

# BOROUGHBRIDGE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**NEWSLETTER  
SPRING 2015**



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## SPRING PROGRAMME

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 13TH**

**THE BERLIN WALL  
TONY SMAILES**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH**

**BOROUGHBRIDGE IN WORLD WAR 2  
MIKE TASKER**

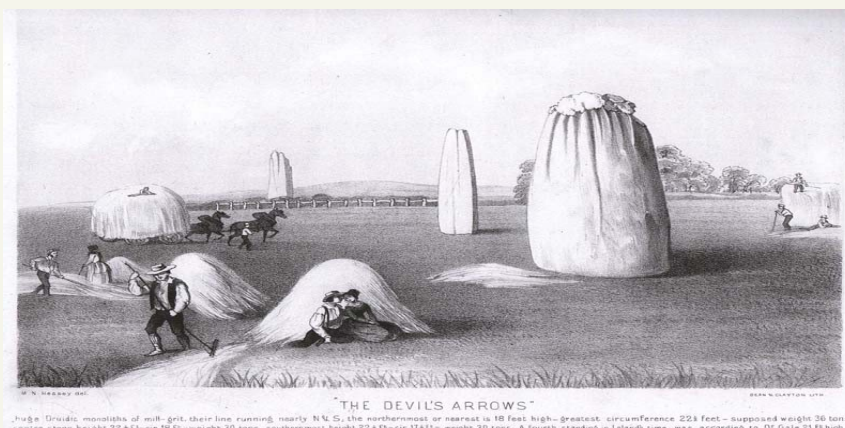
**TUESDAY, MARCH 10TH**

**TEACHING YESTERDAY TODAY; THE HISTORY WE  
PASS ON TO OUR CHILDREN AND WHY  
MIKE HOLYOAK**

MEETINGS ARE HELD IN BOROUGHBRIDGE LIBRARY JUBILEE SUITE AT 7.30

ALL WELCOME; MEMBERS FREE

FOR DETAILS ABOUT JOINING THE SOCIETY CONTACT THE SECRETARY ON 01423 322988



## NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN

John Whitehouse

The good news set out in earlier newsletters continues to abound in as much as speaker quality and membership numbers/guest attendances continue to impress. However, there may be a hint of a dark cloud hovering over the horizon and some disruption to our serene progress may be about to manifest itself. Later in this newsletter a successor to Linda, our very competent and long-serving secretary is advertised for together with a plea for a press secretary to liaise with the local press to ensure notification of future events. The continued existence of the society is reliant on a small band each doing their bit. The work is split up to ensure that no one member has an inordinate share, but to sustain this objective another couple of willing volunteers are needed. On this note, we could also ac-

commodate an extra member (or two) on the committee.

The Lottery Project continues to progress towards its denouement/outcomes. David has given us a situation report later in this Letter (page 5).

Advance notice of a future feature, 'A Boroughbridge Boyhood in the 1850s - excerpts from the diaries of John Richard Stubbs of Bridge Foot' as given to us by his great great grand daughter Alice Bargin. This provides a fascinating social insight into the work and life of the Victorian middle class. I aim to start this in spring 2015.

A brief summary of the most recent talks now follows.

### Ladies of Letters

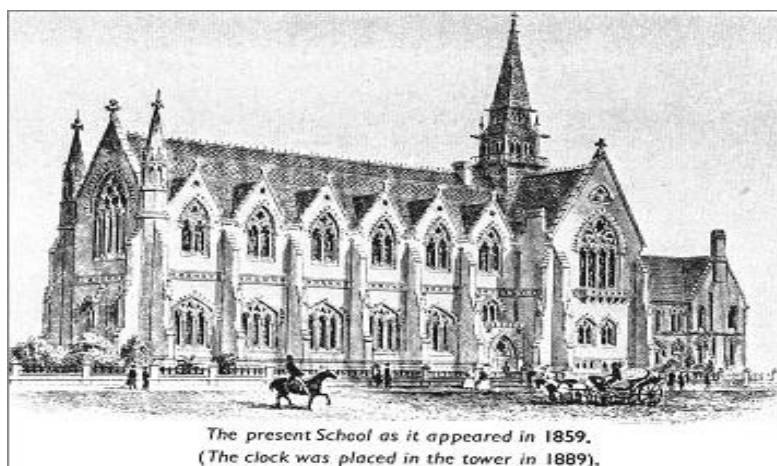
The September speaker was Marion Moverley who gave an interesting exposition entitled 'Ladies of Letters'. An engaging speaker, who used no audio-visual aids, she described the lot of women generally as having no influence, little education, no authority and being disenfranchised in the pre-World War I era. They were, however, often predominant in the family, which they ruled with appropriate firmness. Most frequently held occupations outside of mill hands and farm labourers were maid progressing to lady's maid, governess or housekeeper. There were more openings in Europe for governesses, nannies and teachers, so middle class women saw that route as a way out of the life pre-ordained for them. So these letters quoted by M.M. were eye-openers in so much as they revealed the true feelings and lives of these women.



Inter-alia letters included were from the wife of a Governor to Jamaica in 1802 listing the sumptuous menus served at dinner, another letter from a socialite ridiculing the fashions and their wearers while attending a ball at Versailles in 1786. Women were inveterate travellers when opportunity presented itself. Letters were read from women touring Europe, Cape Town and the African veldt, a walking tour through Europe to Italy and a journey across the Blue Mountains in Australia with convicts to assist the passage through alien terrain. All occurred in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The most poignant were from soldiers' wives who often travelled with their men on active service. The most moving was a letter from an officer's wife at Lucknow, during the Indian mutiny who endured terrible hardships but was determined to greet her husband 'properly' when he arrived with the relieving force. She waited 4 months and finally 2 extra days but he never arrived. A sniper shot him near the gates of the residency.

## History of Leeds

October saw the AGM followed by John Gilleghan with his history of Leeds over 2000 years. He took us back to 400AD in some detail and then concentrated on the City Centre with particular reference to his Alma Mater Leeds Grammar School. I saw Leeds in a completely new light but I could have done so in far less than the 90 minutes John took to educate us! A good speaker nevertheless.



The former Leeds Grammar as it appeared in 1859

## Remnants of a Lost Life

November's talk was the family history of the Hyland family, 'Remnants of a lost life' concerned the fate of 2nd Lt Frederick Hunter Hyland who served as an observer in the R.F.C.. He was due to graduate as a medical doctor but his death in action cut short what could have been a creditable career. More on this next time.

Wishing you all a Healthy New Year

John Whitehouse  
Chairman

## Notes from the Secretary

I feel I must apologise as many of you will know my time over the last year has been taken over by the Dog Kennel Lane Project. This has been an enjoyable project where we have learnt a lot and met some interesting people. Sadly it is now coming to an end and we are at the stage of producing a leaflet and display board for the heritage walk and writing up the research for the website.

As you will have read in John's chairman's report I shall no longer be available for the post of secretary from May 2015. This is mainly due to the fact that by then I will hopefully have two grandchildren and another on the way in June; a fact which involves me in a lot of travelling north and south. So, if you feel you can help with anything towards the running of the society do contact us (see page 9).

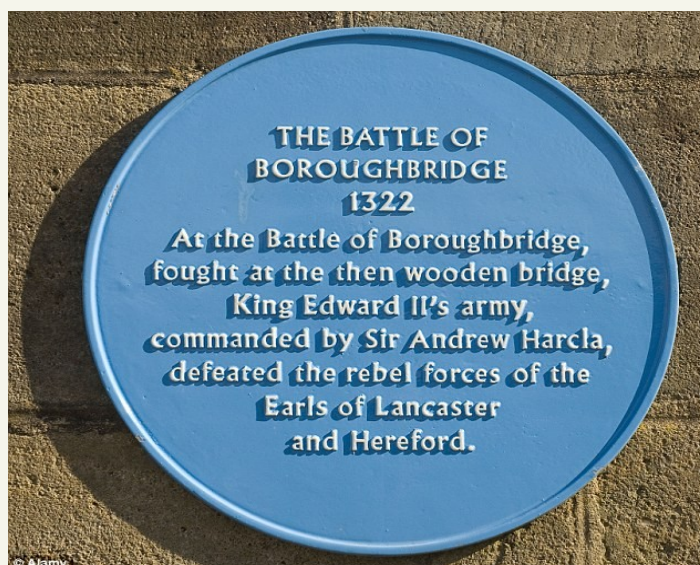
We have had two interesting enquires since the last newsletter both relating to the battle of Boroughbridge. We have been contacted by relations in Australia of Robert De Holland who fought at the Battle of Boroughbridge for any information we had on the battle. We usually refer them to Alex Leadman's book 'Battles fought in Yorkshire' which lists the Knights who fought at the battle etc., this is based on the Lanercost priory records. There is a copy in the Boroughbridge Library Reference dept..

We have also received an enquiry from the USA via the town council, had we any details or drawings of the bridge at the time of the battle. The best we could do with this was to refer them to the poster we had used for the re-enactment of the battle of Bor-

oroughbridge the town held in the 1990s. The actual picture used for the poster was a painting of a battle fought in France around the same time 1322, on a wooden bridge.

On another note, Boroughbridge Library is hosting a family history session on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm entitled 'Find Your First World War Relatives'. It includes an IT taster session using *Ancestry* and *Find My Past*. Computer experience is essential. Booking is required; tickets £2.

**PLEASE NOTE** The next committee meeting will be on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30 pm in the Library meeting room.



## Dog Kennel Lane Project Update, December 2014

Again we have had a busy, and varied three months, with the project in full swing.

The emphasis of the project has changed slightly, away from talks and visits towards discussing, interpreting and recording our findings in greater depth. This approach has been applied to our library of historic maps and aerial photographs and also to the results of our field walking. Of particular interest is the information shown on the Historic Environment Monument Data Map, and how this relates to the long mound which first triggered off the project. This also ties in with the Lidar map of the area. (This shows accurate contours of the land based on laser technology.) This information suggests that there is the possibility that this feature could have been some form of enclosure, maybe two to four thousand years old.

Three visits were made since the summer:

The first was a visit to the Bar Convent in York (see page 9), to discover more about the world of Roman Catholics, their persecution as recusants and the life of Mary Ward of Mulwith; the second was a visit to the Yorkshire Farming Museum at Murton near York. This in the main was a collection of farming memorabilia from the nineteenth and twenty

eth centuries; the third was a conducted tour of Ripley Castle for members and their friends. A report of this is given by Margaret in this newsletter (page 7).

Activities in this period consisted of further field walking in Gill's field, which revealed more flints and an item of medieval pottery. We also had a group spend half a day augering in Willowgarth Wood. This was done to a depth of two metres. The conclusion was that they were looking at the remains of a 'kettle hole', where a large piece of ice from the retreating Ice Age had sunk into the landscape to form a small lake.

At last we have started recording oral history, with interviews from Alan Pearson, Ken Barley, Peter Greenwood, Mike Varley and myself. All are very interesting but conducted with varying degrees of competence!!

I would like to say that I find it very rewarding, how members of the group with individual skills, have brought these skills to the project.

Thanks again for your efforts and good wishes for the New Year.

David Barley. [www.dogkennellane.co.uk](http://www.dogkennellane.co.uk)



Supported by

**The National Lottery**<sup>®</sup>  
through the Heritage Lottery Fund







## Augering in Willowgarth Wood

Kevin points to the depth reached (below centre)

Soil samples to be evaluated (above and bottom right)



## Blood & Treason Tour Ripley Castle, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014

Report by Margaret Tasker

Ripley Castle has much of interest to offer any visitor but as we were there as part of the Dog Kennel Lane project, the Blood & Treason were the main points to look at. The Ingilby family had a long history of Roman Catholicism & thus found themselves on the 'wrong side' many times. During the reign of Elizabeth I some of the family were found backing 'the Rising of the North'.

In 1585 an Act of Treason was passed which made it illegal to be a Catholic priest in England. At this time Francis Ingilby (1550-1586) had fled abroad, refusing 'The Oath of Allegiance' and subsequently became a priest. He came back to England in 1584 & spent most of his time ministering to the recusants of York. He was arrested, tried & hung drawn & quartered on the Knavesmire on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Our guide suggested that Mary Ward, who was a cousin to Francis Ingilby, was greatly inspired by his life and martyrdom. She fled to Flanders when the Gunpowder plot was uncovered; many of her relatives were probably involved in it. She founded many schools for girls and religious orders all across Europe, a radical idea at the time and opposed by Rome (see page 8 and Bar Convent visit on Website for more information on Mary Ward).

Sir William Ingilby 1546-1618 was accused of complicity in 'the Gunpowder Plot' and tried for treason, but the prosecution collapsed when the witnesses refused to testify. Sir William Ingilby, nephew of the above, & his sister Jane (in full body armour) fought the Battle of Marston Moor with Prince Rupert's army against Cromwell's men. They were lucky to escape back to Ripley with their lives. The Tower Room has evidence of a visit of James VI of Scotland on his way to London to be crowned James I of Scotland. Although a Protestant himself he was thought to be sympathetic to Catholics. To curry favour with the new King, a new ornate plastered ceiling was made to impress him. It still impresses visitors today!

In these difficult times of religious persecution many large houses had hiding places for priests. The Ingilby family did not find theirs till 1964. It is in the Knight's Chamber, a very small stony place, not at all comfortable, but then anything can be endured if the alternative is a traitor's death.



The trip to Ripley Castle was enjoyed by members of the Dog Kennel Lane project, historical society members & their friends.



## Bar Convent Museum, York

The Bar convent was founded by Mary Ward, who was born at Mulwith, which is a farmhouse we are researching as part of the Dog Kennel Lane Project. The museum display tells the history of the early recusant period from Henry VIII to Elizabeth I.

Mary Ward (1585-1645) was a pioneer both of women's education and apostolic religious orders for women. Her fascinating life story is told in displays on the ground and first floor of the museum.

The museum also includes recusant artefacts associated with Margaret Clitheroe, the York Martyr, and Gun Powder Plot conspirators such as Guy Fawkes.



Bar Convent Chapel



## Your History Society needs YOU!

Linda has announced her intention to retire from the Secretary's post in May 2015. It would be beneficial if her successor could work in parallel with Linda for a few months to learn the ropes, hence the advertising of the post at this early juncture.

A brief description of the role is as follows:

- organise committee meetings and monthly meetings including room bookings and compilation of agendas
- as contact point for the Society the Secretary will deal with any telephone calls, letters and e-mails
- file and/or archive correspondence/historical material in the appropriate container, e.g. filing cabinet.



Some IT competence would be useful. **If you are interested please contact Linda Dooks on 01423 322988** who will be happy to fully explain exactly what is involved.

One further position is requiring applicants – Publicity Officer. This involves notifying the Ripon Gazette, the Ure Valley News and the Church Magazine of future events. Any interesting developments such as the outcomes from the current lottery project could also be reported. Again, Linda can introduce any interested party to the detail of the job.

The continuation of the Society depends upon the efforts of a small number of people which constantly needs boosting. Any help extended to us will be gratefully accepted. Membership and attendance levels are almost at an all-time high so volunteers will be supporting a winning team.

And don't forget, helping the society could bring other benefits .....

In 2013 the Daily Telegraph reported on the following research .....

*Volunteering is good for you, according to a new study. A research paper in the journal BMC Public Health says doing good deeds for others improves your mental health and increases your longevity. Researchers reviewed 40 academic papers into the effects of volunteerism on our health. They found that volunteers had lower rates of depression, an increased feeling of well-being, and a 22 per cent reduction in the chances of dying in the next seven years. Australians volunteer most, with an estimated 36 per cent of the population lending a hand. Researcher Dr Suzanne Richards said her systematic review showed that volunteering is linked to improvements in mental health.*

### NOW AVAILABLE

**'Boroughbridge in World War II' by Mike Tasker**

**Copies available from Pybus, High Street for £10.00**

**Proceeds to Boroughbridge Historical Society**