

Lancashire Federation of History Societies Open Day

Lancashire Local History Federation

“At Home”

with Chorley Heritage Centre Group

At The Lancastrian Suite, Chorley Town Hall

Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2024



Tom Bamford with his son, circa 1900. He worked at Birkacre Colliery and lived at the top of Birkacre Brow.

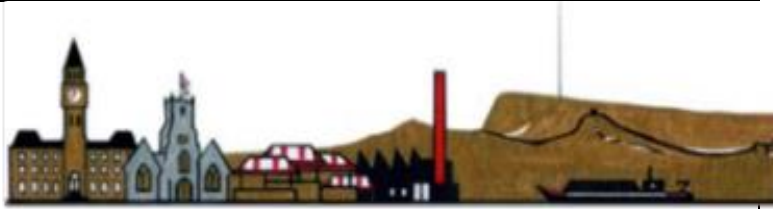
**Programme**

9.30-9.50 am Arrival and Registration, with refreshments, including Chorley Cake

9.50-10.00 am Welcome and outline of the day

10.00-11.00 am Keynote Presentation: Dr Bill Walker “ Myles Standish: Man of Mystery”

( Bill Walker is author of “Duxbury in Decline” and Education leader Chorley



**Chorley Heritage Group Newsletter March 2024**

**Astley Hall 100 Years Project:**

This year marks a hundred years since the opening of Astley Hall to the public. Amy Dearnaley is heading up a project about the recent history of the hall from the residents’ perspective. See her request below.

**MEMORIES 2024** 



We’re carrying out some research into the recent history of Astley Hall to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the hall opening to the public. We’re looking for participants to be part of a project which aims to document a part of Astley Hall’s history that would otherwise be lost. Some of these stories can be recorded but we would welcome engagement in any format you feel comfortable with.

We hope you get involved with this momentous occasion for Astley Hall and we can’t wait to hear all about your treasured memories soon!

Please contact Astley Hall if you have any memories you’d like to share.

[astleyhall@chorley.gov.uk](mailto:astleyhall@chorley.gov.uk).

*Heritage Centre Group)*

11.15am-12.15 pm Guest Historian: Alan Davies “ Chorley’s Place in the Lancashire Coalfield”

*(Alan is former Director of the Lancashire Mining Museum and author of many mining titles including “Coal Mining in Lancashire and Cheshire”)*

12.15-1.00 pm Lunch - with recent exhibitions e.g ” Charles Lightoller and the Titanic”

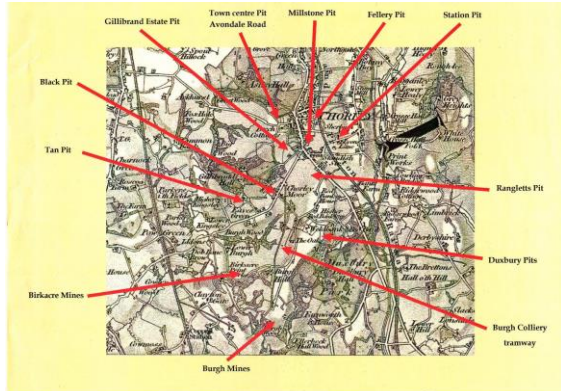
1.00- 1.45 pm Group visits to Chorley Library and “The Lost Coal Mines of Chorley” Exhibition

1.45- 4.00 pm Choice of Field Visits:

- a) Chorley’s Historic Core ( led by David Horsfield)
- b) Astley Hall “The Jewel in Chorley’s Crown” ( a ten minute walk through Astley Park, followed by a guided tour of the recently refurbished Hall)
- c) Tour of Duxbury Hall and Gardens (*members opting for this experience will need to take their own transport to Duxbury or request a lift when booking*).



**Summer Exhibition  
Chorley Library  
Lost Coal Mines of Chorley  
Due June 22nd onwards.**



**Town Trail Proposal**

Positive responses have been received from Lancs CC and Chorley CC Head of Cultural Services. More details to follow.

**Myles Standish Garden Association  
Report:**

8th March - fundraising evening at Duxbury Golf Club with Jazz M Tazz. Tom Atherton held seed planting classes at St Laurence’s school and another is planned. A survey of the garden is planned ahead of St Laurence’s School’s work on it.

**Chorley Heritage Centre Support Group  
Facebook Page** <https://www.facebook.com/Chorley-Heritage-Centre-Support-Group>

You might be interested to keep up to date with what’s happening between newsletters by visiting our Facebook page.

## Ian Bagshaw

Sadly, one of our most loyal members, Ian Bagshaw, died on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February. Ian served on Chorley Heritage Group Committee until health problems made this impossible. However, he continued to answer queries sent to our website, and to supply Richard, our webmaster, with historical photographs to be posted online.

Ian had a wealth of knowledge about Chorley's local history, and places, people, Cunliffe Street Methodist Church, the ROF and football were amongst his interests. He built up remarkable collections of items with local links, and was able to share these on the occasions when the Heritage Group worked with UCLan students and in schools.

When the Heritage Group acquired a vast collection of Chorley Guardian photographs on glass slides, Ian volunteered to digitise them. He spent many months patiently working on these slides, and their preservation in digitised form is due entirely to Ian's dedication.

As well as being invaluable to the Heritage Group, Ian was, for many years, a well-known speaker on topics of local historical interest. Chorley has much to thank him for.

Ian will be greatly missed by Chorley Heritage Group. On your behalf, condolences have been sent to Ian's wife, Linda, and their family. There is no funeral. It was Ian's wish that his body be donated to medical science.



Collection Day in 2015, and Ian is talking with Roland Heald about football, one of Ian's great interests.

