

HON PRESIDENT:
Mr John Grundy

CHAIR:
Dr Winifred Stokes



COUNTY DURHAM FORUM for HISTORY & HERITAGE

www.durhamweb.org.uk/

Issue 3: July 2022

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FORUM COMMITTEE

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Treasurer: John Banham

Ian Finlayson
Margaret Hedley
Sarah Hillier
Dawn Layland
Marian Morrison

Beamish Representative

Simon Wooley

BISHOP AUCKLAND HERITAGE ACTION ZONE

“Picture This: Then and Now” Heritage Festival
With County Durham Forum for History and Heritage
by Marian Morrison

Great news for Forum members! We have been invited to buddy up with the team planning the Heritage Festival at Bishop Auckland. We have secured **FREE** Bistro tables (2 per group) for groups to promote yourselves and all the good work you have carried out in the name of history and heritage across the patch. There are also 6 trestle tables available and they will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

Alternatively, you may use the space in order to mount your display on free-standing displays such as pull-up banners. You will be allocated a space of approx 150cm.

The event will be held in the upstairs theatre and bar at Bishop Auckland Town Hall which offers excellent facilities.

The downside is there isn't room for every group so it's not a lottery just simply the first 16 applicants able to meet the booking criteria get the table. Nothing unusual needed just contact details and evidence of your organisation's public liability insurance documentation, all usual from the days of Yesterday Belongs to You.

The event will take place on Saturday 24 September open to the public 11.00-3.00 so needs setting up in advance.

There will be a full programme of events happening on the day in the Town hall and across the town as this day is part of a bigger festival running throughout September “Picture this then and now heritage festival”. Checkout the flyer on page 2 of this newsletter.

To confirm your booking of a **FREE table at this History Fair, please print out the booking form attached to this email and email it by **1 September** to: yb2u15@gmail.com**

Please note that each group must have Public Liability Insurance to take part in this History Fair. This is available as part of your BALH membership.

Zooming through to 2023

by Sarah Hillier

CDFHH recently decided unanimously to continue with the monthly series of Zoom talks that we began during the pandemic. There are a couple of changes though. First, talks will begin at 7pm, with the waiting room opening at 6.45 to give everyone a chance to get settled. Secondly, we have decided to leave the choice of evening to our speakers as our usual Tuesday zooms meant that some found participation difficult.

The 2023 programme is beginning to take shape with talks on the City of Durham's past mortality rates, Gertrude Bell, a People's History of Gibside, the History of the Miners' Gala and much more.

While we are really fortunate in County Durham to have a wide choice of excellent speakers, zooming does also allow us to search further afield. We are excited to announce that our zoom talk on 16th February will be *Family History and the Media: behind the scenes of Who Do You Think You Are* by Nick Barratt, the widely published genealogical consultant to the popular TV series

BISHOP AUCKLAND HERITAGE ACTION ZONE

With County Durham Forum for History and Heritage

“Picture This: Then and Now” Heritage Festival



*Image: Upper Newgate, Bishop Auckland
by artist, Gary Miller*

BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWN HALL

All events, talks and walks are FREE of charge

9-18 September

Heritage Open Days

www.heritageopendays.org.uk (various venues offering free entry)

12 September—20 November

Exhibition Daily 10.00am—4.00pm

Monday—Saturday—free entry

A reflection of the five years of the Heritage Action Zone to curate local heritage and restore the conservation area. This is a visual story told through architecture, art and artefacts from the Bishop Big Dig

24 September

History Fair—11.0am—3.00pm free entry

Meet local history and heritage societies with music, re-enactment groups, guided walks, talks and vintage bus tours

26 September

7:30pm

Bishop Auckland Civic Society guest speaker Dr Andrew Breeze from the University of Navarra, Spain on a Viking battle at Bishop Auckland in AD 844.

The Bishop Auckland Heritage Action Zone is a five-year project funded by Historic England and Durham County Council with the primary aim of removing the conservation area from the Heritage at Risk Register

Project Manager, Anne Allen is available to local history and heritage societies to talk about the work of the Heritage Zone

anne.allen@durham.gov.uk

or to join the mailing list:

bishopaucklandhaz@durham.gov.uk

Or visit

www.durham.gov.uk/haz

AYCLIFFE VILLAGE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY 2022 PROGRAMME

14 Sept	Old Durham Gardens	M Roberts
12 Oct	Behind the Scenes Norman Cornish	M Thornton
9 Nov	Gibside Estate	D Butler
7 Dec	AGM and Social Evening	

New Chairman: David Blair

All Meetings are held in
Aycliffe Village Hall at 7.30pm

Admission: Members £1.00/Non-Members £3.00
includes tea/coffee/biscuits

<http://www.aycliffehistory.org.uk>

CROOK & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY 2022 PROGRAMME

Meetings held at
Methodist Church Hall, Dawson Street, Crook

Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start
Admission – Non Members £5.00

More information: crookhistorysociety.btck.co.uk

ARCH & ARCH Zoom Lectures for 2022



Members of Arch and Arch will be emailed the Zoom
login details a few days before the lecture

Non members can email us to ask for the login

archandarch.dandn@durham.ac.uk



WHEATLEY HILL HISTORY CLUB 2022 MEETINGS

Information: history.club2@btinternet.com

Meetings are held in
Wheatley House, Woodlands Avenue
at **11.00am** £2.00 includes tea/coffee/raffle

27 July	Wynyard Hall & The Londonderry's	H & N Neal
24 Aug	Hetton Railway	J Banham
28 Sept	The Horsekeeper's Daughter	J Gulliford-Lowe

Latest newsletter:

<https://wheatley-hill.org.uk/>

E: history.club2@btinternet.com

SEDGEFIELD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY 2022 PROGRAMME

Meetings are held in
Ceddesfeld Hall at 7.45pm

August	No Meeting	
5 Sept	History of Mining in the North East	P Sagar
3 Oct	Colliery Healthcare in the 19th Century	M Morrison

For more details:
Suzanne 01429 882250



EGGLESCLIFFE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP 2022

15 Sept	Wonder of the North. Fountains Abbey and Studly Royal
	A talk by Mark Newman of The National Trust

Meetings are held in
St John's Church, Butts Lane, Egglecliffe
at 7.30pm

Admission £2.00

For more details:
david_j_bate@ntlworld.com

A Review of our Roman Explore Day at Ebchester 14 May 2022

By Richard Judd

Firstly I should like to thank the committee of the County Durham Forum for History and Heritage for supporting the event not only in person but also through a kind donation to cover costs. It was a delight to see the interest and turnout for the first Roman Explore event at Ebchester and I hope you all enjoyed the day.

Since the event I have managed to begin to communicate with the local school and am delighted that they have confirmed to having some boxed up artefacts - more detail to follow once I have spoken further with them.

Thanks to Eric for his guided tour of St Ebba's on the day and we will be exploring further the Roman connections with the church. Eric has provided us with a bonus which is a video virtual tour:

[VR Tour by Tim Lowrey \(timlowrey360.com\)](https://www.timlowrey360.com)

Also thanks to Bill (William) Trow for leading the river walk and to the people who supported with displays:

**Tony Vindomora Solutions
Rodney/Darin Friends of Longovicium
County Durham Forum for History and Heritage**

We are planning to hold an event to look at forming a Friends of Vindomora so that we can begin to gain permissions and seek funding for future activities. The event has been planned for **Saturday 30 July** and will be held in the Ebchester Community Centre **10.00am—12noon**. Everyone is welcome. We would welcome anyone from the village to consider being part of the Friends project team to oversee the group. Please contact us if you would be willing to part of this. We will need a 'Chair' and a finance person at least.

Other events we are planning:

**a Finds Day/Ebchester Antiques Roadshow event in the Autumn
a taster/introduction to metal detecting**

If you have any questions please contact me: juddrichard1976@gmail.com

History of Consett Steelworks—A Project Update by Chair, Richard Judd

The Facebook group continues to grow and be a good interactive forum and we are delighted that in person events are now beginning to happen.

We attended a Jubilee picnic event in Medomsley with a small display and plans are being explored for a family/child centric event in the village in due course.

Rob Moran held a 2nd school Steelworks walk and is working with a recent enquiry to arrange another If you have any contacts for schools we would be delighted to work with them.:

[School Steelworks Walk offer – History of Consett Steelworks](#)

We are planning a Talk on Consett Railways by ex guard Steve Shields on Saturday 23 July and we are grateful to the committee of the Bowls Club in Consett Park for providing a venue, which is of course on land donated by the Steelworks.

We are also planning events for the closure period in September (11 September 1980 was when the "works" closed) this at present will include some Steelworks Walks for both adults only and families. More details as things confirm.

We have also been supporting WEA North East with their Routes for Social Change Walk project - more details to follow:

[HCSW supporting WEA with Routes of Social Change Project – History of Consett Steelworks](#)

We have booked a talk on Thursday 29 September at 7.00pm. The topic is The Swordmakers of Shotley Bridge and it will be held at the Steel Club in Consett (Central for parking and buses).

We are about to start revamping the website over the next six months as we begin to add more pictures to the Galleries:

[History of Consett Steelworks – Connecting the community with the past, sharing memories for the future](#)

HETTON LOCAL & NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Meet at 7.00pm

*the School Room, Union Street PM Chapel
(Access from car park in Barnes Street DH5 9DB)*

August	No Meeting	
26 Sept	The Last Pit (Ayle Coll)	J Coxon
31 Oct	The Role of Coal in the Development of Sunderland	S Miller

Video of the very successful Hetton Carnival & Hetton Colliery Railway 200:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/67fxc457u71guxz/HRC200%>

EVERYONE WELCOME
Entrance fee is £2

which includes tea/coffee/biscuits

For more details: 0191 5262804
www.hettonlocalhistory.org.uk

TUDHOE & SPENNYMOOR LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY 2022 Programme

MEETINGS AT ST DAVID'S CHURCH HALL, TUDHOE LANE
7.30pm (unless otherwise stated)

**We will be taking part in the Then & Now
Heritage Event at Bishop Auckland
24 September**

26 Sept	Tales of the River	F Thompson (this follows a guided walk on Newcastle Quayside)
24 Oct	AGM & Talk	M Thornton

VISITORS : £2.00

For more details:
SECRETARY: 01388 816850
www.durhamweb.org.uk/tslhs

Hartlepool Headland Local History Group

New Meeting place from January 2022

**Headland Baptist Church
Baptism Street
HARTLEPOOL TS24 0QN**

**Meetings are held on the
Third Monday of the month
6.45pm—9.00pm**

August	No meeting	
19 Sept	West Hartlepool Wesley Church	O Hart
17 Oct	Hartlepool Rivalries	J Oxley



Drop In Sessions are held
Second Tuesday of the month
11.30am—3.30pm



CAFE SCIENTIFIQUE

Science for the price of a coffee

Stockton on Tees

Invites you to talk at

Point Within the Arc, Stockton
on
Tuesday 20 September at 8.00pm
by
Dr Gillian Taylor

“The Scientific Archaeology of Vindolanda”

£5.00 donation to cover costs
but we don't want to exclude anyone

Durham County Local History Society

TALKS AT THE CITY THEATRE
SATURDAYS AT 2.30pm

**The City Theatre, Fowler's Yard, Back Silver
Street, Durham City DH1 3RA**

e-mail updates available:
please send an mail to jdbdclhs@gmail.com

Thank you to those members who have re-
newed their subscriptions in April.

We have not arranged any talks but Members
will have a chance to meet at the Then & Now
Heritage Event at Bishop Auckland on
24 September

In March, the Society published the tenth volume in its
Documentary Series:

The Sanctuary Records of Durham and Beverley 1464 – 1539

with an Introduction and notes by Tim Griffiths

This is a translation of medieval Latin records
originally published by the Surtees Society in
1837.

This was distributed free to members, but a few
copies are still available for sale (paperback,
303 pages)

price £20 plus postage & packing

In August, an occasional publication will be on sale to
mark the Bicentenary of the opening of the Hetton
Colliery Railway

The Hetton Coal Company 1820-1836: Adventurers or Madmen?

by John Banham

Paperback 170 pages and five illustrations,
price £15

This is being sold by HCR200, c/o Easington Lane
Community Access Point, Brickgarth

See the DCLHS website for details:

www.durhamweb.org/dclhs

THIRD THURSDAY TALKS—DURHAM COUNTY RECORD OFFICE
Booking is Essential—recordofficeshop.durham.gov.uk

ONLINE TALK—ZOOM
(This is a FREE talk)

Thursday 15 September
10.30am—11.30am

“Marvellous Diggers
the 1st Battalion DLI
in Korea 1952 - 1953”

by
Steve Shannon
Military Researcher



Durham Postcard, Cigarette Card & Stamp Fair

NEW VENUE

Bowburn Community Centre

Disabled Access
On Site Parking

Further Details:
01368 860365

SATURDAY

12 November 2022

10.00am—3.00pm
Entrance £1.00

Accompanied children FREE

Free Valuations



MEETINGS HELD THURSDAYS 7.00pm

St Andrew's Church Hall, Church Street

No meeting in August

1 Sept	Coxhoe Hall & Manor <i>See poster on the next page</i>	History Group
6 Oct	Poverty and the treatment of of poverty in Britain	A Hodgson

Website:
coxhoehistory.org.uk

Contact:
Jack Turton: 0191 3770771
Barbara Leo: barbaraleo88@googlemail.co

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



**NORTH EAST METHODIST
HISTORY SOCIETY**

Saturday 8 October 2022

Speaker to be confirmed.

Thorpe Thewles History Group

Thursday 22 September

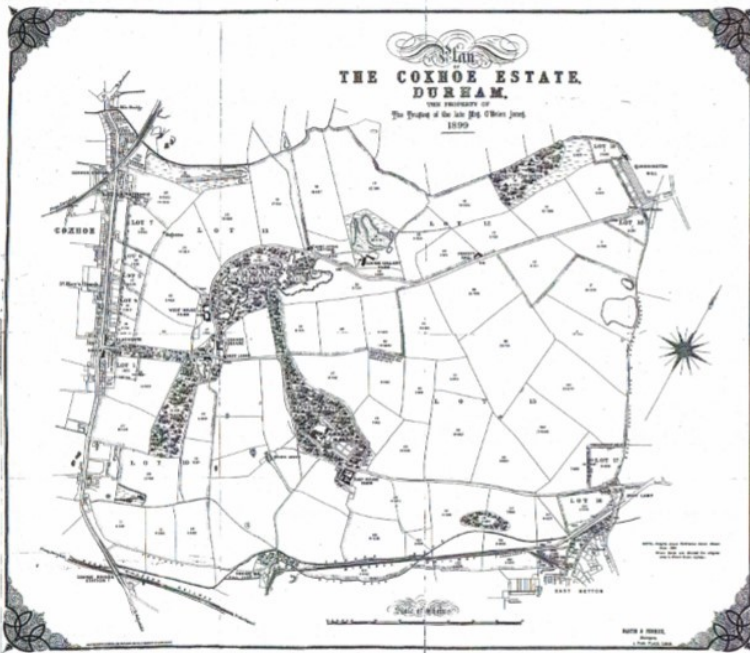
A talk by Jan & Richard Crouch
“Hitlers Women”

Grindon Parish Hall 6.30pm for 7.00pm
Tickets £3.00



COXHOE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

**‘COXHOE
HALL
and
ESTATE’**



**A
Journey
Through
Time**

Presented by Coxhoe History Group

THURSDAY 1st September

7 pm at St Andrews Church Hall

£3 including refreshments. All Welcome



Visit the Museum of Weardale History and Heritage Lots of Things in a Small Space

Opening Dates and Times 2022

1 June to 2 October
7 days a week

5 October to 30 October
Wednesday to Sunday
(Opening times are 1pm to 4.30pm)

We can open at other times, by arrangement, for groups

Prices

Children and young people under 18 years FREE

Adults £4.50 OR £5 inc 10% Gift Aid

OR

join the 'Friends of the Museum' for £10 per adult and get free entry for a year!

WHAT WILL YOU SEE?

Visit us to see our Victorian kitchen, displays on mining, quarrying, emigration, Methodism, railways, WWI and much more. There are children's activities and touch screen displays.

All focussed on the history and heritage of Weardale.

Want to get involved?

We are looking for Volunteer Stewards to meet and greet visitors and help with exhibitions

RESEARCHING YOUR WEARDALE FAMILY HISTORY?

The Museum volunteers have done hours of research and built up a database of over 70,000 individuals and 600 Weardale families. Visit to explore our records and, if you wish, get the help of an experienced family history researcher. The Museum volunteers have done hours of research and built up a database of over 70,000 individuals and 600 Weardale families. Visit to explore our records and, if you wish, get the help of an experienced family history researcher.

**More information about the Museum's
Collections and Family History Resources on
our website**

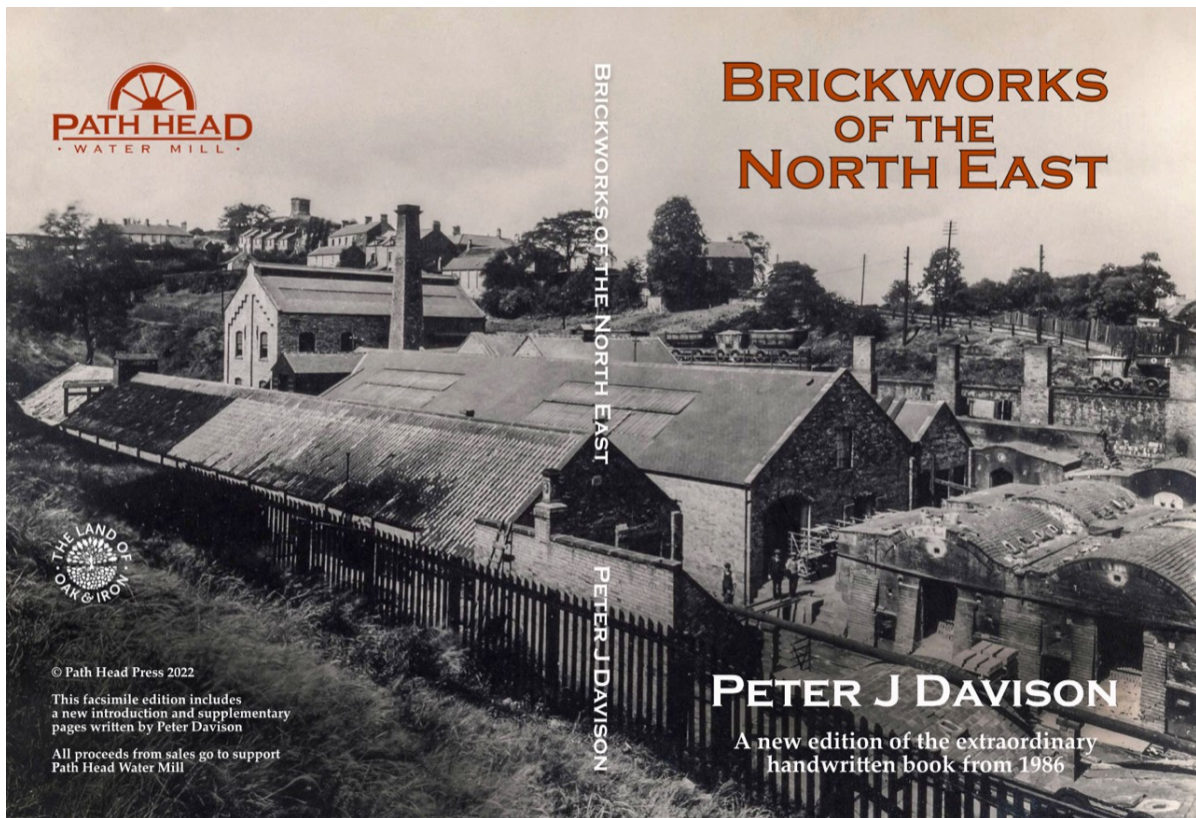
www.weardalemuseum.org.uk

**or call Kate Gill on
07990786220**

To make an appointment call

Ken Heatherington on 01388 517208

We also offer 'research from a distance' if you don't live locally



Article submitted by Val Scully

In the early 1980s, Peter Davison of Sunnyside, Wickham, spent five years visiting the brickworks of the North East of England, many of them attached to collieries. He interviewed workers, observed the work in progress and recorded what he found in a meticulously written record, illustrated by photographs and his own exquisite drawings. This lost 'craft' brick industry was small-scale, very local, manually operated and rooted in Victorian-era practices. They have all now gone. Peter was there when it mattered and he is owed a debt of gratitude for his labours, his skill and his foresight.

Gateshead Libraries and Arts service printed 100 copies of his work in 1986, and since then, as copies become more scarce, the value of this unique work in capturing the details of a lost industry has increasingly been recognised. Peter agreed to the creation of a new edition by local author Val Scully, the proceeds from the sales of which go to supporting Path Head Watermill in Blaydon, above the Blaydon Burn site of Cowen's Brickworks. He provided background information and supplementary pages, and for all his help as the work progressed, there is much gratitude, not only from the custodians of the watermill and all the people who enjoy visiting and working there, but also everyone interested in bricks and the social and industrial history of the North East.

Link to the Path Head Watermill website: [Path Head Water Mill](http://www.pathheadwatermill.co.uk)

WHEATLEY HILL HISTORY CLUB

Have a YouTube Channel



All of our media such as video's, dvd's etc have been upgraded to MP 4 format and added to the new channel

Including a series of reminiscence sessions recorded at the beginning of this year

Can also be accessed through our website: <https://wheatley-hill.org.uk/video-memories/>