



Quorn Local History Group - Newsletter – 14th September 2022

Talks Programme: Last month's talk from Arthur Plater drew in a large audience and provided us with an interesting insight into the social history working for a large local employer. Arthur provided a detailed synopsis of his time employed at Herbert Morris Cranes; Loughborough works. Our Next Talk will be on Monday 26th September at 7pm at St Bartholomews Church when we are very pleased to welcome from the Centre for Urban History at the University of Leicester, Colin Hyde. Colin will provide us with an interesting insight into the work and content of the East Midlands Oral History Archive. There will be refreshments as usual. Members £2, and guests £4.

Just a reminder, as we know that the church is not the warmest of venues and as the evenings cool down, the energy crises bites, don't forget to wear your woollies! Also, we will be moving venues to the Church Rooms from January 2023 when the talks will move to the last Thursday of each month.

The Quorndon Millennium Map Project: The map is situated at the Cross in the village centre. QLHG honorary member Don Wix MBE originated the idea of a Millennium Map in 1999 and carried through the process to its conclusion. At the time, Brian Williams helped County Hall Central Design Department with the graphics and Ian Keil aided the work on the history notes. The project was helped by the Parish Council and with a Millennium grant from Charnwood Borough Council. As the village has grown since 2000, the map is now in need of updating and the framing renovated. The QLHG have agreed to take this on as a project and funds are available. If you are a cartographer or have similar skills and would like to help, or indeed if you know of anyone you could help, we would love to hear from you. Email quornlhg@gmail.com or speak to a committee member.

Snibson Colliery Visit: Twelve members and friends attended the groups tour of the historic Snibson Colliery pithead and associated buildings on 17th August. We were treated to an excellent afternoon with great guides and the visit was much appreciated by all. It was suggested that we should arrange more such visits. Any suggestions and volunteer's welcome.

Round the Bend: Member Dennis Marchant has been pondering the question of the Poulteney Brook bend (Poultney or Pulteney or Polton Brook) and wonders if anyone can help or have knowledge of the reason?

As a general statement, we know that rivers and brooks flow straight or meander, they do not naturally, in soft ground take right angle turns but this Brook does, near what is now One Ash. There is a culvert which does follow a course of what was possibly the original brook, straight on and under what is now Loughborough Road toward the River Soar, running uninterrupted across the road and Quorn Moors into the River Soar near to Pilling's Lock. Maps provide confusing evidence of this. The question is though, if the brook was deliberately diverted from its natural course to eventually join Buddon Brook, why and by whom? Various theories have been suggested, for instance was it the Romans that diverted the brook to provide water for fish (trout) ponds along the new engineered brook course from the diversion bend to Quorn cross? Or was it farmers in the Middle Ages or later that diverted it to transform the fields into water meadows. Deliberately flooding the fields under controlled conditions by the operation of sluices (also known as floating)? Or was it for a water mill supply, diverted deliberately to join the Buddon Brook to provide a 'top up' supply to drive a mill, possibly on the site of the Wrights Mill flats. Or maybe when One Ash was built to extend the grounds?



Quorn Local History Group YouTube Channel: you can view a selection of videos on the groups YouTube Channel. If you have any that you would like to share or any items for the groups Facebook and Instagram sites simply email: quornlhg@gmail.com