

THE MOURHOLME MAGAZINE OF LOCAL HISTORY

AUTUMN 2016

2016 No.2, issue 70	Price £1.00
---------------------	-------------

Contents	Page
THE MOURHOLME RING, FORTY YEARS LATER: Simon Williams	1
KNOW YOUR LOCAL POST BOX: Clive Holden	5
HARTLEY'S QUARRY OUTINGS: Sheila Jones	13
A SILVERDALE CONNECTION: Valerie Martin	17
A VISIT TO THE EDGE OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE: Simon Williams and Pam Davies	21
REPORTS OF EVENING MEETINGS: Clive Holden	24
NOTES AND QUERIES: Andrew and Pam Davies, and Clive Holden	28
MOURHOLME LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY'S PROGRAMME, November 2016 - April 2017	34

THE MOURHOLME RING, FORTY YEARS LATER

Simon Williams

Recently I met Margaret Clarke, who was the Mourholme Society's inaugural Chair. It was fascinating to hear from her about the early days of the society as it developed out of the Warton History Group under the guidance of Paul Booth from Liverpool University. Our conversation turned to the subject of the Mourholme castle/ manor house, and Margaret recalled the archaeology that took place in the 1970s, and the sherds of pottery found there. And then she added, "And the ring". I was sure I had not read of the discovery of a ring in any Mourholme publications (including this magazine's back issues), and Margaret assured me that the ring was in Lancaster Museum.

I mentioned the ring to our last Chair, Jenny Ager, who had some memory of it. Jenny's research skills soon unearthed a number of archaeological papers¹, together with a Lancaster Guardian front page article from 1976. Interestingly, the published archaeological reports describe and illustrate the pottery sherds in some detail, but it seems that a full report on the ring was never published. I contacted Lancaster Museum, and they kindly took new photographs of the ring, and brought me their file of notes on the object – a file containing letters between historians, geologists, and the finder of the ring itself. The file also contains a draft of a short paper on the ring which seems not to have been published.²

¹ Contrebis Bulletin 3, no. 1 (1975); Lancashire Archaeological Bulletin 1, no. 2 (1975); Contrebis Bulletin 4 (1976); Lancashire Archaeological Bulletin 2, no.2 (1976); Lancaster Guardian 22 October 1976; Lancashire Archaeological Bulletin 2, no.6 (1977)

² Draft of a paper contained in the Lancaster Museum's file: "Gold Ring with Uncut Diamond from the Mediaeval Manor of Mourholme, Lancashire" by A.F. Seager, Birkbeck College, London and S.H. Penney, Lancaster Museum.

The site of Mourholme manor at Dock Acres (now under Pine Lake) was identified and then mostly destroyed by gravel quarrying that took place in 1975. In 1976 an archaeological excavation³ took place at what was left of the mound where the castle was thought to have stood. A large quantity of mediaeval pottery was recovered from stratified deposits at the edge of the mound, and in February that year a gold ring, mounted with an uncut diamond, was found. The pottery was dated to the 13th and 14th centuries – a period of time when documentary evidence proves the occupation of the manor. The date of the pottery, together with expert analysis by the British Museum, dates the ring, similarly, to the 13th to 14th centuries.



The Mourholme Ring
Photograph provided by Lancaster Museum

The finder, who proclaimed herself “a very amateur member of the Lancaster Archaeological Society”, was Mrs Nester Parkin of Heysham. Her letter to the Keeper of Archaeology at Lancaster

³ Excavations were undertaken by the Kendal branch of the Cumberland & Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, and the Lancaster Archaeological Society.

Museum, Stephen Penney, says she was “thrilled to realise [she] was the first person to handle the ring for possibly 600 years”.

Diamond rings from this period were quite uncommon – sapphires and rubies were more often used, and India was the only source of diamonds. The rarity of diamonds was such that even the word was unfamiliar – in 1373 evidence given in court⁴ mentions ‘a gold ring having in it a stone called ‘dyamand’.’ This does at least show the stone to have been strange enough to require explanation. The Mourholme ring’s diamond is uncut, broadly an octahedron in shape, and held within a gold clasp on the gold hoop of the ring which is about 18mm in diameter.

The Lancaster Guardian article of October 22nd 1976 reported that a jury had found that the ring did not fulfil the conditions for treasure trove⁵, and so could be given back for display at Lancaster Museum. Within a display cabinet entitled ‘Lancaster Becomes a Borough’⁶, the ring is mounted on a small plinth and labelled:

Gold and diamond ring, made in the 13th century, found during excavation of the mediaeval manor of Mourholme at Dock Acres near Warton. The diamond probably came from India and is one of the earliest diamonds in this country.

Given by Lancaster Archaeological Society LM 76.65

It would be hard to guess the ring’s original owner, or the circumstances of its loss. But today, as we have long lost every

⁴ Evidence given at Hereford in 1373 at an enquiry establishing proof of age of Edmund de Mortuo, Earl of March, refers to the gift of a diamond ring by Baldwin de Brugge to Lady Philippa, the earl’s mother.

⁵ The ring could not be deemed to be treasure trove as there was no evidence that it had been deliberately hidden for future retrieval. The law changed in 1996 so that treasure belongs to the Crown even if had been lost, or where there was no intention of recovery.

⁶ Even though the Mourholme site never formed part of the Borough of Lancaster!

trace of Mourholme castle, it's wonderful to know that Mourholme's diamond ring is still sparkling.

My thanks go to Margaret Clarke who set me off on this little voyage, to Jenny Ager for her research into published sources, and to Heather Dowler at Lancaster Museum for her photograph of the ring and for providing me with access to the museum's files.

KNOW YOUR LOCAL POST BOX

Clive Holden

A recent news item indicated that the number of post boxes may be reduced because most people now communicate by email etc. rather than by post. Before my local post box is removed and I am forced to resort to pigeon post, I thought it might be a good idea to write a little about the post boxes that we have in the old Warton parish, while we still have them.

Although postage stamps (the penny black and the twopenny blue) were introduced in 1840, more than ten years elapsed before Anthony Trollope, now better known as a novelist, persuaded the Post Office to erect some letter boxes (i.e. pillar boxes) in the Channel Islands. The innovation was so successful that in 1853, the year before Trollope became Post Office Surveyor, the first mainland pillar box was erected in Carlisle. In response to the public's demand for more postal facilities, especially for rural areas, it was decided to provide some less expensive receptacles, and in 1857 the first wall boxes appeared in the Plymouth district, achieving immediate popularity. Forty years later, in 1897, smaller 'lamp boxes' were introduced for locations where it was inconvenient to install wall boxes, and these were originally fitted to street lamps. Many of our modern post boxes fall into this category, though they usually rest on top of pedestals and occasionally are cemented into walls to become wall boxes. So much for the origins of pillar boxes, wall boxes and lamp boxes.

Pillar Boxes

Let us look first at pillar boxes, of which there are only four in the old Warton parish. The oldest of these is in Carnforth at the side of Crag Bank Road near to the railway bridge (*fig. 1*); it has the cipher 'GR' (George the Fifth), and is a product of the Carron

Company of Carron in Stirlingshire, which held the contract from 1922 until 1982, when it went into receivership.



figure 1



figure 2



figure 3



figure 4

Next in seniority is one at the entrance to Well Lane, off Borwick Lane, in Warton (*fig. 2*), bearing the cipher GviR of George the Sixth. It was made by The Lion Foundry Co. Ltd. of Kirkintilloch, Glasgow, which shared the contract with the Carron company from 1936 until 1947. It seems strange to find a pillar box of George VI's reign at that particular location, as the nearby estate was built much later, and I am told that in spite of its GviR cipher it was placed there as late as the 1990s, to replace a wall box?/lamp box? Perhaps Warton residents will provide further information.

Outside the former Sub-post Office (now 'Mighty Bites') on Kellet Road in Carnforth is a pillar box of the reign of Elizabeth II (*fig. 3*), manufactured by the Carron Company. If memory is correct, in the 1940s and 1950s when first Mr and Mrs Rees, and later Mr and Mrs Alan Burrows, were in charge of the then Sub-post Office, a wallbox (probably GviR size B) sufficed, to be replaced eventually (but exactly when ?) by the pillar box to cater

for the growth of the post-war council estate. Once again more accurate information would be welcome.

The most recent pillar box is that outside the Post Office in Market Street, Carnforth (*fig. 4*). It carries the cipher EiiR, and is of type 'K', designed by Tony Gibbs, introduced in 1980 and manufactured by Abbot Engineering of Paisley. It presumably dates from 1992, when the old Station Buildings post office was closed. There was no pillar box outside the old post office; it simply had an aperture in the wall.

Wall Boxes

Having dealt with pillar boxes, we can now go on to the more numerous wall and lamp boxes. Only three Victorian wall boxes have survived into the twenty first century, two in Borwick and one in Silverdale. Wall boxes were provided in three types or sizes, A, B and C, with A being the largest (there are none of those in our parish, but at least a couple of examples in Lancaster).

Our oldest wall box (size C) is to be found opposite the Green in Borwick, at the side of the road leading to Capernwray (*fig. 5*). It was manufactured by Smith and Hawkes of Birmingham, and was cast in the period 1861 – 1871. The box nearer to the old railway station is by W.T. Allen & Co. of London, (though actually cast at James Maude's Sherwood Foundry at Mansfield), and dates from the period 1881 – 1901. A similar box is on the wall next to the church in Emesgate Lane, Silverdale (*fig. 6*). One other Victorian box within living memory was at the junction of Upper Market Street and North Road in Carnforth. Many times have football coupons been posted there on Friday evenings, hoping for that elusive



figure 5



figure 6



figure 7

fortune from Messrs. Littlewoods (or was it Vernons ?) though 'twas ever in vain. I am fairly sure that it was a late Victorian type 'C', manufactured by W.T. Allen. It was removed for some unknown reason, probably in the late 1950s or early 1960s, and its former position is easily discerned by the somewhat crude cement filling which disfigures the wall.

Priest Hutton's solitary example is a type B (medium) wall box bearing the cipher of Edward VII, which belongs to the period 1901 – 1910 (*fig. 7*). It too is a W.T. Allen & Co. box, and is the only Edward VII post box in the parish.

Wall boxes from the reign of George V can be seen near Silverdale, and in Warton and Yealand Redmayne. An interesting example is to be found, over the border from Silverdale, in Far Arnside, opposite the entrance to Holgate's Caravan Park and Hollins Farm. It is a 'lamp box' which is neither attached to a lamp nor standing on a pedestal, but is cemented into a wall, thus converting it into a wall box. It is an early GR (George V) box, and though it bears no visible maker's name it is known to have

been manufactured by Andrew Handyside and Co. of Derby (*figure 8*). Apparently such lamp boxes were known (unofficially) as Hovis top boxes, presumably because they were thought to resemble the famous loaves of bread.



figure 8



figure 9



figure 10



figure 11

A George V size B wall box by W.T. Allen is at Silverdale railway station (*fig. 9*), and yet another is at the side of Stankelt Road, opposite The Green (*fig. 10*). This is of more than ordinary interest as in 1930 W.T. Allen lost the contract for size B wall boxes to Andrew Handyside and Co. Ltd., and in the following year Handyside's business and foundry was acquired by Derby Castings Ltd; and it is one of their boxes at Stankelt Road. In 1933 W.T. Allen regained the contract, so is the Derby Castings wall box a rarity? Maybe so, but then maybe not as there is another not too far away in Bolton-le-Sands. A noticeable difference is the larger size GR cipher on the Derby Castings box. At Warton town End is a size C George V wall box, which has the royal cipher at either side of the crown, rather than on the lower part of the door (*fig. 11*). One other George V wall box deserving of mention was at the junction of Lancaster Road and North Road in Carnforth. It was removed when the former Wesleyan chapel was demolished in 2001. Its replacement (to be mentioned later) is at the top of New Street.

W.T.Allen size B wall boxes continued to be made, in the reign of King George VI, one of these was placed in Cove Road, beyond Wallings Lane in Silverdale (*fig.12*). Similar size B boxes in Silverdale, but with the EiiR cipher, are at Lindeth Road (*fig.13*), the junction of Park Road and Red Bridge Road, and at the former post office on Emesgate Lane (not to be confused with ‘The Old Post Office’ on Stankelt Road). All of these were made between 1953 and 1965, at which time the contract was lost to the Carron Company. Yet another is at the junction of Coniston Road and Ingleborough View in Carnforth.



figure 12

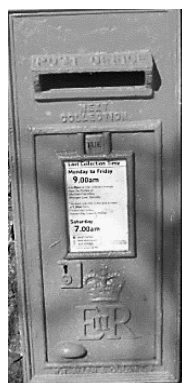


figure 13

Lamp and Pedestal Boxes

Since 1965 most of the letter boxes have been of the smaller lamp box type, occasionally fastened to the stump of a telegraph pole, but usually supported on a pedestal. Telegraph pole -supported boxes are at The Drive in Crag Bank (*fig. 14*), and close to ‘The Nib’ in Millhead. Near the top of Hewthwaite Terrace in Carnforth is a Carron Company box on a pedestal. Similar boxes of this very common type are outside Warton post office, near to the Malt Shovel Inn, and yet another is next to Crag Bank

Crescent in Carnforth, this time manufactured by the Machan Company of Denny, in Stirlingshire. Machan Engineering was founded in 1983 by Bill McLennan, a former employee of the Carron Company, only a year after the latter company went into receivership. It is perhaps unusual to find lamp boxes converted into wall boxes, but such a one is opposite Greenlands Farm at Tewitfield.



figure 14



figure 15



figure 16

At the entrance to Croftlands, in Warton, we have a variation on the theme in the shape of a pedestal-supported box with a crown next to the cipher EiiR on a white background, and a plate with the name Royal Mail, but no manufacturer's name (*fig 15*). As The Post Office became Royal Mail in 2002 may we assume that any boxes bearing the legend 'Royal Mail' rather than 'Post Office' must be of the 21st century? Another of this type is at Yealand Conyers in Dykes Lane.

A more modern 'Bantam' box of sturdier appearance than the earlier Elizabethan 'lamp boxes' is to be found in North Road, Carnforth, beyond the old vicarage. It stands on a metal pedestal,

and has no manufacturer's name, simply the royal cipher and the words 'Royal Mail' (*fig.16*). A similar box is at the top of New Street; it replaced a W.T. Allen size B, or size C wall box bearing the GR monogram of King George V, which was on the other side of the A6 at the junction with North Road. It disappeared, as has been mentioned, when the former Wesleyan Chapel was demolished in 2001.

Obviously many post boxes must have been replaced in the past. Is there any photographic or other evidence of them ? The views of readers who have further information or who detect errors or omissions in the present account will be welcomed.

Reference: 'The Letter Box' by Jean Y. Farrugia, Centaur Press, 1969.

HARTLEY'S QUARRY OUTINGS

Sheila Jones

When I wrote about Hartley's Quarries in Carnforth a year or so ago, Cliff Moss, a dragline driver, had been a great and entertaining source. Recently, I sent him a copy of the article and he telephoned with new recollections; this time of quarry outings. I don't know if works outings still take place: but what a good idea they are for raising spirits and for bonding the workforce.

Cliff had begun in the quarry at age 14 and can remember an outing that old Mr Baker, the original owner, had put on. This was a modest tour of the lakes, but grand in the life of a young lad at that time. Cliff was not sure if it was during this tour, shortly after the war ended, or on a special trip, that they were taken to the works at Barrow, which was one of perhaps several around the country to make Mulberry Harbours for the D-Day landings. Hartley's sand and gravel had been used in the manufacture. The workforce was very small then, not many over a dozen, and easy to accommodate for a day trip. However, once the workforce had greatly expanded, the next generation of owners failed to keep up the tradition. There was some grumbling so Douglas Baker, one of old Mr Baker's sons, suggested that the workers themselves set up a committee and, for those wishing to participate (and all did), a few pence would be deducted from their pay packet. And so "The Social and Welfare Club" was born.

The club had not been going too long however, before it changed its name. There had been an accident in the quarry and a popular young boy killed. The Quarry Inspector had come and observed that The Social and Welfare Club should have been helping the family from the beginning. They had not felt this to be part of their remit, particularly in this case when there was no question of financial assistance being required, and so it became "The

Social Club". As well as quarry workers, transport drivers who carried the sand and gravel were invited to join, and some of the haulage company owners, such as Malcolm Woodhouse, contributed, as did the quarry management.

Cliff judged the committee to be superb organisers. The trips were originally for the men but, as money accumulated, different trips were planned that included wives, and friends (who had to be paid for separately), or trips that also included children. The management tended not to go on them, but, in the early 1950's, Douglas Baker, an Air Force man, took part in a flight to the Isle of Man, which was arranged because so many had never yet flown. Cliff described it as though it were yesterday. It was on a converted Dakota fitted out with park benches, no safety belts or other hindrances, and operated by Silver City Airways out of Blackpool. Passengers were given little plastic sachets of cotton wool to use as ear-plugs and this was quickly found to be necessary as they took off, especially during the switchover from Fordson Tractor petrol to paraffin, when the noise was tremendous. Cliff and his mate looked outside at the billowing smoke rings and the rivets dancing on the wings, and held on tight. That wasn't the only trip 'overseas' because they also took a day ferry trip to Belfast. It was at the start of the 'troubles' and Cliff remembers the terrible crossing each way (so bad that one fellow absconded and paid for a flight home!), and the tension in areas of the city. The police were obvious, and huge with big guns.

There was a trip to the motor show at Earl's Court, and the two Lupton brothers, Mick Grayson, and Cliff wanted to get themselves into Central London. But how to do it? They knew the underground was the answer, but how would they find it? They asked a policeman, feeling like hicks and conscious of their accents. He sarcastically pointed out the underground entrance

right on the other side of the road, but there were lanes of high speed traffic, and they trembled. The policeman stepped right into the jaws, and stopping all vehicles, beckoned them across.

Another outing was to Nottingham Goose Fair, where they were intrigued by all the barrows along the side of the road selling sticks of celery! A lot went to race meetings, but Cliff opted out, not being a betting man. On a family trip to Chester Zoo, there had been drawbacks, particularly a lack of lunch facilities. So on the next trip there, one of the committee handed each member a brown bag with a packed lunch as they got off the bus. Cliff was impressed with the planning, as also with that for the children's Christmas parties held in the Catholic Church Hall in Carnforth. These were held when there was money left over, and each child would be given a gift with their name on, appropriate to gender and age.

The photograph (page 16) he lent me is of a trip to Trentham Gardens taken in the early '60s. As we looked at the picture and he named one after another of the chaps on it, he would often add "He's dead now". Are these great trips with four or five coaches of people united by neighbourhood and work dead too? Cliff's recollections were so lively that they evidently contributed much to his enjoyment of life.



The Hartley's Quarry Outing to Trentham Gardens in the early 1960's

A SILVERDALE CONNECTION

Valerie Martin

On our recent visit to England my husband and I were delighted to be able to follow up a remarkable double connection with Silverdale in Lancashire. The first connection is with family and the second connection is with the place.

The Family

I am an amateur genealogist and have extensive roots throughout Lancashire & Yorkshire through my mother's Lambert family. The reason we visited Silverdale is that I had made contact with local Lambert family members living in Silverdale. We share a common ancestor and spent several hours chatting and comparing notes. I shall always remember visiting the Lambert family at Bottoms Farm.

The Place

Would you like to know about the two Silverdales? Both are coastal villages with similar small populations. Both have a pub, a school and a church, a post office and of course a Historical Society. The similarity ends there but maybe not the connection. Silverdale in Lancashire lies on Morecambe Bay. It has a pleasant beach and a tide that goes out for miles. It has ancient origins with old buildings and a fascinating history to match.

Silverdale in New Zealand where I live lies close to the Hauraki Gulf 30 kms. North Of Auckland. It is relatively new having been named around 1910. The story about the naming of our Silverdale is slightly sketchy but Silverdale is not an original name. Like many other places in New Zealand the area was named by the Maoris who lived there. It was known as Te Weiti, or Wade as it became known for ease of pronunciation.

Early History

The township of Wade developed at the furthest navigable part of the Te Weiti River. Timber had been felled on the river since early 1840's. It is probable that timber was rafted and floated down the river in these early days. The first jetty was built in the 1860's. Wade grew into one of the region's busiest timber milling centres and coastal ports. By 1853 it is estimated that there were probably close to three hundred people living in the area around Wade. Many early Auckland settlers spent time at Wade, where Maurice Kelly opened a licensed public house and in 1870 had established the Wade Hotel, which unfortunately was destroyed by fire shortly after it's building, but was quickly rebuilt. By 1869 Wade had its first post office and school. An agricultural hall had been built but in 1896; it was burnt down, rebuilt and nearly destroyed again in 1899. Early buildings were built of wood which was plentiful but prone to fires.

Roads were slow to be developed, beaches and later jetties and landings continued to be the primary means of communication from Auckland up and down the coast. In these early days of settlement the area was populated mainly by sawyers and gum diggers. The Wade around this time appears to have been a 'wild and rough place', regarded by many as a 'den of thieves'. This was slowly to change. The arrival of the churches had the sobering effect hoped for. The Methodists opened the first church in 1860 followed by other denominations. By 1911 Wade had become a respectable little town with shops and the original hotels – as well as its churches.

At this point the locals decided that the time was right to change the name. The name 'Silverdale' was suggested by local resident, William Frith, an English settler who had been a commercial traveller in the North of England. It was approved by the council in September 1910

We are aware there is more than one Silverdale in England but as I strolled along the beach at Silverdale in Lancashire and gazed out to Morecambe Bay it felt so like strolling along the Southern end of Orewa Beach (very near to my Silverdale) and gazing out to the Hauraki Gulf. Whether William Frith had the same thoughts will forever remain uncertain.



William Frith

Silverdale New Zealand today

Silverdale remains a small residential settlement but has evolved into a service area for the local growing residential areas of Orewa and Red Beach. There is a pleasant shopping street which is

known as old Silverdale, and retains some of the old buildings, plus an area set aside for the Pioneer Village, which is popular with visitors, and an evolving larger modern shopping centre. Henry Frith's cottage, typical of late Victorian cottages in the area, is in Silverdale Pioneer village.



William Frith's Cottage

A VISIT TO THE EDGE OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE

Simon Williams and Pam Davies

On a warm and sunny day at the beginning of June, 24 of us set off on our coach to travel nearly 2000 years back in time, and to the very edge of the Roman empire. As soon as we got off our coach at the Roman Army Museum close to one of the highest sections of Hadrian's Wall we received our first taste of the life of the Romans – we started donning more layers of clothing and hats!

The Roman Army Museum is a well-designed modern collection, which took us through the story of the Roman occupation of the area, the structures of the Roman army, and the highly diverse nationalities of the men that built the structures and lived there. It holds a very impressive collections of finds – such as the black crest of a roman helmet, the only one to have been discovered anywhere. Two members of the party wanted a closer experience of Hadrian's Wall and scrambled up to a particularly impressive section nearby.



The intrepid Simon Williams and Jim Ferguson at Hadrian's Wall

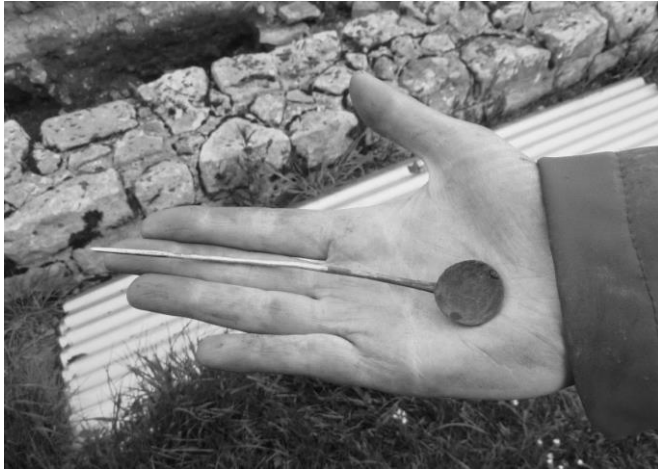
Our next stop was at Vindolanda itself. One of the three full-time archaeologists, Lauren, introduced us to the site, and told us we

had arrived at a time when new finds were being made daily. We learned that the earliest phase of Vindolanda predates Hadrian's Wall, and that the fortress, and associated town, at the site had been rebuilt eight times, with each phase standing on top of earlier phases. Sometimes the fort was built at the site of the previous town, and the town on the site of the fort - all making for a particularly complex task to unravel the story of Vindolanda. Most of the visible remains date from the third and fourth centuries. The first digs there in modern times took place in the 1830s, and the site has been owned by the Vindolanda Trust since the 1970s, with archaeology taking place almost continually since then.



Some rather cold visitors to Vindolanda

Most of the digging is undertaken by a small army of volunteers, under the supervision of the archaeology staff. Some of our contingent were lucky enough to be watching one section of a dig at the moment a lovely Roman spoon was lifted from the mud many centuries after having been lost.



The Roman spoon after a quick muddy wash

The Vindolanda museum had some wonderful items on display, and we all had our favourites – from the display of dozens of near perfect shoes and sandals which constitute the largest collection of leatherwork found anywhere in the empire, to the fragment of painted glass bowl depicting gladiators, and of course the famous wafer thin wooden writing tablets, which were recently voted as “Britain’s Top Treasure”.

We were grateful to Awena Carter for planning and organising our day, although her recent knee operation prevented her joining the trip and receiving our thanks in person.

REPORTS OF EVENING MEETINGS

Clive Holden

23rd March 2016: Walduck's wall

Do you remember the old Western films when the U.S. 7th Cavalry (why was it always the 7th?) would gallop in to retrieve a desperate situation when all seemed lost ? The same sort of thing happened when, with the unexpected non-arrival of the speaker, **Simon Williams**, minus horse and fluttering pennant, conjured up a replacement programme for the enjoyment of a sizeable audience.

Herbert John Walduck, perhaps better known for his leading rôle in the foundation of Carnforth Iron Works, had several strings to his bow, one of which was a grandiose scheme for reclamation of a large part of Morecambe Bay, from Arnside Park Point to Hest Bank, for use as agricultural land. He had support from such as Edward B. Dawson, but many of the local landed gentry objected to the scheme, as did the Furness Railway. In spite of the objectors, Walduck's bill passed through the Commons, but was rejected by the Lords as it would interfere with common grazing rights etc.. Undaunted, Walduck revised his aspirations by limiting the reclamation to an area out from Jenny Brown's Point to Hest Bank, and a lengthy wall or embankment of stones was constructed into the bay from Jenny Brown's Point with the help (eventually) of a locomotive appropriately named 'Jenny Brown'.

Despite Walduck's indefatigable optimism and perseverance the project was not helped by a fatal accident to his works manager Captain Mutter, and it eventually failed through lack of finances, only £75,000 of the required £150,000 having been raised. Walduck seems never to have lost faith, but the assets were sold in 1883 (appropriately to Edward B. Dawson), and after suffering a stroke in 1891 Walduck himself died in 1892.

For many years the wall lay out of sight under the water of Morecambe Bay, but it reappeared in 1975, and can still be seen at low tide though it is slowly but surely being worn away.

For a fuller account, read Simon's articles in the Mourholme Magazine issues 66 and 67

27th April 2016: AGM and Report on the Morecambe Bay Project:

Louise Martin began by telling us of the aims of the Morecambe Bay Partnership in conserving, restoring, improving and increasing our knowledge of various sites in the Morecambe Bay area. We were then shown how the use of drones has revolutionised the way we can look at places such as the Cockerham observation tower, Hampsfell hospice, Gleaston Castle near Ulverston and the Birkrigg stone circle. These places can now be photographed from all angles, 'shading' can reveal hitherto unseen details, and 3D models can be produced

The remainder of the talk concentrated on two places nearer to us: Jenny Brown's Point and Warton Crag. There was much discussion about both of these places, with members of the audience offering their views which occasionally differed from those of Louise. We were shown views of Jenny Brown's Point which showed that progress there needs to be done urgently before the encroachment of the sea becomes too serious. As for Warton Crag there was much discussion about the supposed hill fort (evidence of an earlier settlement ?), with the significance of details revealed by LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) again under scrutiny. One thing that became clear was that more investigation needs to be done.

Louise told us of various forthcoming outdoor events, such as a visit to Grange Lido and a walk to Piel Island, and paid tribute to the many volunteers who give up their time to help. For many of us the huge advances made by the use of drones and LiDAR must have come as a revelation, and it is good to know that, despite the bad publicity given to drones, when they are used responsibly they serve an extremely useful purpose.

27th September 2016: Recent archaeological discoveries on the M6 link road.

Starting at its divergence from the M6, **Jeremy Bradley** told us that there were seven different locations at which excavations had been made, with Torrisholme the most westerly point. Thanks to modern technology it was possible to date items of interest, some belonging to the Stone Age (late Mesolithic and Neolithic periods), some even older, others from the middle Iron Age, until finally we reached products of the late mediaeval period.

Anybody in the packed audience expecting tales of great riches, such as the Silverdale hoard, would be disappointed, for most of the discoveries were but small fragments, such as shards of glazed pottery, pieces of flint, or a piece of leather from a mediaeval shoe. Many of the finds would need a practised eye to realise their significance.

Among the more substantial discoveries were a Bronze Age ditch, mediaeval corn drying kilns and horse shoes, a seventeenth century lime kiln and, possibly a water mill. Various preserved foodstuffs were also found.

As a result of this talk, it may be that those of us who travel into Lancaster by bus, or car, along the A6 will look at the Beaumont

area, where many of the discoveries had been made, with renewed interest.

NOTES AND QUERIES

MOURHOLME MEMBERS HAVE A GO AT GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYING

Andrew and Pam Davies

Viewers of “Time Team” will have seen archaeologists ‘doing the geophysics’ and producing wonderful results showing interesting features of their survey area. Four members of the Mourholme Society were among a group of volunteers who spent a fascinating few days in May with the Morecambe Bay Partnership learning the basics of geophysical surveying, and then working on a field above the Jenny Brown’s Point chimney, looking for clues to its history. Our trainers Duncan and Richie from Durham University’s Archaeological Services showed cheerful and patient expertise throughout. Louise Martin, Cultural Heritage Officer from the Morecambe Bay partnership and an archaeologist herself (and who has spoken at our meetings) coordinated everything with care and enthusiasm.

We all contributed to the resistivity survey work, which involves sticking four spikes into the soil at one-metre intervals, pacing up and down carefully set out 20 metre grid squares, and compensating with ‘dummy readings’ where there is a hawthorn tree or a limestone outcrop. We had been advised that, to do the magnetometry survey, we would need to be “non-magnetic”: wearing clothing containing no magnetic metal. Think about zips, hooks, eyelets, the little spring in the tensioning toggle on a drawstring, glasses ... quite a challenge, but some of us managed it; though in the end it was the professionals who did the serious magnetic survey, while we amateurs each had a go at this demanding technique. You need to walk steadily and smoothly while the equipment takes what should be four readings per metre and beeps when it expects you to have reached the 20 metre line,

based on the speed you have said you will walk. Tricky, especially over our uneven ground with molehills, thistles, rocks, and on a slope. With a bit more practice we'd have cracked it. Perhaps.

We had a Tuesday evening introduction which included images of Duncan and Richie's work in Ukraine and Nepal. We then spent Wednesday and Thursday in the field, and on Friday morning sat at laptops experimentally manipulating the survey data. Duncan and Richie also showed us their Ground Penetrating Radar equipment and had a go at surveying the immediate area of the chimney, though the terrain there is far from ideal for the technique. It gave us all a great insight into some of the techniques available today for archaeological surveying, even though nothing much apart from the bed-rock was visible in our results.

The MBP has plans for more survey work where we might get a chance to use the knowledge we have gained, and the results from this session will contribute to future plans for work at Jenny Brown's Point. It was a great experience – and we were lucky with the weather, too.

CARNFORTH COOPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD: ORDERS FOR GOODS 1939 and 40 Clive Holden

There are in my possession several orders for goods from Carnforth Co-operative Society dating from just pre-war, and from the time of the 'Phoney War', 1939 – 40. The one chosen is from January 1939 and can be seen in Figures 1 and 2.

ORDER FOR GOODS.
Jan. 4th 1939
Carnforth Co-operative Society Ltd.
 PLEASE SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING GOODS:

Quantity.	Name of Articles.	Description.	Price.	£	s	d
<i>2x544</i>	Flour					<i>11</i>
	Best Tbirds	Oil. Alb. Protein. Fibre — — 6.75%				
	Sharps	— — 6.75%				
	Bran	— — 9.50%				
	Ground Oil Cake . .	6% 38% —				
	Round Corn					
	Split Corn					
	Meat Meal	6% 55/60% —				
	Flamare	25% 82% —				
	Mixed Fowl Corn . .					
<i>1pk</i>	Whole Oats	<i>Quick Quaker Rolled Oats</i>				<i>8</i>
<i>1pk</i>	Crested Oats	<i>Port Jonathan</i>				<i>6</i>
	Indian Meal					<i>6</i>
	Sussex Ground Oats . .					
	Best Oatmeal					
	Wheat Meal					
	Wheat					
	Shell Grit					
	Barley Meal					
	Potatoes					
<i>1 lb</i>	Beacon	<i>Beacon Bacon</i>				<i>1-8</i>

SELLER WHEN CALLED FOR.

Figure 1

The order for goods applied only to the Grocery Department, which was on New Street, flanked at the upper end by the Confectionary and Butcher's departments, and lower down by the Shoe department.

Noticeable in Figure 1 is that the first nineteen items are all cereals, some of which have indications of their oil, protein and fibre content. Does anybody know what Best Thirds, Sharps and Flamaze were, or what was special about Sussex ground oats?

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO HAVE THIS ORDER FORM FILLED UP READY FOR THE TRAVELLER

1 lb	Potatoes			
1 lb	Bacon	lean		1-8
1 lb	Butter			2-45
	Cheese			
	Eggs			
1 lb	Margarine	Silver Seal		8
1 lb	Lard			4
	Apples			
	Barn			
	Baking Powder			
1 lb	Farley	Pearl		
	Biscuits	cream	7-1	7-1
	Blacking			
	Blue			
	Blackhead			
	Candles			
	Candied Peel			
	Chicory			
	Cocoa			
1 lb	Gutter	Figs		5-1
1 lb	Currants	Black		5-1
1 lb	Matches	E. G. G. G.		5-1
	Onions			
	Pepper			
	Plains			
	Rice			
1 lb	Soap	Travel		5-1
	Soda (Washing)			
	Starch			
1 lb	Sugar	Granulated		2-3
		Long		
		Raw		
	Taylor			
	Ten			3
1 lb	Washing Powder	Soft Flakes		1-6
2 lb	Jam	Raspberry		
	Salmon			
1 lb	Apricots-Tins	Old Malt		2
	Peaches-Tins			
				15-3

Name: Holden
Address: 10 Oxford Street

Order Checked by: A.D.

A Purchaser is requested to demand a Prover Check when paying for Goods at the counter. All Orders should be sent in at least one clear day before delivery. Should there be any cause for complaint in the above Articles in the Package or Delivery, we shall accept it as favour if the Order is returned direct to the Warehouse within three days of completion.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1915.
We hereby declare that all Feeding Stuffs upon this invoice are therein specially described as pure and prepared from pure and not containing any adulteration or stain.

Figure 2

In Figure 2, after potatoes and bacon, comes a short list of dairy products, to be followed by a longer miscellaneous list, missing from which was fresh fruit, which was presumably available elsewhere although, despite not being listed, figs had been

obtained. Near the bottom, Cod Liver Oil replaces the illegible 'Pears-Tins'.

In another order, from February 1940, (Figure 3) near the end of the list were salmon (replaced by Lyle's Golden syrup), tinned apricots (replaced by Golden Star, whatever that was) and tinned peaches (replaced by emulsion – presumably a medicine). In all, the cost of that order amounted to 18s 7d plus 8d (presumably for delivery to our home in nearby Oxford Street).

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO HAVE				
2 lb	Cocoa	Roundness	2/0	6
2 lb	Coffee			3/
2 lb	Curvants	Bear		
4 boxes	Matches	2 Glory		4
	Onions			
	Pepper			
	Raisins			
	Rice			
1 lb	Soap	Towel		5/
	Soda (Washing)			
	Starch			
	Sugar	Translated	6	1/8
	"	Lump		
	"	Raw		
	Tea			
18 lb large	Washing Powder	Soap flakes		6
1 tin	Lyle's Golden Syrup			1/1
2 oz	Pears-Tins	Golden Star		1/10
1 bottle	Pineapple-Tins	Emulsion	2/	2/0
Name: H. Holden				
Address: 6, Oxford Street				18/7
CP 97150x				
Order Checked by				
No.				

A Purchaser is requested to demand a Paper Check when paying for Goods at the counter. All Orders should be sent in at least one clear day before delivery. Should there be any cause for complaint in this above Article upon the Package or Delivery, we shall extend it a favour if this Order is returned direct to the Manager, stating cause of complaint.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1906.

We hereby declare that all Feeding Stuffs upon this invoice are therein specially described as being prepared from more than one substance or seed.

Figure 3

How many of us can remember Post Toasties, from Figure 1 (do they still exist?) or, from Figure 2, Silver Seal margarine, or England's Glory Matches (the box had a picture of c C19ship) or the mysterious Golden Star in Figure 3? However, not all our groceries were bought at the Coop because lower down New street, on the opposite side, was Himsworth's, later to become Pegram's which was a grocery shop.

An incident that stirs in my memory was of a later period during the war when I had been sent to do the Saturday morning shopping with, I think, a £1 note. Somehow after shopping I managed to find myself 10/- short of what I should have had left, whether through carelessness or otherwise I do not know, but search as I did it could not be found and I was severely chastised on my return home. To go home today 50p short would hardly be classed as a calamity but 10/- short in wartime years was another story.

Other co-op items in my possession (did we ever throw things away?) are my mother's Share Capital book 1928-1949; my Small Savings Bank book 1942-1950; and a General Club subscription card from 1952/53, by which latter date Carnforth Co-op had become part of the Lancastria Co-operative Society, based in Preston. Just what was the difference in purpose of all these books I have not worked out. Incidentally, receipts for goods bought at the Drapery and Furnishing departments in Market Street would also have had the New Street address on the top.

See also Clive's interesting article, 'The Rise and Fall of the Carnforth Co-operative Society' in The Mourholme Magazine, issue 68

**MOURHOLME LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY'S
PROGRAMME
November 2016 - April 2017**

Wednesday November 23th 2016

Dr Mike Winstanley:

Enclosures and Commons

Tuesday December 20th 2016 (Please note change of day)

Geoff Wood:

Flush and Forget in Silverdale

Wednesday January 25th 2017

James Maudsley:

Religious Reformation in the North West

Wednesday February 22th 2017

David Casserly:

Civil Wars in Lancashire

Wednesday March 22th 2017

Clive Holden:

The Railways of Carnforth

Wednesday April 26th 2017

AGM followed by:

Dr Awena Carter:

Postcard messages from Silverdale, 1900-1950