



The Newsletter of the Lytham Heritage Group

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*Dicconson Terrace before the extensions.
- See later article on new Shops Exhibition in the Autumn in the Heritage Centre (LHG Archives)*

Notes from The Chairman

A warm welcome to our summer edition of the Antiquarian. I have to say that "warm" does not exactly describes the weather for most of May. However, the combination of rain and a hint of warmth in the day has encouraged healthy growth in the garden this year.

I am writing this a little later than normal as we have been away so the Jubilee has just been and gone. Possibly you have been to one or more of the many activities around the town, had a family and friends get together or watched all the celebrations on TV, a bit like the Queen has done! It is certainly an historic event and it is unlikely ever to be surpassed and will no doubt live long in the memory for many.

Our venues are all busy with a host of visitors and it will no doubt increase with the upcoming school holidays. The talks take a short summer recess in August but details of what is to come from September you will find further on. If anybody feels they can give a talk on a Heritage related topic, or have heard an excellent one you think we might be interested in, please contact me via the website, or drop a note into the centre as I am always looking to expand our speaker data base.

I wish you all a lovely summer and see you hopefully at one of our events.

Sue Forshaw

Visit by The Squire of Lytham Hugo Bryan

The Squire of Lytham, Hugo Bryan, visited Lytham Hall on Easter Saturday to officially open the 1940s Military Convalescent Hospital Exhibition. Hugo was accompanied by his partner, Emily Bull, and both were thrilled to see the completed projects since their visit last summer.

In WW2, Lytham Hall was requisitioned by the government, as many stately homes were, to provide care for those recovering from the injuries of war. The grounds provided space to exercise and a quiet haven away from usual life at that particular time of disruption.

JULY 2022



Visit by The Squire of Lytham Hugo Bryan cont.

Hugo was thrilled to see the newly restored Billiard Room, the redecoration and repairs to Violet Clifton's Boudoir and Dining Room, as well as John Talbot Clifton's bedroom.

The Squire and Emily then moved on to the town centre to meet the team of Lytham Heritage Centre. The pair were able to view the exhibition by Jeffrey Hammond, of Jethro Tull fame, before it drew to a close this week. Jeffrey was there to greet Hugo and Emily who enjoyed a personal tour of his works. A busy programme of exhibitions is planned at the Heritage Centre throughout 2022 and details may be found on the website. *Steve Williams*

Artist Jeffrey Hammond in front of one of his paintings at the Heritage Centre with the Lord of the Manor of Lytham Hugo Bryan and Emily Bull at the recent visit.



Membership and more

Membership was due on 1st April and thank you to all who have paid and a warm welcome to our new members. Unlike everything else we buy we have retained our membership fees to £10 for an individual member and to £15 for a family membership. This is only possible as we now have our income back from donations in all our venues. Until the year end, we will not know how those donations have fared compared to pre Covid levels with the squeeze on family incomes. As a result, that cost may have to be under review for 2023 as well as our admission charge for the talks we run in the Assembly Rooms.

Unfortunately, if you do not re-join this will be your last Antiquarian so we thank you for your support up to now but there is still time to get the membership money to us. We have experienced a few difficulties with distribution of the Antiquarian recently especially with a glitch on sending by email which has now been resolved so apologies if it affected you. The default option is to send by email so if we do not have your email address, please could you let us know it. There is still the option of a hard copy, just let us know please. You can contact the Membership Secretary via the website or drop Dave Hoyle a line via the Heritage Centre. or by email at - membership@lythamheritage.uk

It is also an important way we can find out if you could spare some time to volunteer in some way. In the Easter / Summer season there is volunteering at the Windmill and Old Lifeboat House which has been tight this year to accommodate holidays etc for obvious reasons. The Heritage Centre is open for 10 months of the year 6 days a week which requires a much larger group of volunteers. We also hold up to 7 monthly talks a year and I have a small group who help with serving refreshments and manning the desk but we always need more for flexibility. Please let us know if and how you can help.

The website is now set up by Phil Stringer with so many features to keep you informed and is well worth a visit.

Thank you.

Sue Forshaw

NEW MEMBERS

A big welcome to new members Mr and Mrs Boddis, Ruth Howe and Karen McLeod.



The late Ken Buckley 1936 - 2022

A great supporter and patron of the Lytham Heritage Group, Ken Buckley died suddenly in hospital on the 8th May 2022. Ken made the excellent models of the Windmill which he donated to the Group to raise funds. Our Windmill co-ordinator Steve Williams knew him and his wife Jo and below reminds us of Ken's great modelling skills and kindness. Our thoughts go out to his family at this sad time.

Ken Buckley

Ken approached me a good few years ago as he had made some cardboard models of the Windmill and Lifeboat House which he wished to donate to the Windmill Museum.

I went to visit him and his wife Jo at South Park Lytham and I was amazed to see the wonderful and accurate models

As a draughtsman, Ken had retired from BAE Systems and he put his skills and spare time into designing models in cardboard. It was clear from the first few models that he was very skilled in designing and building three dimensional models from 2 dimensional card.

The following year, over winter, he built a range of models of the Fylde Windmills. Three of these are on full time display, in pride of place, by the main entrance of the Windmill museum, along with other models elsewhere in the museum.



Three models made by Ken Buckley form the centre piece in the Windmill Exhibition (photo by Steve Williams)

Ken then started making smaller models of Lytham Windmill, that we could sell. Typically, he would spend the winter making the Windmills in two sizes. Each Easter he would give me a call and I would fill the car boot with boxes of models to put on sale. They always sold like hot cakes. He did this for a number of years, building the models over winter, raising many hundreds of pounds of income to support the Heritage Group and the Windmill Museum. He was eventually made a Patron of the Lytham Heritage Group as a result of his hard work and fundraising efforts. Ken would also regularly visit the team at the Windmill on his bicycle on his regular cycles around the town for a catch up or to repair the models.

Sadly, Ken died suddenly and unexpectedly in May at the age of 85. He leaves his wife Jo and son John. He was an absolute gentleman who cared very much about his town of Lytham. I and the Windmill team will very much miss him popping in to say hello and my trips to collect the Windmills over a cuppa and a catch up chat.

RIP Ken

(Steve Williams)

Heritage Centre Exhibitions

The Group are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to be part of a small team who would enjoy working to set up our art and heritage exhibitions at Lytham Heritage Centre. We would like more than one person to allow for flexibility for other commitments.

The purpose of this role is to be a member of the team that hangs and sets up all the exhibitions at the Heritage Centre: - 12-14 exhibitions each year. So it means spending a morning, usually a Monday morning, 12-14 times a year. The dates will be agreed before the start of each year.

One person will be asked to manage the teamwork required to hang the pictures, display ceramics or any other art media. They will liaise as required with the Exhibitions Coordinator, Hilary Fletcher, artists and the Archive team, to ensure the changeovers go smoothly and everyone is aware of any special circumstances before the start of each exhibition. There may be a need to attend a few meetings. They will also liaise with the rest of the team to ensure they are available for each set up, and invited to any Private Viewings.

Training will be given as required and written details of the tasks will be provided.

(This role does not cover all the aspects that are done by the Coordinator with regard to planning & publicising the exhibitions and liaison with all the exhibitors. This is covered by someone else.)

If you would like to consider this interesting role, please contact Hilary Fletcher or Audrey Kirby at the Lytham Heritage Centre or by email at

hcexhibitions@lythamheritage.uk

Hilary Fletcher

Thank you

AMAZON SMILE

The Lytham Heritage Group can benefit from a donation from Amazon if you kindly place your order through smile.amazon.co.uk.

Further details are available from Mike Bell at treasurer@lythamheritage.uk Thank you.

Future Events

11th July 2022 Interactive talk by Denise Hadley and Ann Bougetas

Although we do not tend to have a talk in July, I have been able to organise one. I went to an excellent one on Violet Clifton at Lytham Hall and asked Denise Hadley if she could reproduce it for LHG which she agreed to. It is to be held on **11th July at 2.30pm** in the Assembly Rooms. Violet was the last lady of Lytham Hall and she led a fascinating life. Do come and see and hear all about the life of a very interesting woman.

12th September 2022 Anniversary meal at the Glendower Best Western, St Annes

This meal will celebrate the anniversary of our founding but also the Centenary of the Amalgamation of Lytham and St Annes. It is on **September 12th at 12.30 for 1.00pm**. We have both the lounge and dining room which will hold a maximum of 35 so early booking is advisable. The completed order form

and payment should be with me at the centre by Wednesday 24th August please. There has been a rise in the cost of the meal for all the obvious reasons and it does not include a tip, which will be at your discretion. There will be a short presentation at the end of the meal about the Amalgamation of Lytham and St Annes.

10th October 2022 Autumn Gardening in Lytham

This will be presented by Greg Anderton from "Leafy Lytham" and the Lytham Hall Hub on **Monday October 10th at 2.30pm**. We will look forward to lots of tips for our own gardens.

14th November 2022 Stories from the QMS and AKS Archives.

This is to be presented by Elizabeth Bickerstaff who works in the AKS archive and at the time of writing this, is writing a book on Queen Mary School. It is on **Monday 14th November at 2.30pm**.

Sue Forshaw

Talk by Anne Aitken 11th April 2022

Sue Forshaw

I thought it would be an interesting topic to have as Lytham Club Day is such an iconic institution. I know Anne, who is Vice Chairman of the Lytham Club Day Committee, and she agreed to do one especially for LHG. As well as an excellent audio-visual presentation she had a display of costumes and artefacts from Club Days past. I am sure nostalgia was high on the list of emotions for many in the audience. It certainly brought back memories of our children on various floats from pirates to fairies and even for David on the one for Albert Street Sunday School many moons ago!

Talk by Trevor Mackay 9th April 2022

Sue Forshaw

After some initial problems with the computer which we were able to resolve thanks to someone dashing home for a computer, we got started. It was the first talk Trevor had done publicly so

as with everything new he hoped it would go well and it did. He gave us a potted history of both how Lytham in Bloom had been set up and his involvement in it. He was full of praise for all those who set it up in the first place and like everything that is successful it of course expanded to what we see today. He talked about all the local and national awards it had achieved which were marvellous many with the RHS. Of course, what enhanced the presentation were the images on the screen which were both colourful and imaginative. From the various incarnations of the "Green Man" to the development of the iconic Windmill in the Square. A most interesting talk and one we thanked Trevor and his team for in making our town beautiful. He still keeps a weather eye on our centre garden and as a group we presented him with a cheque towards the plants and equipment needed both for us but also the other displays.

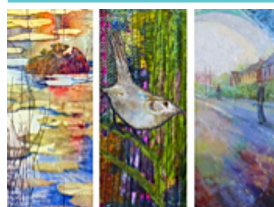
Heritage Centre Exhibitions Programme 2022

Our first art exhibition - paintings by local man Jeffrey Hammond - was very well received and Jeffrey welcomed the many comments and expressions of amazement as our visitors looked in awe at his large and colourful paintings. The next exhibition by The Blackpool Art Society was a lovely contrast, lots of varied artwork in different media. This was followed by a small group called The Garden Walk Artists from the Preston area - beautiful watercolours, textile and oils made for a very calm serene exhibition.

"Sea-Clay" Ceramics by Northern Potters (West).

As I write, from 31 May - 19 June, we have beautiful ceramics, all redolent of sea and sand... in clay. Here is the poster - there are some very unusual and stunning pieces.

Hilary Fletcher



"Not Just Paint" from 21 June - 10 July we welcome for the first time, Preston Art Society. I am sure this will be packed with mixed media art, from an even wider section of the excellent talent in the north west.

12 - 31 July "The Folies - Observations on Life" is a posthumous exhibition of paintings by Will Pickering. A few of these are large stunning abstracts and most are insightful narratives, some sketches, mainly oils - by a hugely talented artist.



02 - 21 August The Brentleigh Artists

-exploring Contemporary Art. We are pleased to have the return of this small group who always delight with their mixed media and variety of subject matter.



23 August - 11 September "Human Land" Photographic Studies and Landscapes of Northern Britain by Peter Laurence.

Peter will provide a wonderful array of photographs, showcasing his skills as well as the beauty of our landscapes.



The Great Day - and it poured down

LYTHAM ST ANNES celebrated the granting of the Charter of Incorporation, by which the two towns advanced from urban district status to the dignity of one municipal borough, on May Day, 1922.

Elaborate preparations were made to celebrate the event, and a great deal of care was taken to ensure that the ceremonies should be impressed on the children. Unfortunately, heavy rain fell nearly all day so heavily that the only surprise was to see so many people assembled to hear the reading of the Charter.



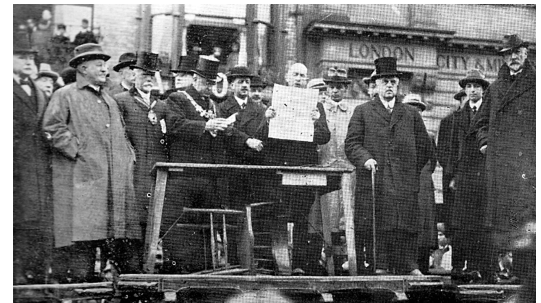
The first of the day's ceremonies was the handing over of the Charter at the two ends of the new borough. Shortly after nine o'clock St Annes Council members and officials motored to Lytham, where they were joined by Lytham Council members and others, including the Squire, Mr J. T. Clifton, his wife and family.

By the bridge over Liggard Brook on the Lytham-Warton Road, they found a rope stretched across it. On the other side were the Charter Mayor (Councillor C. F. Critchley), the Deputy Charter Mayor (Councillor T. Horatio Wood), the Charter Town Clerk (Mr T. Bradley) and the Deputy Charter Town Clerk (Mr C. A. Myers). After handing over the Charter to Councillor Wood, Councillor Critchley exchanged good wishes for the success of the borough with his deputy. Then the procession of 20 to 30 cars re-formed and, on their way, back was met opposite the shipyard by Lytham Subscription Band and mounted police.

The procession then moved to Lytham Council Offices where the Charter was read by Mr Myers. After the ceremony the lifeboat rocket was the signal for a peal on the parish church bells. The official party then went to Squires Gate, where a second boundary ceremony was enacted, the Charter being handed back to the Mayor by the Deputy Mayor.

Driving back along Clifton-drive North the party was met at Beach Road by the St Annes Band, which led the procession to the Square, where a large number of ex-Service-men were lined up, in addition to schoolchildren and the general public.

The Charter was publicly read by Mr Bradley, after which a resolution, thanking the King and Queen (King George V and Queen Mary) for the granting of the Charter, was sent by telegram to the King, whose reply expressed the hope that the new borough would prosper and flourish. Afterwards, St Annes War Memorial Hospital was opened by Lord Derby.



Luncheon was served at the Grand Hotel to about 120 guests, representative of St Annes, Lytham and including several mayors from Lancashire towns, distinguished citizens and members of the Lancashire County Council.

At the County Hotel about 70 junior officials and staffs of the town councils, including the gas, electricity and tramways departments, were also entertained to luncheon.

Schoolchildren's sports were held at a later 'date because of the heavy rain.

A concert party entertained in the Ashton Pavilion in the afternoon, and an evening concert, organised by Councillor A. Rawstron, was given in St Annes Pier Pavilion.

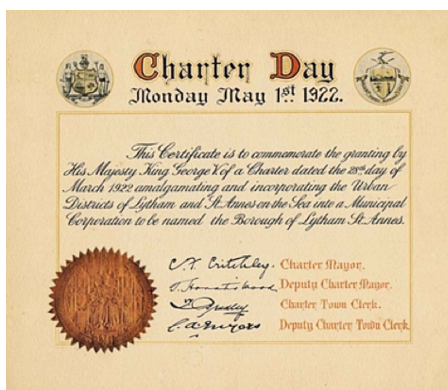
Dances were held at the Hotel Majestic, the Ashton Pavilion and the Parish Rooms, St Annes, and the proceeds were given to St Annes Hospital.

Impromptu entertainment was provided in the afternoon at Ansdell Institute and there was a whist drive and dance in the evening. At Lytham a group of players entertained in the Baths Assembly Rooms, and dances were held at the Baths and Lowther Pavilion, the proceeds going to Lytham Hospital. A souvenir certificate in colour was presented to all elementary (the name then) schoolchildren in the town.

It commemorated the granting of the Charter and bore the coat of arms of Lytham and St Annes

Written by David Hoyle and taken from the newspapers of the day *The Lytham St. Annes Express*, the *Lytham Times* and the *The Lytham Standard*

All available to view at Lytham Heritage



Archive Catalogue

We have a large number of items in the Heritage Group Archives which are held in our room in Lytham Institute. However we didn't have a way of easily letting people know the details of what we have in there. There was a list built up over the years on a single laptop but that could only be consulted by going to the Institute. We were also concerned that it was built upon some specialised software and we no longer had anybody who knew about the details and it would only work on that particular computer. So having a replacement was an important consideration.

I have been involved with the AKS archives where we use some specialised software to manage that catalogue and it follows international archive cataloguing standards. However it was written many years ago and we have found various limitations within it. It does have a web interface so that people can hopefully discover the items we hold in the archive but that is difficult to use, even for those of who know what is in there. So I searched around to see what was available nowadays, preferably something that was freely available, and chose one called Archives Space. This has most of the functionality required.

You can access it by going to the Archives page in our web site <https://lythamheritage.uk/Archives> and see what documents and artefacts we hold there. Do be aware this is a list of the paper documents which you will need to go into the archives to see. Digitisation of them is a project for the future.

The information currently in the catalogue has been extracted from the old system and imported into the new one with a number of changes, such as fixing spelling errors, to make it easier to use. What we have from there is title, date, category and location.

- The title is a brief description of the item, although some such as "Picture of two mugs" need more detail. We now have the fields to hold a much better description.
- The date can be used as a search term to help focus on particular pieces of information.
- The field previously called Category is a mechanism for grouping related information together. We have now been able to move a hierarchical structure so you could look for Churches, then St Cuthbert's and then get down into the individual items we have for it.
- The location is a vital piece of information as it tells the archivists where to find the items you wish to see. However the location information is currently not always correct as things have been moved around over time and the old catalogue was not always updated. The new system makes it much easier to do that so over time things will improve.

I've enhanced the Local History section of our web site so we can easily list the related items in the catalogue that we have for each place. So if you got to the Lytham Pier page there is now a link to list the items we have about it stored in the archive.

It is all very new, so we do need to train our archivists how to use and update it so the quality of the information improves. The major task will be checking out the location information to enable them to easily find the information. Then of course we need to add details of all the items not currently recorded in the catalogue, such as the old newspapers we hold.

This provides the ability for researchers to see what information we hold before visiting the archives and also lets you request them before the visit which provides the ability for the archivists to get them out ready.

Phil Stringer

More Shops & Local Businesses Exhibition

Lytham Heritage Centre will be having another Exhibition from 4th October to the 6th November 2022 and this time it is called "More shops & Local Businesses".

The last shop exhibition had over 2,000 visitors and was very well received. Many comments were made, some asking for more shops, as we could not display every shop in Lytham because we had no information or photos to help us.

This time we have excelled and have reached out to local businesses for help and it promises to be something very special.

Many images, never seen before from private collections, long-lost shops and businesses from Lytham and also St. Anne's which I am sure you will remember, will be on display. This has taken many hours to prepare and as I am writing this article for the Antiquarian, we still have a long way to go. Without the help of the Heritage volunteers this exhibition would not be ready for October.



Clifton Street 1970s (Lytham Heritage Group Archives)

The team have all worked hard and involved many shops by visiting them and asking about when they came to Lytham and what shop they took over, we have asked for photos and anything that would help make the October Exhibition as good as the March one, if not better.

Dave Hoyle

Update on the progress of the Lytham Institute

We are still one of the tenants of Lytham Institute with our Archive which is going from strength to strength, but long term there continues to be uncertainty. Fylde Borough Council are the only Trustee of the building which has Charity status. As a reminder I am a member, representing LHG, on the Lytham Institute Working Party chaired by David Gill looking at a viable future for the building. As well as individuals and local councillors, various other focus groups are involved, with Lytham St Annes Civic Society spearheading the legal opinion on the future of the building. There was the recent consultation by the Charity Commission to gauge the views of local community groups and individuals and LHG put in a submission.

Thank you to all of you who filled in the form and sent it to the Charity Commission. You will find our submission on our website. There has been no feedback as yet but hopefully I can put some news in the next edition. If you want to air your views on the matter do contact your local councillor or Mark Menzies our MP.

Next Edition of the Antiquarian

An article by John Jameson on Private Frank Barlow of Lytham who died in "The Great War" will be in the next issue as well as other items of interest.

Future Events - Anniversary Lunch

This is to be held at The Glendower, Best Western, St Annes

on Monday 12th September 2022

At 12.30pm for 1.00pm

Please complete the form below for your choices which must be returned to the Heritage Centre for the attention of Sue Forshaw.

Please return by Wednesday 24th August 2022 at the latest please.

Cost will be £26.95 for members and £28.95 for guests. Please make cheques payable to "Lytham Heritage Group"

Name(s)

No in party Members _____ Non members _____

Contact Address _____

Postcode _____ Telephone number _____

E mail if available _____

Choices:

Starter _____

Main _____

Dessert _____

I enclose a cheque or cash for £ _____

I would like to sit with-----

To Start

Cream of tomato & tarragon soup
Crusty artisan bread

~

Goats cheese casserole
Ratatouille of vegetables

~

Thai style fish cakes
Peanut dipping sauce

Main Event

Slow braised beef in ale
Cheddar cheese dumplings
Mustard mash, red cabbage

~

Haddock gratin
Bubble & squeak
Medley of buttered vegetables

~

Wild mushroom stroganoff
Saffron wild rice, sun-dried tomato bread

Finale

Apple & cinnamon tart tatin

~

Trio of farmhouse ice cream

~

Sticky Toffee Pudding
Butterscotch Sauce, Vanilla Bean Ice Cream

Contacts



We welcome all queries and suggestions. Please contact us at the Centre or by email to:

General enquiries

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Old Lifeboat House Exhibitions - Steve Williams	lhexhibitions@lythamheritage.uk
Old Lifeboat House Stewards - Steve Williams	lhstewards@lythamheritage.uk
Press & Publicity - Peter Anthony	publicity@lythamheritage.uk
Social / Speakers - Sue Forshaw	speakers@lythamheritage.uk
Treasurer - Mike Bell	treasurer@lythamheritage.uk
Windmill Exhibitions - Steve Williams	wmexhibitions@lythamheritage.uk
Windmill Stewards - Steve Williams	wmstewards@lythamheritage.uk