've taken of industrial sites and activities in Cumbria? Could I borrow them to copy and put onto our website? Please let me know if you can help.

Roger Baker, CIHS Committee,
4 Barnes Cottages, Back Lane, Preesall, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire, FY6 0HT.
01253 811324 or mbarb@freenetname.co.uk

C&WAAS DATED BUILDING SURVEY

The C&W last year decided there was a need to record all the dated buildings in the county and so initiated a survey to record all date stones on buildings and also a photographic record of the outside of the building.

I have recorded a number of buildings over the year for them and are astonished at the variety of buildings that do have date stones on them. Most people are aware of houses with date stones usually above the front door and some of these can be very elaborate like those on the houses at Eamont Bridge which no doubt most people will have noticed whilst waiting for the traffic lights to change in both directions of travel.

Most non conformist chapels also tend to have a stone set into the wall somewhere stating the type of chapel, Wesleyan, Methodist or one of the rare sects and the date at which it was opened.

However it is the range of industrial related buildings with date stones which has interested me.

If we start with road transport there are quite a number of road bridges which have date stones set into them either to commemorate their building, re-building or alteration.



Some are simply such as this at Gill foot near Hesketh New Market. Showing the date of rebuilding in 1907. Some are more informative such as on Warwick Bridge over the Eden on the A 69. This gives both the architect and the builder, one side of the road is in English the opposite is in Latin.

Railway viaducts and bridges also have similar stones set into them. Wetheral viaduct has one in the parapet opposite the foot bridge which is attached to the side of the viaduct so that it can be read by those Crossing the bridge. The Gelt viaduct again has stones but in this case are set into the walls of the arches which support the viaduct over the two roads that pass underneath and are so readable by those people passing along the road.





Moving to slightly more industrial structures a lot of textile mills also have date stones of when they were built or altered. The large cotton mill at Warwick Bridge has a slightly unusual stone presumably put in after the last alteration in that it lists all the previous owners of the mill.

Most people do not associate mines with date stones but it was apparently quite a common occurrence to put a stone above an adit entrance with the date when driving was started in it. These are now quite rare but I have found one example .

If you are interested in this project please contact the Editor and we may be able to set up a group to help the C&W.



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