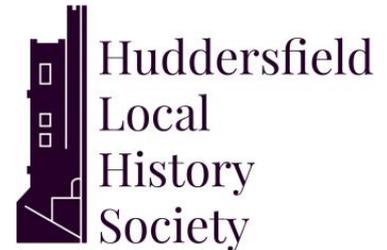


HLHS Members Newsletter

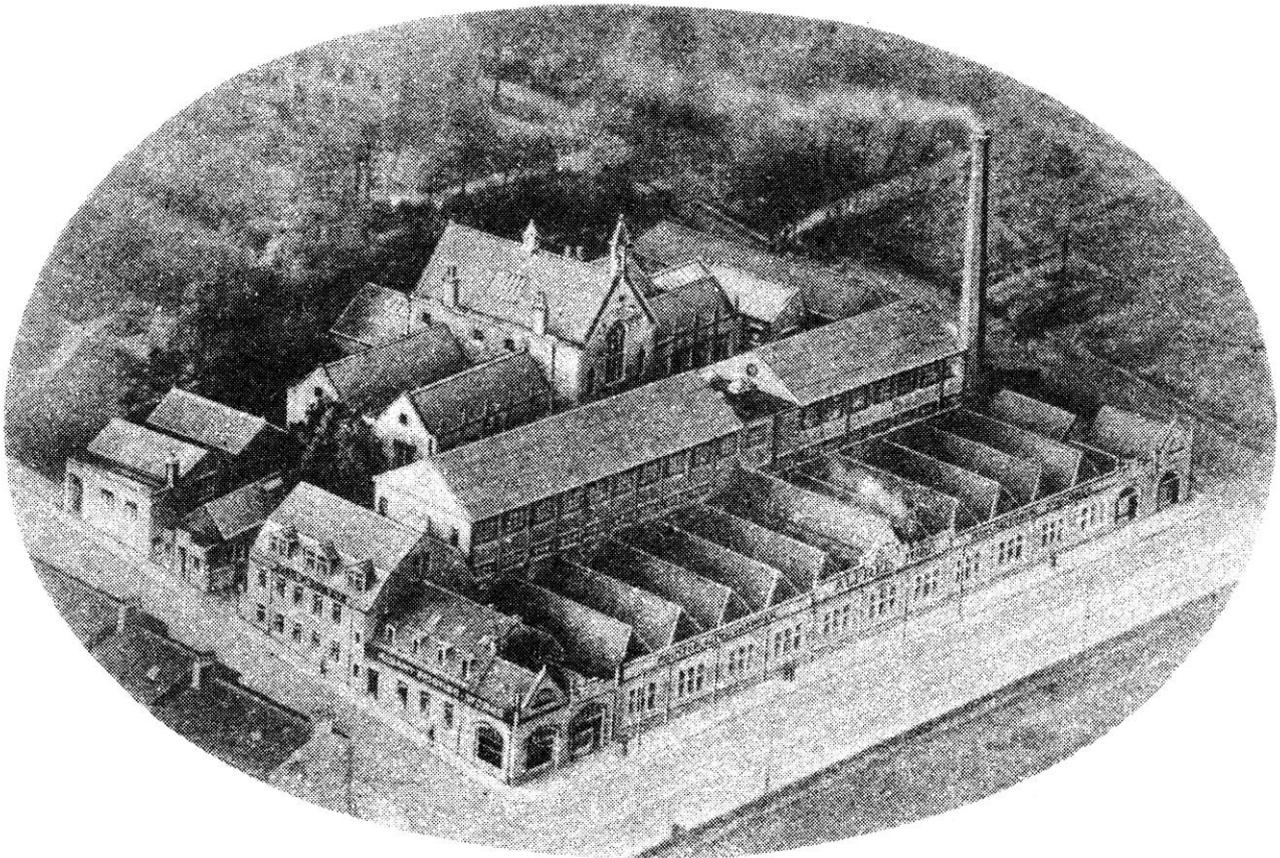
June 2022

huddersfieldhistory.org.uk

email@huddersfieldhistory.org.uk



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



letterhead showing the Albany Printing Works (Alfred Jubb & Son, Ltd.) on St John's Road, Huddersfield

Welcome to our June 2022 newsletter – we hope you enjoy it. The next newsletter will appear in mid-August, with news of Heritage Open Days and autumn events.

David Griffiths and Dave Pattern

HLHS Committee

Chair:

Cyril Pearce

Vice-Chair:

vacant

Secretary:

Dave Pattern

Treasurer:

Steve Challenger

Membership

Secretary:

Val Davies

Minutes

Secretary:

Richard Hobson

Programme

Secretary:

Beverley Norris

Publications

Secretary:

David Griffiths

Publicity:

Chris Verguson

Journal Editor:

Robert Piggott

Web Site:

Dave Pattern

Other

Committee

Members:

Janette Martin

Maureen Mitchell

*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.*

Last Talk of the Season

We have one more talk this season, at **Huddersfield Town Hall at 7.30 pm.**

Monday 27 June: *Walking round Wooldale – Glimpses into the history of a Holme Valley village* – Pam Cooksey and Judith Barden, Holme Valley Civic Society Local History Group

The 2022/23 *Journal* will be available for collection at the June meeting, or will reach you shortly afterwards.

With the demolition of the Market multi-storey car park, the Civic Centre car park in Albion St should be the best bet for free evening car parking.

Heritage Action Zone Events

As last year, we have organised a joint event with Huddersfield Civic Society, during Heritage Open Days, to celebrate the architecture of the Huddersfield High Street Heritage Action Zone. Last year the focus was on the works of William Henry Crossland, including Estate Buildings. This year we are featuring the other key building of the HAZ, the George Hotel.

The George Hotel: Understand... Interpret... Enhance!, a presentation by Helen Walker, Head of Heritage, Bowman Riley Architects and conservation architect for the renovation of the George, will take place at the National Children's Centre (Brian Jackson House) at **7.00pm on Tuesday 13th September**, as part of [Heritage Open Days](#).

Also as part of the HAZ cultural programme, Saturday 21st August will see **The White Line**, a performance event in St George's Square to mark the 75th anniversary of the partition of India and Pakistan. At the same time, it is hoped that inside the Station the 175th anniversary of the first passenger train coming to Huddersfield, in August 1847, will be celebrated. Both events contribute to this year's 'Arrivals' theme of the cultural programme.

Publicising our Society – Using Social Media

by Chris Verguson, Publicity Officer

In the past, if we have had an event or a publication to publicise, we would put together a press release and send it off to the *Examiner* and, more often than not, they would publish it. But the world of local newspapers has changed, and we have had to think of additional ways of getting our news out there.

Much as many of us do not want to get involved with social media, I have come to the conclusion that Facebook and Twitter, used with care, do help to promote local history societies. This is certainly the view of the British Association of Local History. In 2017 we set up a Twitter account and recently we have started a Facebook page. We still send out press releases but we now include local online media such as *Huddersfield Hub, Kirklees Local TV, Huddersfield Times...* All these titles also share our stories on their Facebook pages, and hopefully these are shared again. And while I originally thought of using social media for publicity purposes, I have also come to realise that it provides a community of history and other organisations with which we can share information. Many thanks to Huddersfield and District Family History Society who gave our Facebook page a particularly warm welcome.

For those members who have Twitter accounts, please do LIKE and RETWEET when you can. Similarly, if you have a Facebook account, then please do find and like our page, as well as liking and SHARING individual posts.

To find Huddersfield Local History Society on Social Media:

Facebook – search for [Huddersfield Local History Society](#)

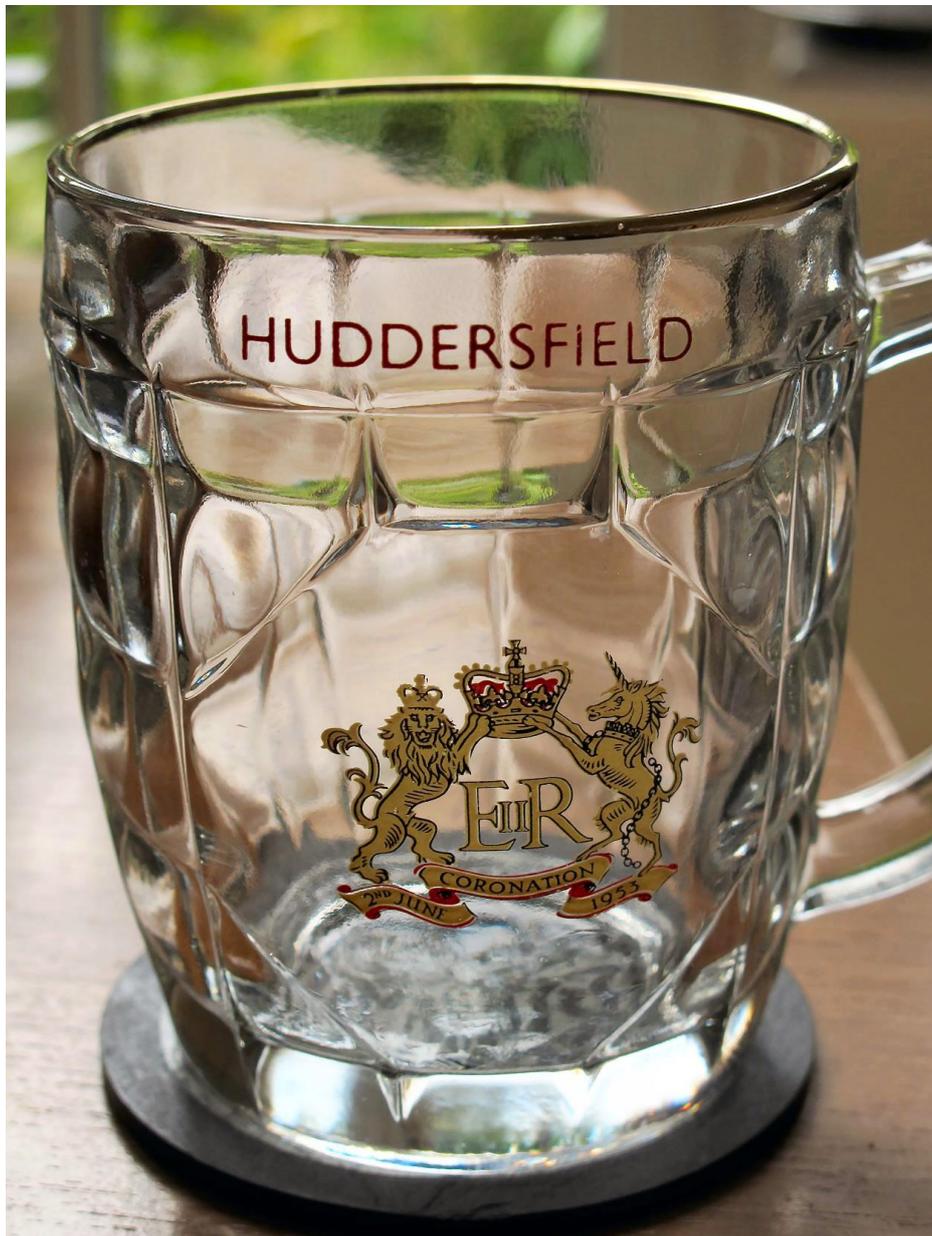
Twitter – [@HuddsLocalHist](#)



A Coronation Memory

The Platinum Jubilee event has prompted this memory from member Anne Brook:

'At the time of the Coronation I was at school in Huddersfield. When my mother came to collect me one day she found we had all been given commemorative items by the Council. However, she was both startled and shocked to find that I, still at infants school, was now the proud possessor of a beer mug! In the Council's defence, my other gift was a New Testament. Even my father, always more socially liberal than my mother, found little to say in defence of the beer mugs. As for the school, it had close links with the Methodist church so I doubt they were very amused either!'



Sundays in the Leeds Suburbs

The Thoresby Society is offering a programme of walks over coming Sundays:

- Sunday, June 26th at 1pm — *Bramley: the Village that Disappeared*
Meet outside Tesco at Bramley Shopping Centre
- Sunday, July 3rd at 2pm — *An Armley Amble*
Starting from the Public Library at the corner of Town Street and Wesley Road
- Sunday, July 10th at 2pm — *What's Happening to Holbeck?*
Meet by Victoria Bridge on Neville Street, to explore many early-to mid-19th century industrial buildings
- Sunday, July 17th at 2pm — *Chapel Allerton: the Montpellier of the North*
Meet at the War Memorial on Harrogate Road, near Chapel Allerton Library and south of the junction of Stainbeck Lane and Harrogate Road.

Booking is required: email janetdouglas21@hotmail.co.uk indicating which walk(s) you wish to attend.

Closer to home, the Discover Huddersfield walks are in full swing, with [full details here](#).

A Local Link to Slavery

by David Griffiths

When slavery was abolished in the British Empire in 1833, Parliament notoriously provided £20 million to compensate the dispossessed slave-owners. Historians at University College London have painstakingly analysed the records of all those who received these payments and made their findings available online in the [Legacies of British Slavery database](#). A search on 'Huddersfield' returns no entries – the town's wealth in the late 18th and early 19th century derived from land, the woollen trades and manufacturing, and unlike Lancashire's cotton industry there were no natural links to the slave economy of the British Caribbean.

The book of the project* does, however, reveal an interesting connection to the Ramsden family, the town's dominant landowner. As the authors record:

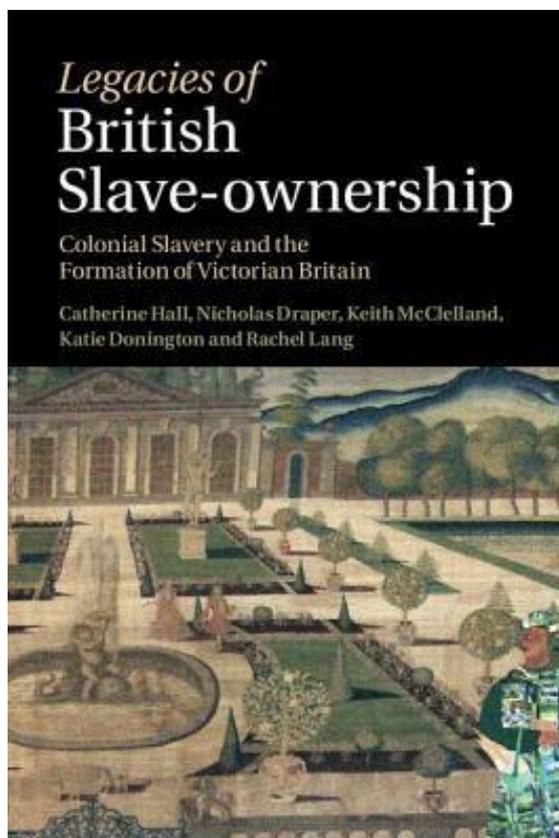
... in the case of the Dundas family, the original acquisition by Sir Lawrence Dundas of Kerse (1712-81) of estates in Grenada and Dominica appears to have been part of a much wider programme of purchase of real estate and financial assets ... from the proceeds of army contracting. One of the estates, Dougalston in Grenada, was passed to Sir Lawrence's grandchildren, first to the naval officer George Heneage Lawrence Dundas and then to his brother and heir Lawrence Dundas, first Earl of Zetland, who was awarded the compensation for the enslaved people upon it in 1835.

The database reveals that Dundas received £4818/0/6 for 189 enslaved persons at Dougalston, while at the Castle Bruce estate in Dominica, in which he had a one third share, he received £1105/14/8 in respect of 162 enslaved persons. In today's purchasing power, the combined sum amounted to some £400,000.

As for the Ramsden connection, Lawrence's sister Isabella Dundas married John Charles Ramsden, and after his death in 1839 their son Sir John William Ramsden inherited the Ramsden estate. Because he was only eight at the time, the estate was managed by trustees until he came of age in 1852. Among those trustees were his mother Isabella and Laurence Dundas's son Thomas (Laurence too having died in 1839), to whom we owe the town centre street names Dundas Street and Zetland Street.

The *Legacies* authors acknowledge that 'slave-ownership does not appear to have been a central driver of the [Dundas] family's wealth', and although the Ramsden estate made major investments in Huddersfield during the years of trusteeship in the 1840s, these are unlikely to have drawn on the Earl's personal wealth. However, the connection is still of some historical interest, and other connections perhaps remain to be unravelled.

* Catherine Hall et al, *Legacies of British Slave-Ownership: Colonial Slavery and the Formation of Victorian Britain* (Cambridge University Press, 2014).



Where in Huddersfield?!

We've received a query via email to try and help identify the location that this photograph of Huddersfield was taken from. The image appears in the *AA Book of British Towns* (1979)...



If you recognize the location, please get in touch: email@huddersfieldhistory.org.uk