



St Helens Townships Family History Society

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NEWSLETTER
number 1

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Welcome to what we hope will be a regular bulletin of items of interest to
Local Family Historians

Introducing our committee: -Chair- Margaret Crosbie: Vice Chair-Tom McKenna: Secretary- Pauline Hurst: Treasurer-Peter Harvey

Our Society was born on 23rd April 2007 (St. George's Day)
Like Topsy it just grewed quickly
Already more than 40 members have joined us. Paying a reasonable £5 annual subscription.

ST HELENS HERITAGE WEEKEND

Our Society agreed to participate in the event at the Friends meeting House on Thursday, Friday and Saturday 7th 8th and 9th of June. Thank you to those members who gave up their time to support us-with our display desk and panel. We gained several new recruits as a result

St Helens Festival Weekend



Margaret Crosbie our chairperson with our display at the St Helens Festival Held on Saturday and Sunday 6th and 7th July

At the invitation St Helens Town Councillor Wally Ashcroft, Our Society accepted the opportunity to present a display board and table at the St Helens Festival.

The event for us was a great success. Thank you to all our "stallholders" who were kept very busy over the entire event.

The result is a number of interested people have been invited to our Workshop evenings and will hopefully join our Group

VICKI RETIRES



Our picture shows Chair Margaret presenting Vicki Tipping - Senior Heritage Assistant at St Helens Central Library

With a retirement gift on behalf of the Society in appreciation of the support and assistance Vicki has given to Family Historians over many years. We wish her a long and happy retirement

As Vicki has joined the Society her expertise and knowledge will be invaluable.



Funding Application

As with any new venture, be it a business, a club or as in our case a society, there is always a cost implication for setting up. Our Society is no exception. With this in mind our treasurer Peter Harvey has approached various bodies with a view to possibly obtaining a grant to assist the Society with initial start up and basic running costs.

We are hopeful that we will be successful in this, it has to be appreciated that the group has began at the very bottom with no funds and no assets of any kind. We will report on progress in this direction in the next edition of this publication.

Web site

We are pleased to announce the establishment of our website as follows

www.sthelenstownshipsfhs.org.uk

This is a "works in progress" undertaking and we will see it develop in time. Our thanks go out to one of our members Dave Risley for his professional expertise in this venture.

National BMD Index

The Society has accepted an invitation to take part in the National scheme to transcribe all local Births, Marriages and Deaths Indexes.

We have been given the task of transcription of the indexes for our local area. This work has been progressing very well and to date 160,000 Birth Indexes covering the years 1837 to 1919, have been transcribed by our members. We are indebted to them for their dedication.

The result of this can now be searched at **www.lancashirebmd.org.uk**

As each section is completed, a disc containing the latest update is given to the St Helens Registrar

The following is an extract from his letter of thanks.

"I know we have not met all the transcribers, they are the hard working ones transferring all the information from the indexes onto the BMD database, But please pass on my gratitude as without their help this voluntary scheme would not have gone full steam ahead,

Regards Colin Smith and all St Helens Register Office Team"