

# Durham County Local History Society

## NEWS - FEBRUARY 2016

[www.durhamweb.org.uk/dclhs](http://www.durhamweb.org.uk/dclhs)

### NEW SEASON OF TALKS - NEW VENUE

One of the important decision taken at the Society's 51st AGM last November was to revive our talks programme, which lapsed in 2013. Two Council Members - Jennifer Gill and Pat Atkinson - agreed to take on the vacant job of Programme Secretary and have arranged a short season of talks at **The City Theatre**, Fowler's Yard, Back Silver Street, Durham City. Access to the theatre on foot is via Walkergate (steps from the Market Place or Claypath), via steps from Silver Street (next to Cottons) or via the lift from Durham Market Hall (near the cafe). There is car access to the theatre but no parking. Parking is available at Freeman's Place or the multi storey Walkergate and Prince Bishops' car parks.

The first talk in the season is at 2.30 pm on Saturday 12 March

#### **Magnificence and Immensity even in Death - the death and funeral of George Bowes**

Giving the talk is **David Butler**, a regular contributor to our Journal and formerly County Archivist. George Bowes (1701-60), an ancestor of the late Queen Mother, was one of County Durham's first coal magnates as well as a local politician. On his death in September 1760, he was first buried at Whickham parish church and then reburied in the chapel crypt at Gibside in 1813.

**The other talks, also at 2.30 pm in the City Theatre, are :**

**9 April** - Marian Morrison : 19th Century Colliery Health Care in North Durham

**14 May** - Catherine Wright : The Annandale Family : 100 years of papermaking

### OUR NEW JOURNAL EDITOR

Immediately prior to last November's AGM, **Dr Mark Egan**, a longstanding member of the Society and a contributor to the Journal, offered his services as Journal Editor. Mark works in Jersey having previously been at the House of Commons. He will be starting work on Journal 81 shortly, beginning with reviewing articles already received. Contact details will be on our website shortly.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

**Thank you to all our members for continuing to support the Society.**

Subscriptions are due on 1st April - rates remain at £15 for individual members, £18 for joint members and £20 for institutional members. If you are paying by a cheque please post this to : **The Membership Secretary, DCLHS, 2a The Links, Cheveley Park, Durham City, DH1 2AG**

## OTHER AGM NEWS

The draft AGM minutes can be read on our website

**PUBLICATIONS** : It was agreed at the AGM that the Editorial Sub Committee overseeing the Society's occasional publications should be strengthened. The Council took the first steps on this at its February 2016 meeting by starting the process of recruiting new Editorial Advisors.

As reported at the AGM, our publication, ***A Visit to the Seaside***, will be ready to go to print this summer. Details of the book at the discounted Members' price will be circulated in the next newsletter.

**FINANCE** : Our longstanding Treasurer, **Douglas Burdon**, will be standing down at the end of the Financial Year. A vote of thanks was moved at the AGM in recognition of Douglas' decade looking after the Society's finances. **Geoff Wallis**, an existing Council member, will be taking over on 1 April.

## EVENTS

To keep up with the increasing choice of events for those interested in history and heritage in County Durham, the Society is a member of the **County Durham Forum for History and Heritage**, which publishes a quarterly e-Newsletter sent by e-mail to its members.

DCLHS members who have signed up to receive e-mail communications from the Secretary will be sent the Forum Newsletter and, if you would like to receive this service and have not registered your e-mail with us, please e-mail ***jdbdclhs@gmail.com***

The Forum's next open event **Twixt Tyne and Tees 2016** will be held at County Hall Durham on **Saturday 14 May from 9.30 to 1**. The theme will be the First World War in 1916. For details see the Forum website ***www.durhamweb.org.uk/historyforum***

## AGM 2016

A provisional date for the Society's 52nd AGM has been set for Saturday 25 June at County Hall Durham between 10.30 am and 2.30 pm. A buffet lunch will be available. The *David Reid Memorial Lecture* will also be given on that day, details of which will be in the next newsletter.

There was a very positive response to the crisis which faced the Society before the 2015 AGM and this needs to be carried forward to the 2016 AGM. The elections for the Society's Council were put on hold in 2015 but will take place this year. *New blood* is still needed to safeguard the Society's future.

***PLEASE CONSIDER PUTTING YOURSELF FORWARD.***