

HLHS Members Newsletter

February 2022

huddersfieldhistory.org.uk

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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



*undated photograph of Hall Bower Chapel and School
erected in 1812 by public subscription and demolished in 1879*

Welcome to our February 2022 newsletter. In this month's edition, you'll find details of upcoming events and Society news and plans. We hope you enjoy it. The next newsletter will appear towards the end of March.

David Griffiths and Dave Pattern

HLHS Committee

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Janette Martin
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*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.*

Our next on-line talk

Readers of this newsletter will already be familiar with the Society's **Memories of Our Square** project, culminating in the publication of a book in 2023. In this illustrated talk, drawing on their research to date, project coordinators Christine Verguson and Beverley Norris – using snippets from the archives and memories that people have been happy to share – provide glimpses of its past and begin to explore the significance of the role, or indeed roles, St George's Square has played in the life of our town

The research for this project is ongoing so please do take a look at this talk and, if you would like to add to our story of the Square, get in touch with Christine and Beverley (email@oursquare.org or via the [Memories of Our Square website](#)).

The link to this talk will be [on the website](#) from Monday 28 February.

Going live in March!

On **Monday 28 March** at 7.30 pm, Dr Stephen Caunce will speak on **Financing Huddersfield's industrialisation. Learning from the banking crash of 1826.** After a two-year break in face-to-face meetings, this will be held in the Reception Room at **Huddersfield Town Hall**, not at the University. We very much hope members will feel able to join us.

Other forthcoming events

Rob Vincent will give a talk based on his recent book, published by the Society, on **Thursday 10 March** at 7.30 pm (doors open 7.0 pm) at Marsden Mechanics Hall, Peel St, Marsden HD7 6BW. Published in October, the book has been very successful and a second print run is currently in hand. The talk has been organised by the Friends of Marsden Library and free tickets [can be booked here](#). A licensed bar is available and Rob will be signing copies of the book. Rob is also speaking to Saddleworth Historical Society at the Museum in Uppermill on the previous evening.

Roman Eagle v Yorkshire Grit: How the Romans Seized the Huddersfield Area

If you have already heard Rob's talk on-line via [our own website](#), a rival attraction on **Thursday 10 March** is a talk on the above by John Cross, President of Huddersfield Archaeological Society. This will be at Brockholes Village Hall, Brockholes Lane, HD9 7EB at 7.30 pm. John will provide an update on Roman remains and finds in the Huddersfield area, and how local resistance was crushed. Organised by Brockholes Village Trust, the talk costs £5 including refreshments.



Yet another event on 10 March, regarding the architect W H Crossland and artists Roddam Stanhope and Emily & William de Morgan, was advertised in our last newsletter.

Annual Chartism Day Conference – in honour of Professor Malcolm Chase

This takes place at the University of Leeds on **Saturday 19 March**, with a full day of talks on the history, personalities and songs of the Chartist movement. The late Professor Chase was a good friend of HLHS, one of our Luddite lecturers, and a contributor to our book [The Charter our Right! Huddersfield Chartism Reconsidered](#). Full details of the Day [can be found here](#).

Yorkshire history on-line

The range of local history resources on-line continues to grow.

[Yorkshire's Hidden History](#) is a fast-expanding collection of entertaining and informative You Tube videos, almost 100 of them so far, by Catherine Warr, 'a Yorkshire girl making videos about Yorkshire history' – also described as 'Horrible Histories meets BBC 2'.

Catherine is also now a digital engagement fellow with the British Association for Local History, and her blog on **The Weird and Wonderful New Year Traditions of Yorkshire** [appears on the BALH website](#) alongside many other short talks and presentations on local history topics.

We hope to have a talk from Catherine in our 2022/23 programme.

New town centre information point

The Huddersfield BID (Business Improvement District) team have opened a new hub at 5 Market Avenue, offering tourist information, including for example the Discover Huddersfield trails, and Huddersfield-themed merchandise, including HLHS and other local history books. They are keen to recruit volunteers to help there – if this might be of interest, details are shown below.

A blue poster with white and green text and icons. The title 'VOLUNTEERS' is in white capital letters, and 'Wanted!' is in a white script font. Below the title, there are several lines of text in white and green, each accompanied by a small icon: a person at a desk for 'Full training offered', a cup of tea for 'Free tea, coffee and biscuits', a calendar for 'Any shifts and availability welcomed', and a handshake for 'Ideal to gain experience'. The text 'All abilities welcome.' is in large green letters. At the bottom, there is contact information in white and green, and two logos: 'Huddersfield BID Business Improvement District' and 'HELLO HUDDERSFIELD'.



Undated photograph of Olwen Carter (1918-1996)

Little Miss Olwen Carter, of Birkby, Huddersfield, has become a public entertainer very early in life. Although only ten years of age she is an accomplished amateur magician, and during the last few months has given as many as fourteen performances at the various carnivals which have been held in Huddersfield for the benefit of the Royal Infirmary. She has a capital repertory of tricks, and is particularly clever as a card manipulator. She has also an easy flow of entertaining "patter." Miss Carter has made conjuring her hobby for two years, and had her first tuition from her father, who was once secretary of the Huddersfield "Magic Circle" — an association of amateur conjurers.

Leeds Mercury (31/Aug/1928)