



SUMMER NEWSLETTER

September 2017

We have had another successful year. The talks were well attended, very varied and on diverse subjects. Summaries can be read on our [website](#). And then 2016/17 probably had more outings and walks than any previous MLHS season.

Autumn 2016 found us revisiting the Avro Museum at Woodford, now housed in the former fire station and overlooking a Vulcan bomber. We stayed close to home for our Winter trip to the Stockport Art Gallery and War Memorial but ventured further afield in Spring and Summer.



MLHS Trips and Walks 2016-17



Our Spring outing on a sunny day in April took us to Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet and Renishaw Hall – both new venues for the Society and early July saw us revisiting Cromford and finding out more about its links to the Industrial Revolution.

When we heard that the Fire Station in Manchester was going to be open for a limited period, we arranged a visit at short notice. Everyone who went on the trip found it absolutely fascinating, plans are now well under way for extensive changes, we shall all watch the progress.

Last year's Summer walks proved so popular that three more were included this year. On the first one we were led around All Saints Church yard by Hilary Atkinson, the rain did not deter anyone! Old and new Glossop was explored with Neil Mullineux on a beautiful summer's evening. The third walk was around Bugsworth Basin arranged by Judith Wilshaw and guided by Ian Edgar, again in fine summer weather. In addition, Neil led two tours around the more unknown parts of Lyme Hall in August.

Reports and photos on all our walks and outings can be found on our website – [click here](#).

Our Society's archives are being digitised by a small group from archives and is making good progress with a programme called Omeka. Mark Whittaker aids and helps us with this task. See the article further down for how you can see the result of this work.

We continue to file and update our records; the photographs are always in need of sorting out. See much of our collection in the "[Virtual Tour](#)" on the Marple Website. We still get given documents and pictures, which is great. It is amazing what is still 'out there'. What is old? Anything from yesterday, show us.

The Society's Web Site (www.mlhs.org.uk) is continually being added to with news, articles and information, do look at it regularly. We do value having your e-mail address, which we will keep secure. It is the best way of communicating with members, especially if we have to cancel the meeting or there is a change in the speaker at short notice, checking the website on the day of the meeting will keep you up to date. Don't forget to let us know if you change your details, please!



When we return for the first meeting you will see changes in the entrance foyer. The tea and coffee will be made there with modern equipment. So, volunteering to help will be easy, please do.

We are looking for new committee members, please do not feel you could not contribute, all ages, experiences and skills needed.

2017/18 Programme of Meetings

Sep 18	<i>Strawberry Studios</i> Peter Wadsworth
Oct 16	<i>Arts and Crafts in Marple Area</i> Barrie and Wendy Armstrong
Nov 20	<i>Marple and Mellor – "A Textile Tale"</i> Judith Wilshaw
Dec 11	<i>Manchester "Drunk and Sober"</i> Anne Beswick
Jan 15	<i>Arkwright's Shudehill Mill and Mellor Mill</i> Ian Miller
Feb 19	<i>A Mayor in Chains</i> Neil Mullineux
Mar 19	<i>Woodsmoor, the Story</i> Sue Bailey
Apr 16	AGM – followed by: <i>Liverpool Cowkeepers – A Family History</i> David Joy

I look forward to seeing you at the first meeting on September 18th in the Methodist Church on Church Lane which, as usual, is also enrolment evening.

Subscriptions are £10.00 per person for the full season or £3.00 per meeting for visitors.

Best wishes – Ann Hearle

"Omeka" – the MLHS digital archive

After much hard work, mainly by Committee Member Louise Thistleton, I am pleased to announce that our digital archive is now open!

The Marple Local History Society Digital Archive gives free access, via our website, to thousands of documents drawn from our archives collections. It is a searchable database that is easy to use and which is continually growing. It complements our collaboration with The Marple Website, which publishes our large photographic collection via its Virtual Tour of Marple. To access the Archive, please [click here](#).

This is an ongoing project and there is still lots more to do and volunteers are needed to help - for example, - non-computer jobs such as file management and indexing and computer jobs which need access to a home computer, e.g. scanning photos and documents and proof reading etc. Training will be available. If you would like to find out more, please email archives@mlhs.org.uk or speak to Louise at the September meeting.

The September meeting – Monday, September 18th

Strawberry Studios

Traditionally, St Martin's Church has been the venue for Marple's contribution to the Heritage Open Days Weekend. But not this year as they will be celebrating their [150th Anniversary](#) in November. Instead you could have gone to Stockport and had a tour of Strawberry Studios led by Dr Peter Wadsworth. Sadly, these are fully booked.

But fear not, by an extraordinary coincidence, Peter is the speaker at this season's inaugural meeting, on the very topic of Strawberry Studios. Do look on our [website](#) where we have an introduction to what should be a fascinating evening.

We will have the annual excitement of the enrolment evening before the talk, but it has gone pretty smoothly the last few years so arrive early, clutching your tenners or cheque books and we'll have you in the hall in no time. Doors open at 7:15 pm and the meeting will start at 7:45.

By the way, there is an exhibition about Strawberry Studios at the [Stockport Museum](#) until January 2018.

Cheshire Local History Association

Annual History Day. Saturday, November 4th 2017

[Cheshire Local History Association](#) is an umbrella organisation which promotes the study of the local history of Cheshire, and looks after the interests of local history societies, including Marple Local History Society.

Every year they arrange a [History Day](#) when top class speakers explore an aspect of the history of Cheshire. This year's History Day will take place on Saturday 4th November from 9.45am to 4.30pm and the topic is 'Literary Cheshire'. It is based in Northwich and the cost for the day is £12.

Information leaflets, which include a booking form, will be available at the September meeting.

This is always a really enjoyable and thought provoking day. A number of members have indicated that they will be going, and it should be possible to offer transport to those without transport.

Autumn Outings

Not one, but two opportunities to get out and about with Marple Local History Society this Autumn!

Thursday, October 19th

Eyam Hall - Now or Never

Everyone knows Eyam (pronounced eeem) as the plague village but it also has a superb small manor house which has been in the same family since it was built. The National Trust leased it in 2011 and opened it to the public but they are now giving up the lease and the owners will move back in at the end of the year.



We have arranged for a group to visit the hall and also have a guided walk around the village. There is much more to Eyam than just the story of the plague. It was a centre for lead mining and the field system has changed little since medieval times

We have provisionally arranged it for Thursday 19th October but full details will be available at the September meeting. If you have never visited Eyam Hall this is your last chance. A little gem!

Wednesday, November 9th

Our second autumn outing will be a Walk round Hidden Ancoats, that part of Manchester at the back of Piccadilly Station where the canal network developed and some of the most impressive cotton mills were built. Our guide for the day will be Mark Watson, a member of the Victorian Society, and an expert on the history and architecture of this part of Manchester. It will take place on Wednesday 9th November, and we will start from the concourse of Piccadilly Station at 10.15am. The walk will last for about 2 hours and the cost will be £5 per head.

Full details will be available at the first autumn meeting in September. Places can be booked at the September and October meetings.

Open Gardens in Marple

An opportunity for all you gardening enthusiasts to show off your handiwork and raise a little money for Cancer Research UK.

A group of Marple gardening enthusiasts have got together to organise an "Open Gardens in Marple" event in July 2018, to raise funds for Cancer Research UK.

Currently the group are seeking people living in the Marple area who are interested in opening their gardens to the public over the weekend of Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th July 2018.

More information can be found by clicking [here](#).

So that's it, see you on the 18th