

## MAY MEETING

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
Victoria Hall 10.30 am  
"Ringing through the  
Changes"

Stanley Walmsley  
Coffee served from 10.00am

## GREAT LIVES

The next meeting of the group  
will be on **Wednesday 16th  
April** (11.00am) in Victoria  
Hall when I will be attempting  
to unravel the enigmatic life of  
**Winston Churchill.**

*John Jebson*

## TRAMPS

[www.tramps.org.uk](http://www.tramps.org.uk)

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm Ingleton Community Centre

'Saving Mr Banks' (PG)

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 8pm Bentham Town Hall '12 Years a Slave' (15)

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 7.45pm Settle Victoria Hall

'The White Balloon' (Iranian) (U)

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm Ingleton Community Centre

'The Railway Man'

## LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS

The next meeting is on **24<sup>th</sup> April 2pm. at St. Mary and All Saints  
Church, Church Lane, Whalley, BB7 9SY.** Our guide will be Eric  
Lockwood, a guardian of the church and a member of Clitheroe U3A.  
There is no fee, we are asked to make a donation to church funds.  
Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available after the tour. To find St. Mary's  
follow the 'Brown Signs' for Whalley Abbey. The church is on the left  
before reaching the Abbey. There is no parking at the church but, the large  
car park in Whalley is only a short distance away. If you can offer, or need  
transport, or have any other queries please ring 01729 840319.

*Joan Schofield*

## ROMAN ARCHAEOLOGY

The next meeting will be on April 28 in the Castleberg Room 2pm.  
"Roman Ramblings" - an illustrated talk.

*Tony Burnett*

Copy for publication in the next issue should reach **Chris Taylor** by

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** e-mail: [christine@castlebergh.plus.com](mailto:christine@castlebergh.plus.com)

(Tel : 01729 823975).

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Dear friends,

This last month I dropped in on two more of our groups, Philosophy and Geology. The Philosophy group is working through a book called "Philosophy – Basic Readings" and at each meeting it is decided which chapters will be read by the group's participants for discussion at the next meeting. If this sounds a bit like school and homework you could not be more mistaken. It was clear from the lively discussion that everyone thoroughly enjoyed the session which covered the thoughts of Berkeley and Hulme amongst others. I found this group studious but at the same time a warm, friendly and welcoming group where everybody's contribution is listened to and considered.

The Geology group were studying Structural Geology. Paul has been facilitating this group for about 5 years now and given the professional nature of his presentation I am not surprised that it has grown in popularity. Again it was clear that the participants of this group are enthusiastic and Paul's informed but informal guidance through this topic of stress, strain, folding and breaks kept everyone engrossed.

I asked at the Thursday meeting in March whether there was any interest in starting an iPad self- help group. There has been limited response to date but if you are interested please contact a member of the committee before the end of April.

**I shall be standing down from the office of Chairman in September and since we have no official Vice – Chairman there will be vacancies for at least these two roles on the committee. Please come forward to any committee member if you can think of joining the committee in any capacity. Contact Pat Taylor for job descriptions Tel (01729) 825483**

And finally, may I take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy Easter.

*Nita*

# News from The Groups

## GREAT LIVES

At our March meeting we learned from Ron Stone about Wilfred Thesiger, son of a British diplomat, born in Addis Abbaba in 1912, arguably the last of this country's great explorers. After a conventional Eton and Oxford education he explored widely in North Africa, even serving with the SAS in Libya during World War 2. However it was as an explorer of Arabia's vast Empty Quarter in company with Bedouin tribesmen and his life among the Marsh Arabs of Iraq, together with his writings and photography, that he achieved lasting fame. We were able to follow his journeys with the help of Ron's fine hand-drawn map and share Ron's thoughts that Thesiger lived long enough (dying in 2003) to see the old Arab way of life vanish forever with the discovery of oil beneath the desert sands.

*John Jebson.*

## LOOKING AT OLD BUILDINGS

In March, our Looking at Old Buildings Group travelled to Lancaster to the Church of St John the Evangelist. Our guide, Mandy, was very good at putting St John in context of the life of Lancaster as a whole. St John's started life as a chapel of ease for Lancaster Priory and was built by Henry Sephton in 1754-55. It retains much of its original Georgian elegance and simplicity. Much of the woodwork is by the famous Gillows of Lancaster from around 1785. We sat in original box pews and climbed up to see the organ workings behind the Robert Adam style façade. The organ was the gift of Abram Rawlinson, a Quaker who had been expelled from the Quaker church for carrying guns on one of his ships. Other members of the congregation had been involved in the slave trade. Indeed Lancaster boomed at this time due to the trade in human misery both at home and abroad. Mandy hung many of her facts and information on human stories which made for easy listening.

Due to a declining congregation the Church was closed in 1981 and by 1983 was in the care of the CCT. The vaulted ceiling affords wonderful acoustics and the church is used regularly for a wide range of concerts and plays. Happily, occasional Church services are still held here.

*Wendy and Clive Newby*

## GEOLOGY GROUP

The meeting this month is on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 14:00 in the Victoria Hall, Castleberg Room. The talk will be "**The Story of Settle**". Throughout the year so far we have talked of many aspects of geology and the various processes that occur on and within the Earth. At this session we will look at how those mechanisms have created the landscape we see around us - concentrating on a 20 kilometre radius of Settle where there is evidence of a circa 600 million year history.

*Paul Cochrane*

## PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE OF NEWSLETTER

The Committee has been discussing the value of the newsletter in its present form and offer the following ideas on developing it:

- The proposal to make any changes should be announced in this newsletter with a specific request for feedback before making the final decision about making changes.
- The newsletter to stay as monthly, two sides of A4, but in portrait to save folding and to allow it to be displayed more easily in various places. Printed copies still available for those with no computer access.
- The style and 'panache' should be kept the same.
- Wherever possible the font kept to 12-point Ariel as good practice for easy reading.
- Regional and National events and news to be included.
- Summary of Committee meetings to be included.
- Reports from groups to be kept to around 100 words to facilitate larger print and be of unusual events rather than standard report of each meeting.
- Encourage more groups to use the newsletter to inform the wider membership what they are to do and have done of particular interest.
- Propose to ask the VH, library etc to hold a few copies of the newsletter for general distribution to help publicity.

If you have any further ideas on how your newsletter should be developed, please contact the editor, [Chris Taylor](#) (details on the back) for collation and future decision making.