



Number 82

January 2024

Annual General Meeting

The Council wishes to notify all members of the forthcoming AGM. It will take place in-person at the Liverpool Athenaeum at 14:00 on Wednesday 20th March immediately prior to Dr Paul Salveson's lecture.

In this issue

Notification of the forthcoming AGM

HSLC online

Membership fee

Book review: *Ellis Island: A People's History*
by Malgorzata Szejnert

Advertisement: Cartaholic Maps

Forthcoming events



Book review: Malgorzata Szejnert, *Ellis Island: A People's History*, Scribe Publications, 2020, £20.00

Over fifty years ago Terry Coleman's classic popular study *Passage to America* (1972) vividly documented mid-nineteenth-century transatlantic migration. Later, between 1892 and 1954, further millions of lower-class immigrants to the United States, including vast numbers of steerage passengers starting off from the port of Liverpool, were filtered through Ellis Island. This was the chief Federal Government point of entry for would-be residents and centre for detention and deportation for the unwanted. Achieving on account of this a certain iconic status Ellis Island has not

lacked historians. This latest book on the subject, however, stands out for its wealth of human detail about the staff who worked there as well as about the endless stream of humanity which passed through. No less interesting is her account of the afterlife of the Island as a popular living history museum with its substantial library, enormous collection of artefacts, and its ongoing oral history and discography projects. That no fewer than a third of its present staff are descended from those who once made their way through its various facilities gives the assurance that this is an institution which is now in caring hands, certainly not always the case in its chequered original past.

– Professor R. C. Richardson

Find us on YouTube

Alongside our presence on Facebook, Twitter, Eventbrite, and our website, the Society records our online lectures and uploads them to YouTube.

You can find our two most recent lectures via the links below:

*Joan Thirsk and the porous frontiers of
English local and regional history*

– Professor RC Richardson –

Watch via this link: <https://bit.ly/3O9ll9a>

*Lancashire and Cheshire in 1848: a new
society in a fast-changing world*

– Dr Alan Crosby –

Watch via this link: <https://bit.ly/48BR3nC>

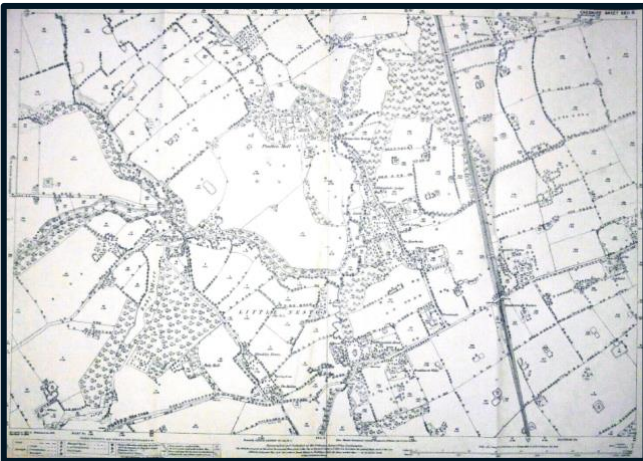


Membership fee changes

Members will be aware that our subscription price of £20, which entitles members to receive *Transactions*, our peer-reviewed journal, and the *Newsletter* and to attend lectures, has not changed in many years.

Costs have, however, risen substantially in the last few years, taking the Society's publishing account into deficit. Council has resisted our publisher, Liverpool University Press, who wished to see a £10 increase this year, but it has been agreed that the subscription fee must rise to £25 from 2025.

Despite this increase, membership of the Society represents enormously good value for money. We hope that members will recognise the imperative need for this change in order to preserve our 175-year-old Society for the future.



Advertisement: Cartoholic Maps

Richard Dean, the Administrator of the Canalmaps Archive (www.canalmaps.net) has contacted the Society about his extensive collection of historical maps and very detailed plans, which he is seeking to draw down over the next few years. Although its coverage is much broader, Richard's collection contains material covering Lancashire and Cheshire, such as the example shown above, which will be of interest to members.

Richard is selling his maps via his 'Cartoholic' eBay account (accessible via this link: <https://www.ebay.co.uk/usr/cartoholic>). Do take a look!

Forthcoming events

In Search of Roman Rural Settlement

– Dr Caroline Pudney, Senior Lecturer in Archaeology, University of Chester –

Held online via Zoom at 14:00 on Wednesday 21st February. Link here: <https://bit.ly/3StQ979>

Lancastrians: Mills, Mines and Minarets: A landmark new history of the great English county of Lancashire, exploring its people's impact on Britain and beyond

– Dr Paul Salverson, visiting Professor, Universities of Bolton and Huddersfield –

In-person lecture at the Liverpool Athanaeum. It will be held following the AGM at 14:00 on Wednesday 20th March.

Mike Stammers Memorial Lecture

May 2024 – details TBC

Cheshire Surnames

– Dr Harry Parkin, Senior Lecturer in English Language, University of Chester –

Held online via Zoom at 14:00 on Wednesday 19th June. Link here: <https://bit.ly/3Ud9uuE>

From Experiment to Policy: Liverpool City Council's Housing Programme 1890-1898

– Dr Bertie Dockerill, University of Manchester –

Held online via Zoom at 14:00 on Wednesday 18th September. Link to follow in due course.

November lecture – details TBC

Please check the Society's website and social media channels to keep abreast of programme updates.