

HON PRESIDENT:
Mr John Grundy

CHAIR:
Dr Winifred Stokes



COUNTY DURHAM FORUM for HISTORY & HERITAGE

www.durhamweb.org.uk/

Issue 3: July 2017

CONTACTS

Membership Secretary:

Sarah Hillier
T: 01740 630736
E: yb2u15@gmail.com

Items for Newsletter:

Margaret Hedley
T: 01429 820813
E: history.club2@btinternet.com

Website:

John Banham
T: 01388 816209
E: jdbdclhs@gmail.com

FORUM COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr Win Stokes
Secretary: June Palmer
Treasurer: John Banham

Cliff Brown
Dawn Layland
Ian Finlayson
Margaret Hedley
Sarah Hillier

SUPPORTED BY:

Helen Barker
(Beamish Museum)
Liz Bregazzi
(DCRO)

THE FORUM WENT TO BEAMISH... and it rained!!

The usual Forum weather followed us to Yesterday Belongs to You at Beamish on Saturday 15 July. The last three times this event has been held, rain has been the order of the day and Saturday was no exception!!

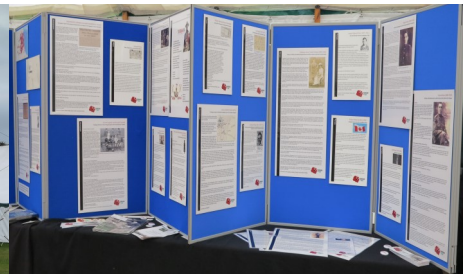
It was our first time at this prestigious location and of course it wasn't perfect. Beamish got things wrong, as did the Forum and some exhibitors, but all-in-all the day proved that Beamish is the place to be in order to attract all-age audiences which has become the aim of the Yesterday Belong to You Event.

On the day of our event Beamish had their lowest visitor numbers so far this summer. Only 1797 people visited the attraction, many no doubt being put off by bad weather. However, the numbers visiting our event were higher than we have had in previous years.

Thank you to the 20 groups who took the time to provide feedback. We have listened to all of your positives, negatives and suggestions and discussed them all with Beamish staff, who have made some excellent suggestions for a future event whilst addressing your concerns.

As groups representing local history and heritage, it is our belief that we should be adapting in order to attract different audiences. We are all very grateful to our faithful followers but need to widen our horizons in order to make our work appeal to younger people. This will not happen if we continue to roll out the same display materials that we have been using for years.

Our committee will spend some time discussing the suggestions put forward by Beamish staff in order to improve on the next event and in line with your feedback and we will provide an outline of our discussions in the October newsletter.



AYCLIFFE VILLAGE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY 2017 PROGRAMME

No meeting in August

6 Sept	Old Durham Gardens	M Roberts
4 Oct	Collecting Autographs	T Hillman

**All Meetings are held in
Aycliffe Village Hall at 7.00pm**

Admission: Members £2.00/Non-Members £3.00

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

CROOK & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY 2017 PROGRAMME

No meeting in July and August

26 Sept	Upstairs/Downstairs Life at Cragside	G Hughes
24 Oct	Making Connections Working with the Archives	J Phillips of Bowes Museum

Meetings held at RAFA Spitfire Club, Crook

Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start
Admission – Non Members £3.00

More information: crookhistorysociety.btck.co.uk

HOUGHTON & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY GROUP 2017 MEETINGS

NEW VENUE:

Kepier Hall (behind the Parish Church)

24 Aug	Victorian Gardens & Gardeners	J Tindall
28 Sept	28 Years at the Chalk Face	B Hope
26 Oct	The lost Department Stores of Sunderland	P Curtis

**Admission £2.00 (includes tea/coffee)
Speaker Starts Promptly at 6.45pm**

For more details:

Please contact Brenda Graham 0191 584 1943

WHEATLEY HILL HISTORY CLUB 2017 PROGRAMME



26 July	George Elmy Lifeboat	A Brooks
28 Aug	Chester Where Are You?	G Lord
27 Sept	The Press Gang A musical presentation	A Giles
25 Oct	Binchester	G Henderson

For more details:

W: wheatley-hill.org.uk

E: history.club2@btinternet.com

Meetings are held in
Wheatley House, Woodlands Avenue
at 7.00pm £2.00 includes tea/coffee/raffle

SEDGEFIELD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY 2017 PROGRAMME

Meetings are held in
Ceddesfeld Hall at 7.45pm

No meeting in August

4 Sept	Hidden Durham	P Nixon
2 Oct	History of Agriculture	S Littlewood
6 Nov	Colliery Cures & Pitmens Potions	J Chipchase

For more details:
alisonsouthview@hotmail.co.uk



FRIENDS OF DARLINGTON RAILWAY CENTRE AND MUSEUM 2017 PROGRAMME

ALL MEETINGS START AT 1.45PM
in the museum at North Road Station

No Meeting in August

7 Sept	Tanfield Railway Past & Present	A Thompson
12 Oct	Tyne & Wear Metro— Two Centuries in the Making	H Lewis
4 Nov	A Railwayman for all Seasons	P Bentham

If you would like to join the Friends of
Darlington Railway Centre and Museum
we would be delighted to welcome you

Please contact the Friends Membership Sec:

June Palmer
E: membership@friendsofdrcm.org

DURHAM COUNTY RECORD OFFICE

THIRD THURSDAY TALKS

12.30pm—1.15pm in the Record Office
By Gill Parkes

21 Sept And the Bride Wore
A look at some of the wonderful wedding photos in the archives, from the Victorian period onwards. Focusing on the dresses (of course) and changing fashions, this talk also introduces some of the stories behind the photographs.

£2.00

please phone 03000 267619 to book a place

All Talks will be held in the
County Records Office
County Hall, Durham City DH1 5UL

HETTON LOCAL & NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Meet at 7pm in the Hetton and Eppleton Community Hall
(formerly St Nicholas Church Hall in the Centre of Hetton)

No Meeting in August

25 Sept	Victorian Pit Woman Part 2	M Hedley
30 Oct	Witches at Halloween	J Tindall
27 Nov	Durham River Wear Assemblage	G Bankhead

For more details: 0191 5262804

EVERYONE WELCOME
Entrance fee is £2

which includes tea/coffee/biscuits

DURHAM **Postcard, Cigarette Card & Stamp Fair** Durham County Hall DH1 5UL



Saturday 18 November 2017

10.00am—3.00pm
Entrance £1 (accompanied children free)

FREE VALUATIONS PROVIDED



ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
OF DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND

APRIL—NOVEMBER 2017 LECTURE PROGRAMME

All lectures will be at 2.30pm in
Elvet Riverside 140 New Elvet, Durham
unless otherwise notified, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Sat 30 Sept Dr K Sharpe	Rocks without Borders: The Northumberland and Durham Rock Art Project, legacy and future directions
Sat 14 Oct Dr B Buchanan	Durability of Place: recent work on the landscape & settlements of early medieval Northumbria

For further details please contact the Society or visit our website
W: aasdn.org.uk
E: archandarch.dandn@durham.ac.uk

TUDHOE & SPENNYMOOR LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

MEETINGS AT ST DAVID'S CHURCH HALL, TUDHOE LANE
7.30pm (unless otherwise stated)
2017 Programme

24 July	19th Century Pit Women In County Durham	M Hedley
25 Sept	Have you seen the Mona Lisa?	C Wright
23 Oct	AGM & Poverty Through the Ages	A Hodgson

VISITORS : £2.00

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

Durham County Local History Society

TALKS AT THE CITY THEATRE
SATURDAYS AT 2.30pm

9 September 2017

Gill Parkes:
Durham at War - 1917/18

7 October 2017

Kathleen Reynolds:
ILL News: Gentry Health in the Eighteenth Century North

11 November 2017

David Butler:
The Turnpike Roads of County Durham

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



The Western Front Association

Durham Branch

1917 - 2017

FIRST WORLD WAR CENTENARY

CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

Dr David Murphy

(Maynooth University, Ireland)

The Nivelle Offensive

Prof. Eric Grove

(Liverpool Hope University, Ret'd)

**The 1917 U-boat Campaign
Reconsidered**

Dr Matthias Strohn

(Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst)

**German Defence in Depth
at Third Ypres**

Dr Bryn Hammond

(Imperial War Museum)

The Battle of Cambrai

Conference Chairman

Prof. John Derry

(Newcastle University Ret'd)



Saturday 14 October 2017

09:30 - 16:30

(Doors open 09:00)

Cornerstones, Chester-le-Street
Methodist Church,
North Burns,
Chester-le-Street
DH3 3TF

Ticket Price £25

(includes tea/ coffee, buffet lunch)

For Tickets Please Contact:

Phone: 07594964930

E-mail: wfadurham.events@live.co.uk

For more information on the Durham Branch of The Western Front Association see: www.durham-wfa.com

St. Brandon 1500 Festival



“1500 years ago St. Brandon sailed his leather boat to America a thousand years before Columbus. World famous explorer, author & film maker Tim Severin set out to prove it could be done. Relive this epic Atlantic adventure with him in person.”



The Tim Severin Lecture

(a film and photo talk)

**Brancepeth Village
Hall**

Saturday

September 16th

7 pm for 7.30 pm



Admission £5 by pre-booked tickets only

Tickets available from 'Belle & Blossom', The Gatehouse Tearooms

Brancepeth Castle. (Tuesdays to Sundays)

or by telephone from the Brancepeth Archives on 01913780974

Full details on www.brancepethcommunityassociation.btck.co.uk/forthcomingevents



SON ET FLEUR

A FLOWER FESTIVAL

with music retracing the
epic voyage of
St. Brandon
the Navigator to
Paradise

St. Brandon 1500

in St. Brandon's Church,
Brancepeth Village,
Durham

Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th Sept, 2017

Open from 10am - 4pm

Combined admission price of £5 to include
accompanying exhibition in Brancepeth Village Hall

**Tickets from the Gatehouse Tearoom, Brancepeth Castle
(Tues. to Sun.) or Brancepeth Archives on 01913780974**

For further information please see website:

www.brancepethcommunityassociation.btck.co.uk/ForthcomingEvents




THE BOWES
 MUSEUM

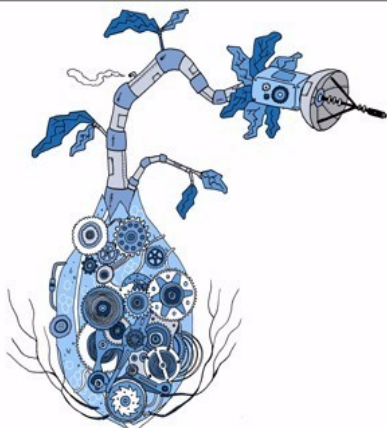
A FANTASTIC GROUP DAY OUT ...

This stunning French style chateau in the beautiful, historic market town of Barnard Castle in County Durham houses an amazing variety of objects. With a permanent collection which includes paintings, ceramics, furniture, textiles and fashion as well as exciting temporary exhibitions—there is so much to explore and enjoy.

TURKISH TULIPS

29 July—5 November

This unique exhibition will take you on a journey, both through the museum and through history—telling the fascinating story of this exotic flower. Tulip-themed works by leading contemporary artists including Damien Hurst, Sir Peter Blake, Cornelia Parker and Gavin Turk will be planted amongst floral objects from the Museum's permanent collection



CLOCKWORK GARDEN

.... 29 July—5 November

This summer, a strange mechanical seed will land and unfurl to fill our gallery with this beautiful interactive exhibition. A special opening event on 30 and 31 July will bring the exhibition to life with live characters, artists and musicians leading investigations and fun activities - ideal for curious children