

# New Mills Local History Society

## NEWSLETTER 63



Autumn 2019

*Front cover :*

*New Mills Band at concert in Parish Hall. 14/11/2009 (n08715).*

*New Mills Band in soldiers uniform. C1914 (n04028).      New Mills Old Prize Band outside Town Hall. 01/02/1936 (n04965).*

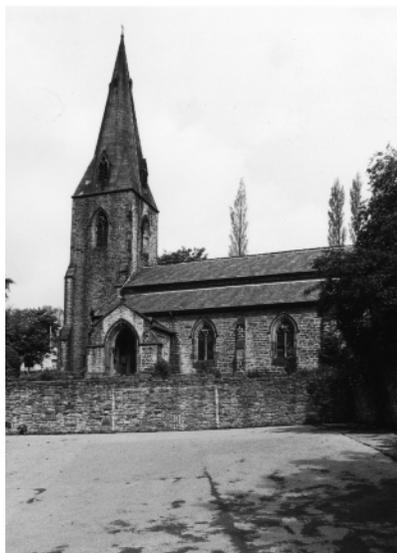
## **Committee 2019-2020**

Chairperson	Roger Bryant (744227)
Vice-Chairperson	John Crummett (749530)
Hon. Secretary	Mike Daniels (746449)
Hon. Treasurer	Maureen Hall (742837)
Hon. Archivist	Andrew Screen (742198)
Hon. Photo Archivist	Roger Bryant (744227)
Hon. Editor	Ron Weston (744838)
Hon. Website manager	Barry Dent (745837)
Ordinary members	Gaynor Andrew, Derek Brumhead, Nicki Burgess, Peter Done, Pat Evans, Chris Jones

## **Places of Worship in New Mills, Mike Daniels, January 11th 2019**

Mike Daniel's talk on the "Places of Worship in New Mills", subtitled a "Secular Tour", emphasised the nature of his interest in the variety and range of these institutions. The inspiration for his research and the subsequent talk to the Society was his work for the New Mills group "Walkers are Welcome" in order to provide a meaningful and purposeful tour with a central theme for visitors.

The meeting followed this planned walk, "visiting" those Churches and Chapels still in active use as well also being made aware of the sites and usage of those no longer serving their original purpose. This did not allow for a chronological approach but a time line provided us with the necessary points of reference. The Puginian Gothic Roman Catholic Church of the Annunciation (1838) with its broach spire- a tapering octagonal steeple sitting atop a square tower but without any parapet between, was the first to be visited. There is also a Lourdes style grotto on site. On a different time scale the simple Friends' Meeting house at Low Leighton was built in 1717. The Quakers (Society of Friends) had been active in the area in

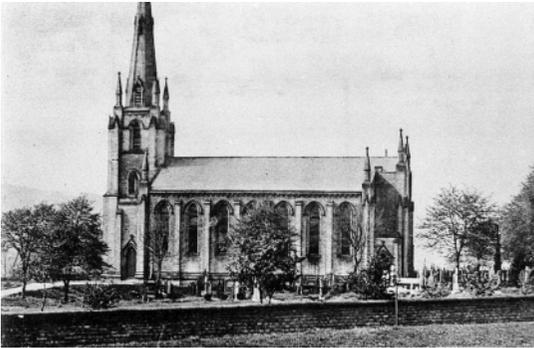


*St.Marys Church c1981 (n07158)*

the 17th century and George Fox visited Derbyshire on a number of occasions in the mid 17th century, always commenting positively on the people's responses to his message. At the other end of this timescale and theology is the Kingdom Hall on Hyde Bank Road, the centre for Jehovah's Witnesses since 1987.

We were also introduced to the range of sites developed by the Methodists still in use or destroyed, decommissioned or deconsecrated- e.g. Mount Pleasant. A very useful diagram was used to demonstrate the fragmentation of the movement in the 19th century, e.g. the Primitives and the Wesleyan Association. The Providence Independent/ Congregational Chapel (1823) and now

United Reform maintains a significant presence with its fine organ and we were treated to some interior photos showing various changes. These coloured images were particularly welcome and added to our enjoyment as did those of the Church of England's St. James the Less (1880) which was heavily influenced by Augustus Pugin (1812-1852) and the Gothic Revival style. The Kempe windows and the timber roofing are superb features.



*St. Georges Church c1920 (n00601)*

Finally there was the Established Parish Church of St. George (1831) a Commission Church which received in today's money a building grant in excess of £200,000 from central government. Before this time Anglican worshippers had gone to St. Matthew,s Hayfield.

With so much development in the 19th century, emphasis had to be given to the fact that such church building took place against the backcloth of the industrialisation and urbanisation of society together with population growth and movement. Religion was perhaps seen as providing a defence against political and industrial unrest.

Mike's talk, brought forward a month, and on an inhospitable evening, was warmly received by an appreciative audience. We left with Derek Brumhead's voice ringing in our ears- "Visit the Heritage Centre and see Wesley's pulpit".

*John Crummett*

## **Ollersett**

**Ron Weston, 8 February 2019**

Ollersett, is the smallest of the four ancient hamlets of New Mills, the other three are Thornsett, Whitle and Beard. Ron explained that as far back as medieval times (the earliest known date is 1298-99) it was part of a wide area called Bowden Middlecale, a three-fold division for tax purposes of ten hamlets (Great Hamlet (Hayfield), Phoside and Kinder, Chinley, Bugsworth and Brownside, Beard, Ollersett, Thornsett and Whitle. In the nineteenth century the last four became linked to form the district of New Mills (Newtown was added in 1875).

Ron explained that Ollersett geographically was wholly east of the River Sett and a fine photograph showed it extending upwards over Ollersett Moor as far as Chinley Churn on the Eastern horizon. He first of all referred to the Domesday Book (1086) which provides evidence of the conditions which prevailed in the area just before the Norman Conquest - 'All Longdendale (a name that geographically meant more than it does today) is waste: woodland, unpastured, fit for hunting. The whole 8 leagues long and 4 leagues wide (12 x 6 miles), (value) before 1066, 40s.' Longdendale then extended as far as the River Sett so the Domesday book played no part in Ollersett's history, the only local place mentioned in it is Thornsett.

The reservation of extensive tracts of countryside for hunting and the conservation of game was one of the most important effects of the Norman conquest in 1066. Ollersett's medieval and early-modern history was moulded by it being part of the royal forest of the Peak. The forest laws were strict but as population grew in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries there was increasing competition for control of the resources of the forest. Surviving documents from the early thirteenth century such as accounts of the eyre courts and court rolls give details of illegal transgressions of laws of the forest of Peak - assarts (land taken for farming), houses built and the destruction of trees for building and fuel. One of the largest assarts quoted by Ron took place at Beard where William le Ragged assarted 58 acres between 1226 and 1229. Ron explained that this is the first recorded period of arable farming when the land was cut out of the medieval forest. The first settlement was certainly well advanced by this time, for a number of local place names including Ollersett are mentioned in the medieval documents (modern spelling) including Aspenshaw, Beard, Beardhough, Cown Edge, Knightwake, Ollersett, Ravenslack,

Redishaw, Rowarth, Strines, Thornsett and Whitle. Ron quoted an account of 1243-44 (transcribed from medieval Latin by Roger Bryant from documents in The National Archives) in which are listed 14 rents in Ollersett ('Alrecete') with names such as De Thoma de Alrcete, De Hugone de Alrcete and De matheo de Alrcete. The total acreage of land use that the 14 rents represented was about 40 forest acres approximately 88 statute acres. These would have been assarted from the forest lands. By 1440 this had increased to c. 300, showing how Ollersett along with the other hamlets was growing agriculturally with the first farms.

Since the legal boundaries of a forest might extend into farmland, the roaming deer were a constant menace to farmers, eating and trampling the grass and crops. The eventual breakdown of the forests came under Charles 1 when disafforestation and the improvement of wastes and commons became a major attempt to solve the crown's financial problems. The process involved the freeing of land from forest law, the removal of the deer, and the division of the commons and wastes amongst those who held rights of common. In Bowden Middlecale the process began in 1634 with a petition of the freeholders and tenants for dividing and allotting in equal parts all the commons and wastes between the crown (Duchy of Lancaster which owned the forest) and the tenants. In an agreement of 1640 between the duchy and over 80 freeholders and tenants the commons and wastes of Bowden Middlecale were to be divided. One half went to the commoners (tenants) and the other half went to the crown. It was at this point Ron illustrated an informative map which showed the division, with that part of Ollersett below about 1000 ft being agricultural land, and the land above being the wastes and commons of unenclosed land, used by farmers for centuries for grazing their sheep. Maps (e.g. 1640) were prepared and a number survive in duchy records, the earliest surviving maps of the district. Ron's map showed the lines of the divisions (tenant's parts and king's parts) which today are marked by stone walls on the upland Ollersett landscape and clearly visible from the town.,

At the end of 1674 the king's part of the commons and wastes was granted in fee farm (freehold) to Thomas Eyre of Rowtor Hall near the village of Winster for the annual rent of £100. Eyre met many difficulties in attempting to take possession of the crown's land and enclosing it. The freeholders and tenants had no wish to see the commons enclosed and improved by private prospector. From the late

1670s Eyre was involved in much litigation through the duchy courts with the freeholders and tenants. He interpreted his role as ‘improver’ in the widest possible way by leasing land or selling it in fee farm (freehold). When he offered his leases of the king’s part for sale there were several local people eager to purchase, many of them were those who had been engaged in litigation against him. These lands included whole divisions of the king’s part in Bowden Middlecale, such as 179 acres of Beard Moor and 128 acres of Ollersett Moor. New farms appeared and new tracks and roads were built to open up these lands, such as Oven Hill Road. One such farm was Piece Farm on the edge of Ollersett Moor in 1715. Ron spent a little while describing a very independent woman, Mary Dewsnap, who was owner/occupier of Piece Farm in 1838 and the only woman of such means in Ollersett.

The tenants were in no hurry to enclose their part but eventually in 1828, the tenant’s parts in Ollersett and Phoside were enclosed by a Parliamentary Act. George William Newton of Ollersett Hall Farm received the lands in Ollersett and erected a perimeter wall which can still be seen.



*The Hare and Hounds, early 20c. (n01409)*

and later as a magistrates court (Newton was a magistrate). There are still six cells in the basement today. It lay on the ancient packhorse route that led along High Hill Road (formerly Hig Hill) through Low Leighton and up Laneside Road and on to Chinley, probably the most ancient of New Mills routes. In the opposite direction from Low Leighton it led to the ‘New Mylne’, the corn mill which gave its name to the town. Newton lived at Ollersett Hall Farm, which Ron illustrated with a beautiful

In the early nineteenth century, Newton was the principal Ollersett landowner. He had grandiose ideas of creating a gentlemen’s country estate and deer park, building imposing high boundary walls, estate cottages, and the ‘Hare and Hounds’ which served as a ‘hunting lodge’ for his gentlemen companions

sketch by a former colleague of his. Newton mortgaged and re-mortgaged his property and eventually by 1835 went bankrupt and the estate was broken up and sold to a Glossop millowner. The character of ownership of this part of Ollersett was changed and by 1841 the estate had had been subdivided amongst several owners and tenants.

In the 1840s the four hamlets were surveyed and assessed for the new equivalent money rents which were to replace the tithes. The commissioner described the land in scathing terms -‘the sub-soil is gritstone, clay, some sand and some coal, greater part of the land is poor, a good deal of it hilly. The best is the hamlet of Beard and the worst is Ollersett...’

The later history of Ollersett is described and analysed in Ron’s book ‘Ollersett in 1841’ which should be consulted for much information not described in this account. 1841 was the date of the tithe map when there were 14 farms in the Ollersett estate. By this time the hamlet included a significant proportion of industrial New Mills, which included John Potts calico engraving and print works on St George’s Road, a cotton factory at the bottom of High Street (on the site of today’s Woodside Garage) and the Top Hole and Garrison factories in the Sett valley near Thornsett. In addition, in the 1840s the Hayfield Union Workhouse was built at Low Leighton. A coal seam (known as the Yard) underlay Ollersett Moor. It had been mined by shallow pits in the eighteenth century but in the nineteenth century several deeper mines with steam engines were opened up. There were at least six on either side of Oven Hill Road and the coal was taken by tramroad down to Laneside Road for distribution about the town. Thus, what Ron’s talk had previously described as a wholly agricultural hamlet became a significant industrial one in the second half of the nineteenth century. Ollersett’s population in 1841 was 257 which by 1851 had increased to 493.

Farms, fields, moorland, walls, roads, tracks, past industry - this is the stuff of landscape history and with his background in archaeology, geography, and geology there is no-one better than Ron to give us a fascinating description of the 900 years of history of one of our hamlets.

*Derek Brumhead.*

## **Union Road**

### **Roger Bryant, Friday 2th March**

Practically encircled by the Torrs, New Mills has always been beset by the problem of inaccessibility. This was alleviated in 1801 with the opening of the turnpike road through Strines to Marple and Stockport, but it was not until 1835 that the road along the current Albion Road and Church Road, linking the present A6 to Hayfield, was opened. Even then, traffic into New Mills from the Cheshire side of the River Goyt had to go via Hyde Bank Road and New Mills Bridge, the latter often, by all reports, in a poor state of repair. Meanwhile, stimulated first by the canal and then the railway, Newtown was a rapidly-growing industrial suburb. It became obvious to some of the inhabitants in both places that a bridge spanning the Torrs at Torr Top would be of mutual benefit. But not all were in favour. The building of a high-level bridge across the Torrs would involve great expense on a small town without wealthy backers and a population with little cash to spare. So, who pays?

In this meticulously-detailed talk, Roger described, with the aid of large-scale, nineteenth century maps and early photographs the several thwarted efforts and false starts before the bridge was eventually built. It opened in 1884, financed by a loan guaranteed by the local council which was to be paid for by the rates. Controversial to the end, the motion was carried only by the casting vote of the chairman.

The construction of Union Road, which bisected Torr Top Meadow to link the new bridge with Market Street, was effected with a minimum amount of destruction to existing buildings. Torr Top Hall, flanking the site of the present bus station, was the principal casualty, together with the stables of the Queen's Hotel which had to be re-situated. A major consequence of the building of the new road, possibly not foreseen, was its rapid development into a new shopping street. In the decade following the opening of the bridge, Union Road was completely built up on both sides with shops and houses. Lacking the evidence of original leases, Roger supplemented the meagre written evidence of this building process by studying the first storey windows and decorative courses of the buildings. Using line drawings and recent photos, Roger identified the individual blocks of buildings and showed us the building sequence with their approximate dates.

It is very satisfying to be shown a new perspective on something that is so familiar as to be taken for granted. This is what Roger gave to his appreciative audience that evening with regard to Union Road.

*Ron Weston.*

## Lost Buildings of New Mills Derek Brumhead, 12 April 2019

Derek's talk took the form of a 'Now and Then' approach showing a photograph of the location today and then following it with a photograph taken at the same spot of the building that was originally there. For instance, starting off at Low Leighton a picture of the fire station was followed by a black and white picture of the Methodist 'tin chapel' that was destroyed in the New Mills air raid of 3 July 1942 (A new 73 page Society publication on the event called 'The Bombing of New Mills and Hayfield' by Frank Pleszak will be on sale at the September meeting).

Following this format, Derek's talk took us down Church and Albion Roads to Newtown, with an outstanding rare photograph of a 1920s petrol station on the site today of Selecta Tyres. In the town, some of the interesting photographs included Union Road Bridge being built in 1884, Torr Mill burnt down in 1912, a



*Bingo Hall/Cinema c1968 (n21186).*

tiny 'Royal Oak' public house in Market Street, the Heritage Centre before conversion in 1987, the cinema on Union Road (later 'Star Bingo'), the Town Hall in 1871 when it was known as the Public Hall, and the New Mills corn mill ('the New Mylne') at the bottom of High Street, from which the town took its name. The last 'Lost Building' to be shown was the Cruck Barn at Mousley Bottom, this has timber crucks which date back to Elizabethan times (by ring tree dating), although the building may have been somewhat older. It is now unrecognisable, converted to a modern house.

The Cruck Barn is the last of 80 photographs in a book by Derek that is now on sale at Society meetings and the Heritage Centre. Members are asked to support the society by purchasing a copy (£5). Members are reminded that the black and white photographs of the lost buildings can be found on the Society's photographic website '[www.picturenewmills.org.uk](http://www.picturenewmills.org.uk)'.

## **The MBs in Egypt. Alan Hayward, 10th May 2019**

Our AGM was followed by a talk with this intriguing title. Our speaker, Alan Hayward, soon enlightened us. The MBs were two talented and intrepid ladies of the Victorian era who shared a passionate interest in ancient Egypt: Marianne Brocklehurst and Mary Booth.

Born in 1832, Marianne was the daughter of John Brocklehurst, an exceedingly wealthy silk manufacturer in Macclesfield. Rejecting all her many suitors, she maintained a freedom scarcely possible for a married woman of that time and was able to travel freely and spend her considerable income in the way she chose. Mary Booth, her travelling companion, came from a Yorkshire landowning family connected to the Brocklehursts.

Even for those able to afford the greatest comfort, travel across Europe in the late nineteenth century was slow and arduous. Furthermore, the MBs did not travel light, as apart from taking mountains of clothes they had all their art materials to transport - both were accomplished artists. Of course, they took servants to do the donkey work.

Marianne kept a detailed journal of her several trips up and down the Nile by boat. She was very much in charge, organizing the programme of visits, buying provisions as they went. When their boat reached the First Cataract, for example, Marianne had to persuade the local sheik to arrange for a considerable labour force to haul their boat over the rapids. This and similar tasks involved the acquisition of Arabic on Marianne's part.

On that first journey they met the authoress and traveller Amelia Edwards, who became a lifelong friend. Amelia wrote an important, illustrated account of the exploration of the remains of ancient Egypt, entitled "One Thousand Miles Up The Nile". Marianne and Mary's own accounts, water colours and collections of artefacts are now a valuable source of study for those interested in Egyptology today. Their collections were donated to Macclesfield Museum, which is currently closed. However the Egyptian material is now on display at the Silk Museum.

Alan Hayward's lively and detailed account of the ladies' adventures along the Nile was enhanced by his illustrations of their paintings of

the temples, riverside scenes, their servants and local people, which captured the atmosphere vividly and enabled us to share something of the MBs' experiences.

*Ron Weston.*



*Heritage Centre  
official opening,  
Derek  
Brumhead,  
Roger Bryant,  
Brian Redhead,  
Martin Doughty  
(n02167)*

**New Mills Heritage and Information Centre  
30th anniversary of its opening on 8th April 1989.  
Derek Brumhead.  
Administrator 1988-2008**

The Heritage Centre was a vision of Martin Doughty, one of several he contributed to the town. It was in early 1986 that he asked members of the local history society if they could do a survey in the town of buildings that might be suitable for an Information Centre. They reported their findings to him and in June 1986 he reported to the Leisure Committee of the Town Council (he was Chair) that it had become known that the Co-op Society's basement premises to a former butchers shop on 2-4 Union Road (Betfred today) might be suitable and was available and he thought that it might be useful as an Information Centre. He had already made arrangements to obtain the keys for access and inspection. Soon after I became administrator I was told by Charlie Dodds, former butcher, that two animals were kept in what is now the kitchen and they were poll axed where the ring in the wall is. They were prepared in what is now room 2, the meat was sent up to the shop via a staircase (which was where the store room is now in the cafe)

Within a fortnight of this information from Martin Doughty the Town Council had resolved that planning permission should be sought for a change of use of the building which was described in the minutes as an Information and Heritage Centre. The County Council was to be asked for assistance of the Country's architects and other appropriate departments on a no-charge basis to carry out an appraisal of the building's suitability for the intended use. Martin was also an influential County Councillor. One of the most important persons involved was the DCC architect Ian Mackay who designed the plan for a structural survey, the conversion of the building and its internal modifications. It was also at this time that Barry Joyce also from DCC became involved in a valuable advisory capacity.

Things moved quickly, for only month later in July 1986 a letter was received from Norwest Estates Services stating the requirements of a lease of the premises. In the Autumn of 1986 Martin Doughty presented plans and artistic impressions of the centre to the Leisure Committee. He also explained that a Planning Committee was now set up to plan the centre, of which I was a member, having recently taken early retirement from my college in Manchester. Members of the New Mills Local History Society researched the historic background and sources of the materials which was passed on to the County Museums Service as it then was, the County Museums Officer being David Sorrell who played a great part in setting up the displays. A community group within the Service incorporated all the material and sources provided by the local history society members and planned and constructed the layout of the panels.

In January 1987 the minutes of the New Mills Leisure Committee for the first time had an Agenda heading 'Heritage Centre'. In March 1987 the Town Council's solicitor was instructed to draw up a lease for 30 years. In August 1987 the Leisure Committee decided on the name 'Rock Mill Lane' for the lane which ran down to the Torrs from the Centre, and almost immediately were told off by the High Peak Borough Council who pointed out that only they had the responsibility for naming streets in the Borough. In September 1987 a tender from J.W.Swindells was accepted for £54,450. 82 for the internal work. Specialist work provided by the DCC, such as electrical, would reduce this to £54,000. Martin was able to use his connections to get this work done. Eventually the capital cost was over £70,000 met by grants from the DCC, the New Mills Town Council, the Countryside Commission and the East Midlands Tourist Board. Martin Doughty was

instrumental in obtaining these grants. Voluntary grants from local organisations were also received and by November 1987 amounted to £1,045.40.

In November 1987 the lease was signed and the Town Council took possession of the building. British Rail gave permission to construct the Viewing Platform, over the Torrs and the Planning Party Group announced that they were going ahead with a campaign to obtain items from the general public for display at the centre. Stimulated by the publicity, some of the first donations were made at this time. It became obvious that a curator was needed to index and curate them. The obvious choice was the archivist of the New Mills Local History Society, Roger Bryant, who was also a member of the Planning Committee, and he took on the job and continued for many years, 10 or 15, until John Humphreys took over. It was Roger who recommended Velson Horie as curatorial adviser and for nearly 30 years he gave very valuable support and advice.

On the 11 January 1988. the Leisure Committee resolved that the new Centre be called the 'New Mills Heritage and Information Centre'.

On the 12 April 1988 the Centre was handed over to the town council. A week before it was planned to open, Martin was asked at a meeting of the Planning Committee 'OK, the centre is ready to open but who is going to run it?' Everyone then looked down the table at me and said 'well Derek has taken early retirement...'. A few days later I got a letter from Judith Johnson, the town clerk, appointing me as administrator. Things were done rather differently in those days!

The expected opening was fixed for 2nd July 1988. Temporary exhibitions of New Mills history were set up and were changed from time to time. In November the first exhibition was put on, a photographic display of 200 photographs of New Mills taken by members of NMLHS . It was agreed that Brian Redhead was to be invited to open the Centre on a date to be agreed, eventually settled for 8th April 1989.

From the beginning it was recognised that an important part of the centre's work would be that in the area of local studies for schools and the DCC appointed a primary school Head Teacher, Des Hoskisson to coordinate this activity and bring in school parties into the centre, where they were engaged in activities to do with the local history. Beside an administrator (me) a part time information assistant was

appointed and a clerical assistant for the schools adviser, Jane Butterworth. She also gave much help in the general running of the centre, answering phone calls and passing on messages to me. Almost immediately a splendid team of volunteer assistants was quickly built up and has of course continued ever since.

The non-building structural work was carried out by three designers and modellers including Manfred Pinske (DCC Joiner), Alan Clarke and Mike Collins (model makers) who were put in touch with us by the County Museum Service.

They were responsible for three major displays in the Centre.

(1) The model of the town. I remember discussing with John Symonds as to what date it should represent and we agreed that it would be the date of the opening of Union Road Bridge, that is 1884. So that is why you can see the bridge being built. Alan and Mike then worked to that date. They consulted maps, took photographs and carried out field work. The result is a very accurate and professional record of the town at that date. The text of the commentary was written by John Symonds and is delivered by John Craven. The scale was decided by the scale of the railway. Unfortunately the train did not run for very long as apparently dust got onto the rails in an inaccessible place at the back of the model.

(2) The model makers also were responsible for the construction of the coal mine, always a great attraction to children (there is a miner in there digging out coal) and Mike Pollard provided and put in the commentary. He has also been very generous in his time in helping with various problems.

(3) They also designed and built the model of John Potts in his workshop. I wrote the text and found a local man with a New Mills accent to deliver it.

In June 1988 the town council decided that the Heritage Centre should be coordinated and run by a Management Committee through the Town Council Leisure Committee of which Martin was still chair. In April 1989 it was resolved that the minutes of the Heritage Centre Management Committee 'so far as they require approval by the council be approved and adopted'. This arrangement carried on until the changes of a few years ago and the committee ceased to operate bringing us to the situation today.

## **AGM May 10, 2019**

### **Secretary's Report**

The Annual General Meeting heralds another successful year for NMLHS.

Firstly, my thanks to members of the committee in their various roles for making my job as easy as possible, for their considerable support over the year and for pointing me in the right direction when my lack of knowledge or inexperience has let me down.

Talking to some of our more experienced guest speakers over the last two years we seem to be bucking the trend for societies such as ours. Attendance at our talks remains high, whereas other societies have reported a gradual decline in numbers. Much of the responsibility for this lies with Derek Brumhead for the quality of speakers that he finds and the wide range of interesting topics they have covered. Thanks to all our speakers, but particular to Derek, Roger and Ron for their contributions this year, on the Lost Buildings, Union Road and Ollersett. It is pleasing to note that one of the guest speakers next year will be a returnee, Diane Leitch, whose talk on the Towers estate was so well received.

The change of approach of charging at talks seems to have met with general approval. Anecdotally, more people seem to stay on for longer after the meetings.

I would also like to draw attention to two donations we have received this year. One, for £300, is ring-fenced for the reprinting of a slim volume written by Sir Martin Doughty about the 'Park Under the Town.' The second donation, for the sum of £200, comes from our past secretary John Humphreys which is in addition to the money that John has already donated from the sale of his books at our talks.

Sadly, I have to report that John is not well. He had a minor stroke some months ago from which he is recuperating. Currently he is in Goyt Valley whilst he recovers. I'm sure you'll all join with me in wishing John a speedy recovery.

I am looking forward to leading a series of walking tours over the summer, first being the Mills of Newtown on June 14th from NMHIC at 10:30 am. Three other walks will follow: 'Places of Worship in New Mills,' 'The Mills of Rowarth' and a 'Mystery History Walk' in New Mills Festival.

I started by saying that 2018/19 had been a successful year for New Mills Local History Society. I'm sure that with your support 2019/20 will be equally successful.

*Mike Daniels 09/05/2019*

## **Editor's report 2019**

The Newsletter, which appears twice a year, has been presented by Barry Dent to his usual high standard. Barry is also responsible for delivering the Newsletter to our members and for this I offer my grateful thanks.

Sales of publications through the Heritage Centre, at meetings and via our website have remained steady this year.

Two further publications have appeared on sale this year: 'The Lost Buildings of New Mills' by Derek Brumhead and 'The Making of Market Street' by Roger Bryant. Our latest publication, 'The Bombing of New Mills and Hayfield, 3rd July 1942' by Frank Pleszak, is currently on sale at the Heritage Centre and will be available at meetings in the Autumn.

*Ron Weston*

## Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

	2018/2019	2017/2018
<b>Opening Balances</b>		
Current A/C	£1220.92	
Invest A/C	£1427.60	
2nd A/C	£24.04	
Pay Pal A/C	£13.93	£2686.49
<b>Receipts</b>		
Donations	£109.60	£95.00
Visitors	£168.50	£117.00
Gift Aid received	£113.64	£118.24
Subscriptions	£573.97	£579.23
Sales of Publications	£638.12	£583.83
Sales of Refreshments	£11.98	£42.27
Outings	£286.00	
Sale of High Res. Prints		£38.88
Interest 2nd A/C	£0.31	£0.03
Interest Invest A/C	£10.35	£6.70
Donation J.Humphreys	£200.00	
Donation to fund reprint of "The Park Under the Town" by Martin Doughty	£300.00	
<b>Total receipts</b>		£2412.47
<b>Total</b>		£5098.96
Publications in hand		£2750.00

### Audit Note

The accounts of the Society have been audited in accordance with the books, vouchers and explanations given to me, and in my opinion, represent the affairs of the Society, as at 31/3/2019.

*Lesley James,*

	2018/2019	2017/2018
<b>Expenses</b>		
Speakers	£265.81	£308.20
Newsletter	£90.00	£65.00
Room hire	£396.04	£397.92
Archive materials	£216.27	
Printing/publications	£744.94	£342.54
BALH subscription	£75.00	£75.00
Expenses	£227.36	£194.31
Outings	£310.00	
Refreshments	£11.50	£13.00
Hosting PictureNM	£150.00	£150.00
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>£2486.92</b>

### Closing balances

Current A/c	£820.65	
Invest A/c	£1437.95	
2 <sup>nd</sup> A/C	£300.22	
PayPal A/c	£53.22	£2612.04
<b>Total</b>		<b>£5098.96</b>

## New Mills Local History Society - Meetings - Autumn 2019

Meetings are held in the main hall of New Mills Town Hall, starting at 7:45pm. Members free, visitors £1-50, with free tea/coffee/biscuits after the meeting. You may obtain easy access from the entrance on Aldersgate.

Friday Sept. 13	History of the Ecton Copper Mine: Bronze Age to 1889	Dr Pete Webb
Monday Sept. 16	New Mills Festival Lecture The Origin and Evolution of the Brass Band with a reference to New Mills Old Prize Band	Dr Stephen Dearden
Friday Oct. 11	Scribbles, scorch marks and scribed symbols	Andy Bentham
Friday Nov. 8	The Bombing of New Mills and Hayfield, 3 July 1942	Frank Pleszak
Friday Dec. 13	Rudyard Lake Past and Present	Roy Perry
Friday Jan. 10 2020	TBA	Dr. Diana Leitch

N.B. The Festival Lecture on September 16 is on a Monday, and starts at 7:30pm. Entry free for all.

*[www.newmillshistory.org.uk](http://www.newmillshistory.org.uk)  
[www.picturenewmills.org.uk](http://www.picturenewmills.org.uk)*