

## HLHS Members Newsletter

August 2021

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We would like to hear from you! Please send any news, details of events and books, requests for information and comments that you think may be of interest to other Huddersfield Local History Society members to [publications@huddersfieldhistory.org.uk](mailto:publications@huddersfieldhistory.org.uk)



*engraving of the Estate Buildings, from Thomas Baines' **Yorkshire, Past and Present: A History and a Description of the Three Ridings of the Great County of York** (vol 2, pt 2)*

Welcome to our August 2021 newsletter. In this month's edition, you'll find details of upcoming events, Society news and plans – there is plenty to look forward to this autumn.

We hope you enjoy it. The next newsletter will appear towards the end of September.

*David Griffiths and Dave Pattern*

## **HLHS Committee**

### **Chair:**

Cyril Pearce

### **Vice-Chair:**

Brian Haigh

### **Secretary:**

Dave Pattern

### **Treasurer:**

Steve Challenger

### **Membership**

#### **Secretary:**

Val Davies

### **Publications**

#### **Secretary:**

David Griffiths

### **Publicity:**

Chris Verguson

### **Journal Editor:**

Robert Piggott

### **Web Site:**

Dave Pattern

### **Other**

#### **Committee**

#### **Members:**

Beverley Norris  
Janette Martin  
Maureen Mitchell  
Bill Roberts

*With the exception  
of our own web site,  
Huddersfield Local  
History Society is  
not responsible for  
the content of any  
web sites linked to  
in this newsletter.*

## **We hate to mention it but...**

...it's that time of year when we ask you to renew your Society subs. If you have a Standing Order, no action is needed. Otherwise you can start up a Standing Order or pay online by PayPal – [the details are here](#). Or you can send a cheque payable to **Huddersfield Local History Society** to Val Davies, Membership Secretary, 21 Glebe St, Huddersfield HD1 4NP. The fees are unchanged at £10 for individual membership, £15 for joint membership at one address.

Many thanks to those who have Standing Orders (do check – don't pay twice!) or have already paid. (Recent recruits will have been told that their payment already covers 2021/22 – if in doubt, please check via sending an email to Val at [membership@huddersfieldhistory.org.uk](mailto:membership@huddersfieldhistory.org.uk))

## **Our autumn talks**

Despite the relaxation of Covid regulations, we plan to continue for the autumn with on-line talks, and hope to return fully to 'normality' in the New Year (but see below for our in-person events on 13 September and 27 November). The autumn talks are as follows:

### **27 September 2021**

Beverley Norris, *Servants of Edgerton: Discovering the women who served the Huddersfield elite*

### **25 October 2021**

Chris Smith, *Fighting the flames: a history of fire fighting in Huddersfield*

### **29 November 2021**

Lewis Allen, *'Fired with Love Unfeigned' - Discovering the Life and Labours of the Reverend Henry Venn, Vicar of St Peter's Parish Church, Huddersfield 1759-1771.*

As we've got used to now, links to the talks, when the time comes, will be on the website and in future newsletters.

## Heritage Open Days – September 10-19

The annual Heritage Open Days (HODs) festival is almost back to normal this year, with 59 events across Kirklees (though caution over Covid means that more than usual must be booked in advance).

The Kirklees brochure, with all the details, [can be found online](#) and also accompanies this newsletter; the [full national programme is here](#).

The Society is directly involved in two ways, detailed below.

### **Monday 13 September – joint meeting with Huddersfield Civic Society A ‘great’ amongst Victorian architects? Huddersfield’s W. H. Crossland**

New North Road Baptist Church, New North Parade, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD1 5JU, 7.30 pm.

Many of Huddersfield's best buildings are by local architect William Henry Crossland (1835-1908), including Estate Buildings (see engraving on the first page), Byram Arcade, Kirkgate Buildings and the old Post Office. Born in Elland and brought up at Longwood House, Netheroyd Hill, he gained national recognition for a number of outstanding buildings including Rochdale Town Hall and the Royal Holloway College at Egham in Surrey. This talk by his biographer, Sheila Binns, will give an overview of Crossland's work and his poignant personal story.

This is a bookable event: 50 tickets will be available to HLHS and Civic Society members until **Saturday 28 August** before the remaining 30 are offered to the public. To reserve a place for yourself and 1 guest, contact HCS Treasurer, Michael Barron, email: [mj.barron@btinternet.com](mailto:mj.barron@btinternet.com) or tel: 01484 537080, stating that you're an HLHS member.

### **Sat 11/Mon 13/Tues 14/Thurs 16/Fri 17 September Huddersfield Heritage Hub**

For five of the 10 days of HODs, our friends at WY Archive Service will be hosting a welcoming information point and exhibition space at their forthcoming temporary home on the Piazza (Unit 1, on the corner between the Library and the Town Hall). This will feature:

- ‘The Town That Bought Itself’ exhibition, about the history of the Ramsden family and the sale of their Huddersfield estate to the Council in 1920, with original archives.
- A ‘Memories of our Square’ exhibition and collection point for local people’s memories of St. George’s Square (see further below).
- Huddersfield High Street Heritage Action Zone and Heritage Open Days information.
- A sale point for local books, from ourselves and other partners.
- On Monday 13th (1.0 – 4.0) an Archives Open Day, with work in progress on cataloguing and conservation.

The Hub will be open from 11.0 – 4.0 on Saturday and from 9.30 – 4.0 on the other four days. Memories will be collected on Saturday 11th (2.0 – 4.0), Tuesday 14th (11.30 – 2.0) and Friday 17th (11.30 – 2.0).

**We need volunteers to staff the bookstall! If you can fit in a shift, perhaps combined with visiting the Hub for all it will have to offer, please let David Griffiths know via [publications@huddersfieldhistory.org.uk](mailto:publications@huddersfieldhistory.org.uk)**

## **Take a look at the Society's new website and help us tell the story of St George's Square**

Keen readers of the newsletter will remember from the May issue that we have received funding from Historic England's 'Regenerating Historic High Streets through Heritage Action Zones' programme to celebrate the history and heritage of St George's Square. This will enable the Society not only to produce a well-illustrated book, to be published in summer 2023, but also a website created specially for our **Memories of Our Square** project.

By the time you read this, the new website ([oursquare.org](https://oursquare.org)) will be live, so please do take a look. We are hoping that as many people as possible will use it to share their memories – in words and/or pictures – of the Square.

But the website also aims to provide much in the way of background information. HLHS Vice-Chair Brian Haigh has contributed several articles on aspects of the Square's history as well as an invaluable **Timeline** which we will be adding to when appropriate. **From the Archives** will include informative and entertaining stories from the past told through newspaper cuttings and extracts from other archives while our **Photo Diary** aims to chronicle in pictures what is happening now in St George's Square. A **Further Information** page provides a list of weblinks and books for those who would like to find out even more about the Square's history and we intend to add to all of these sections as time goes by.

We are working very closely with the West Yorkshire Archive Service (Kirklees). Not only will we be sharing the contributions we receive so they can be accessed by future generations but we are also putting together a small exhibition and collecting memories at the Heritage Hub on the Piazza during Heritage Open Days – see above for details.

To make our project a success, we would like as many people as possible to take part, so please consider whether you have something to contribute, and also enlist the help of friends and acquaintances. Please do share our flyer which is attached to the email accompanying this newsletter.



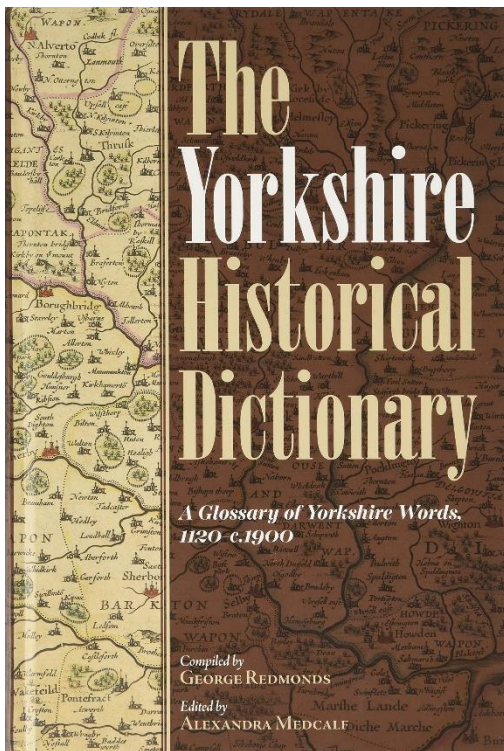
## Study Day reminder

Last but not least in our very busy programme, a reminder of our annual study day, on Saturday 27 November at New North Rd Baptist Church, on the theme **Huddersfield at Play: a fresh look at the history of leisure in the Huddersfield district**. A fine platform of speakers is signed up – save the date!

## Discover Huddersfield walks

Just a reminder too that Discover Huddersfield walks are now under way again, but must be booked in advance – [see the website for details](#). Coming up soon are Georgian Huddersfield (22 August), The Changing Face of Birkby (2 September) and no fewer than five walks – free but booking still required – during Heritage Open Days.

## The Yorkshire Historical Dictionary



The Yorkshire Archaeological & Historical Society is proud to announce publication of the ***Yorkshire Historical Dictionary***. This completes a four-year collaboration with the University of York Borthwick Institute for Archives, to edit and publish 4,000 historic terms found in Yorkshire documents. The collection was gathered over 60 years by late-lamented HLHS member Dr George Redmonds, a specialist on Yorkshire names and terms, who was closely involved in the YHD project until his untimely death in 2018.

A database searchable by words, places and sources, with more about the project, sponsors and Professor David Hey, in whose memory the dictionary was conceived, can be found on the YHD website: <https://yorkshiredictionary.york.ac.uk>

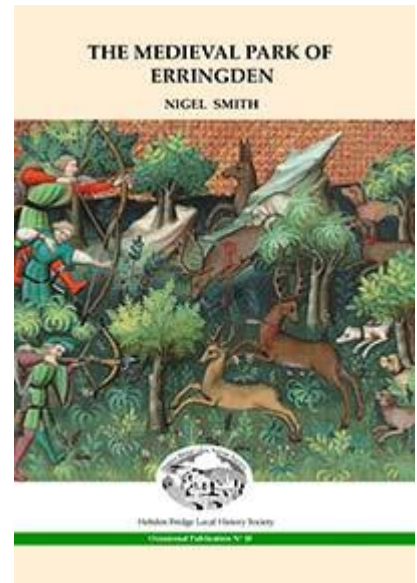
***The Yorkshire Historical Dictionary: A Glossary of Yorkshire Words, 1120-c.1900***, compiled by George Redmonds, edited by Alexandra Medcalf, now appears as a two-volume set in the YAHS Record Series. Subscribers to the Record Series will receive it as part of their subscription. The cost to non-subscribers is £75 for the two-volume set, but with a 30% discount for YAHS members.

## A new book from the Calder Valley

Hebden Bridge Local History Society has just published *The Medieval Park of Erringden* by Nigel Smith. Erringden Park was a feature of the Upper Calder Valley landscape that was created in the fourteenth century, certain aspects of which still survive today. This book uncovers the detail about the park that can be retrieved from the surviving documentation and reconstructs the history and use of the park with the help of evidence from both the landscape itself and other northern parks.

The evidence suggests that the original park encompassed an area similar to that occupied by the modern civil parish, an area already used by the Manor of Wakefield for cattle farming. It was expanded eastwards in the 1380s into Cragg Vale. The book discusses how the boundaries of the park were built, the possible infrastructure, how it may have been stocked, the various forms of deer hunting and management and other uses to which the park may have been put. Finally, the way in which the park was abolished in 1451 is discussed, together with the way the land was allocated to tenants and the later disputes over tenancy that were eventually resolved in 1606 after two tenant rebellions.

The book is extensively illustrated in colour and costs £11.99 (plus £2 for postage). It is [available from the HBLHS website](#).



## Lost Images of a 19th Century Marsden Diarist

*By Stephen Challenger*

Some of you may have read the article in this year's Journal (2021/22) on a year in the life of Mary Ann Dowse, based on her 1851 diary. When writing the article, I managed to illustrate it with several photographs I had permission to use from the West Yorkshire Archive Service. Unfortunately, the Archive does not contain any images of Mary Ann herself. Since publication though, I have managed to purchase a set of copies of images of the Dowse family from that period. There are two images: the first taken c1854 just after she had married John Bower Robinson and just a few years after her diary; the other one in later life. For completeness, I thought I would share these images with you.





