



Sept.
2021

NEWSLETTER

A warm welcome

We are delighted to welcome into membership Mr Greg & Mrs Michelle Phillips; and Mr Graham Dixon & Professor Tessa Wright.

Chair's message

A few weeks ago there was the first tiny sign of normality when the walk at Stainforth went ahead as planned. This was the first time in 18 months that members had met and I want to thank John Asher for organising a very interesting walk and to Robin Bundy who acted as the back marker.

Hopefully this will be the beginning of our all being able to get together again although our next meeting on 28th September which is 'First skin your sheep' (about the preparation of medieval manuscripts) by Professor Joyce Hill will still be just on Zoom.

It is our intention, unless something changes dramatically, for the AGM to go ahead in the Victoria Hall, Settle on 13th October with Heather Lane as our guest speaker. As many of you will know, Heather is the Chair of the North Craven Building Preservation Trust and Honorary Curator of the Museum of North Craven Life at the Folly and she will be speaking on 'Reflections on the role of cultural heritage'. For those of you who live away or who are perhaps still a little apprehensive about mixing too much, we

are going to try and have a 'blended' meeting so you can still watch and participate in the meeting from Zoom.

Last month we took part in a very successful publicity event at Austwick Parish Hall. Various groups and societies, including ourselves, were able to have a table/boards to promote ourselves to new residents and also long established ones. It was a very sociable and friendly morning and we were able to speak to many people, explaining all about the Trust and we are hopeful we might have picked up some new members. If your own village does something similar please do let us know so that we can raise our profile throughout North Craven.

Much of the last couple of months seems to have been taken up with planning matters and the Trust has objected to a roof extension and various works on Old Hall at Stackhouse which we felt were detrimental to this important Grade II building. Likewise we have objected to an incongruous garden room extension and proposed parking area (requiring part demolition of a listed garden wall) at the Grade II listed Linton Court in Settle. There is an ongoing planning debacle about the proposed development of the National Westminster Bank in Settle which we fear we may have finally lost. Along with Natural England and the CPRE we have objected to the increase in density of the residential part of the Anley Crag



NCHT
Members on the
Stainforth
walk
enjoying a
coffee break
on Pike
Lane before
the climb to
Winskill.
(© Sarah
Moorhouse)

development on the southern approach to Settle, where Candelisa, the developers, are now asking to increase the outline planning permission from 19 houses to 41!

I feel that you will all think that I have continually gone on this year about the need for new recruits to help with the work of the Trust. We still require a Sponsorship Co-ordinator, a Communications Trustee and a Web Master. These are not necessarily onerous jobs but they are important if the Trust is to continue functioning as we expect it to. Communication, for example, has been vital this year when we have had to rely on modern technology for our meetings.

Advertising revenue is an important contribution to offset the printing costs of our highly respected Journal. The importance of our website goes without saying. We really do need some new faces to come forward to help us with these roles as the Trust's work is increasingly important in these changing times and without new recruits our ability to fulfil our functions will be limited. Please contact me to discuss.

Members may be interested in The Lord of Bowland's Tenth Annual Lecture on 5th October 7pm (online). It is to be delivered by Dr Nick Riley and is 'Maps Mines & Minerals – 25000 years of Bowland History. Pre-booking is essential:-

sandra.silk@lancashire.gov.uk.

Please do not forget about the ongoing Walter Morrison Festival with more lectures this autumn details of which can be found at:-

www.thefolly.org.uk.

Sponsorship Co-ordinator

As a gesture of support for local businesses during these difficult times, the Trustees decided not to charge for the advertisements in this year's Journal. However, next year we will be charging for the advertisements and we need a new Sponsorship Co-ordinator. This is an important role for the Trust as the advertising revenue is vital to set off against the cost of the Journal. Time requirements are limited. If you feel you would like to take on the role please get in touch.

Personal security

In these days of identity theft and misuse of personal data the email details of individual Trustees will no longer be made public. Instead we have set up a single address nchtsecretary@gmail.com which will channel contacts from outside the Trust through Anne Webster, who will then forward them to the Trustee concerned.

NCHT website

Our website is a vital communication channel for members and the public, as well as a growing repository for our archives. Frank Woodhams and David Holdsworth have given the Trust sterling service over the years running it. We are very grateful to them. But there comes a time to move on, and now is that time.

We are looking for a volunteer (webmistress? webmaster?) to take on the updating and development of the NCHT website. If you have relevant experience and would like to talk it through please get in touch, in the first instance, with John Asher (nchtevents@gmail.com 01729 825075).

Programme for 2022

The group of trustees who develop the programme are still moving their time horizon forward steadily, rather than setting up a programme for the whole of the following year in the autumn. If you would like to give a talk, or lead a walk, or have any ideas about speakers please contact Sue Cariss (01729 840302 or via nchtevents@gmail.com).

Airton Meeting House

A few months ago we awarded a historic buildings grant of £500 to the Airton Meeting House 2021 Conservation Appeal. The Meeting House is a Grade II* building which is of national importance and we were pleased to be able to help towards its conservation (see picture below). It dates back to 1610 and the Meeting House, burial ground and associated buildings have remained in Quaker use for almost 370 years. It is also used by local organisations and for social and cultural activities. The small group of Friends responsible for its upkeep now have the considerable task of raising some £48,000 for all the conservation work and repairs that are needed.

