



MANCHESTER REGION INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER No.143.

April 2013

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Members: Roger Thwaite & Richard Pink.

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Editorial

I am pleased to say that we are facing an exciting couple of years for industrial archaeology in the North-West. The MRIAS April to August 2013 walks and visits are published in this newsletter. (Booking forms & information - page 5; Bromborough and Port Sunlight. Page 8; Stockport. Page 11; Liverpool. Page 15; Quarry Bank Mill. Page 16; Leyland. Page 17; Llanymynech.)

The North West Industrial Archaeology Panel, Salford Local History Forum and MRIAS one day conference will take place at Ordsall Hall, Salford on Friday 18th October 2013. The booking form for 'Recapturing the Past of Salford Quays' is on page 18. This conference aims to illustrate and explain the history and archaeology of the Manchester docks and to discuss their transformation to Salford Quays.

In addition, the AIA National Conference is being held in Chester in 2014 and of course 2014 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of our Society. I hope you enjoy this newsletter which is one of our most richly laden with booking forms for some time!

Main Contents

Programme 2013.....	page 2
External events/exhibitions.....	page 4
Rainford's Roots' Community Archaeology Project.....	page 6
Dig It.....	page 9
Cheshire Archaeology Day.....	page 9.
Threads and Tales.....	page 12
Book Review.....	page 13
Membership Questionnaire.....	pages 19/20

Programme 2013

Friday 12 th April	Talk - The Mersey and Irwell Navigation - David George
Saturday 13 th April	- The Mersey and Irwell Navigation, Guided Walk - David George, meet 10.30am Manchester Cathedral steps at public entrance
Thursday 25 th April -	Bromborough Pool and Port Sunlight, Guided Walks - Meet 11.15, Village Hotel (A41), cost £17 per person (see booking form below)
Saturday 11 th May	- Stockport, St Mary's Church and walking tour - Meet 10.30, St Mary's Church, cost £5 per person (see booking form below)
Thursday 13 th June	- Liverpool - Albert Dock, walking tour; DUKW borne tour of dock and town and visit to Queensway Tunnel ^{Meet} 10 am Albert Dock, (see booking form below)
Thursday 4 th July	- Quarry Bank Mill and Apprentice House - Meet 2.00 pm, Cost per non- NT member £8.50 Mill; £10.15 Mill and Apprentice House (see booking form below) National Trust members free.
Thursday 25 th July	- British Leyland Commercial Vehicles Museum and Global Renewables tours - Meet 10.30 am, cost per person £8 (or £11 including hotpot lunch) - see booking form below)
Saturday 10 th August	- Llanymynech Hoffman Kiln, Montgomery Canal and Light Railway Neil Davies, Meet 10.00, car park next Llanymynech Post Office, A483
Friday 13 th September	- Autumn Buffet at the Trafford Park Heritage Centre

Friday 11th October - New season first talk 'The Ashbury Railway Carriage & Iron Company'
Peter Bone & Andy Towle.

Friday 18th October -conference at Ordsall Hall, Salford, Friday 18th October 2013
'Recapturing the Past of Salford Quays' Booking Form for the one day
conference below.

The North West Museum of Science & Industry, Some Reminiscences By MRIAS member Dr Richard L. Hills

182 pages - Due to be reviewed in the MRIAS Newsletter.

Printed volume - this remarkable volume is available in printed edition for under £18 (contact Dr Hills) or on CD from MRIAS for £5 (to cover copying, package and first class posting - cheques made payable to 'MRIAS' please contact Tony Wright (anntheword@msn.com))

The Archaeology of Cumbria



MRIAS member, Dr Mike Nevell, has recently completed his excellent ten week lecture course on the 'Archaeology of Cumbria.' This superb course was outlined to members by MRIAS member David George at the MRIAS AGM in 2012.

External Meetings/Visits/Exhibitions

- Old Liverpool - Williamson Art Gallery, Birkenhead - an exhibition of 40 prints of old Liverpool, including one of cows in Dale Street and Hope's Mill at the end of Hope Street. Possibly worth a visit if you are already going to Liverpool on the 13th of June
- Calderdale Industrial Museum Square Road, Halifax, HX1 7PL, Tel: 01422 357513 - Friends of the Museum are opening the Museum on the 12th May , 8th June , 14th July , 10th August and 14th September - 15th September.

The museum has been closed for 10 years The Museum contains exhibits relating to all the local industries and, in addition, it is worthwhile supporting the Friends in this attempt to re-open the museum (and safeguard archive material held both there and in the main Northgate Library, which Calderdale will be closing and dispersing the contents from).

- **Saturday 13th April** - Rainford's Roots' Community Archaeology Project - Open Day (see below)
- **Saturday 20th April**- Cheshire Archaeology Day, Winsford (see below)

MRIAS Membership

I wish to remind that those members who have not paid their subs for 2013 need to do so as soon as possible. I look forward to hearing from you! Walter Payne, 27 Brompton Road, Poulton-le-Fylde. FY6 8BW. 01253 894150 (Membership rates - single £14/Joint £18)

Walter Payne

Manchester Region Industrial Archaeology Society

Visit to Bromborough Pool and Port Sunlight 25th April

Meet 11.15 a.m., Village Hotel, Pool Road, Bromborough.
Guided walk around village, viewing the 'Pool' and remains of Price's Candle Works
~12.15 to Port Sunlight for lunch (museum tea room)
~13.15 museum then guided walk around village
~15.30 Art Gallery

Please make cheques payable to MRIAS and post, with booking slip, to

Gordon Browne, 622 Wilmslow Road, Manchester M20 3QX

I wish to book ____ places @ £17.00 per person = £_____

NAME(s) (please print)

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tel:

e-mail address



Bromborough Pool Docks from www.oldwirral.com

'Rainford's Roots' Community Archaeology Project

The 'Rainford's Roots' project was recently set up by the Merseyside Archaeological Society to investigate the local heritage of Rainford village. With support from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and National Museums Liverpool (NML), the project will investigate the industrial heritage of the village, focusing on its history as a centre for pottery and clay tobacco pipe production. The village's past will be investigated through fieldwork, test pitting, excavations, and finds analysis to help build up a picture of the archaeological record of the village. The project will provide training, outreach programmes, and opportunities for local people and volunteers to get involved with all aspects of the project.

Saturday 13th April will be the site open day and tours of the site will take place during the day at 11am and 2pm. There will also be more excavations in the coming months to take part in. There will be opportunities to help with the dig and processing the material discovered during the excavation (dates tbc), so look out for notices on the website www.rainfordsroots.com.

The site is on Church Road, the main road running through Rainford, and is near to car parks and local amenities. Rainford is close to the A570 which runs between the M58 (J3) and the East Lancs. Road (A580).

We are currently looking for volunteers to help contribute to a popular booklet which will be published at the end of the project in 2014. This book will briefly cover the history of Rainford village from prehistoric to modern times, with a focus on the post medieval cottage industry and case studies from sites we will be investigating over the next two years.

If you have a good research background or an insight into the history of Rainford and would be interested in contributing to the project, we would like to hear from you. Contributions will vary but may only be a few 100 words in length so would not take up too much time.

Examples of case studies we hope to investigate include:

- previous industries and companies in Rainford (e.g. Rainford Potteries Ltd.)
- exploitation of coal and sand in the Rainford area
- evidence for the first potters and clay tobacco pipe makers in Rainford
- History of Rainford Hall, Crank Hall, Mossborough Hall (including photos)
- old chapel and All Saints Church, Church Road
- History of the Golden Lion inn
- old farm/family estates (e.g. the Lathoms)
- transport in Rainford (the history of the railways and their decline)

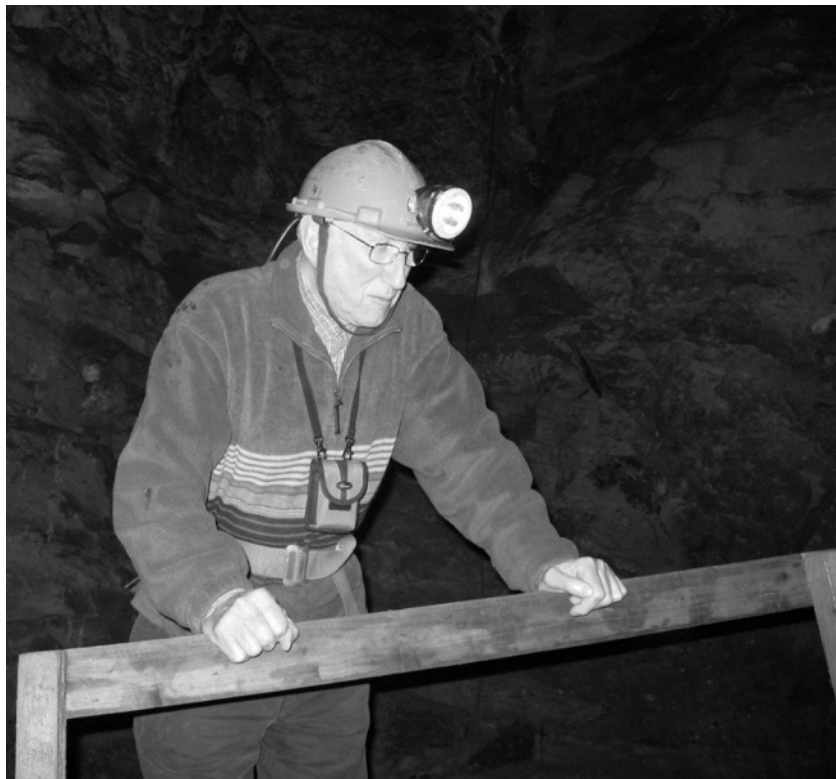
If you would like to contribute or have an idea for a case study of an interesting aspect of Rainford's history, please contact us:

www.rainfordsroots.com

email rainfordsroots@gmail.com

telephone 01514784560

**Sam Rowe - Community
Archaeology Project Officer
National Museums Liverpool**



Walter in the Alderley Edge mines.

Manchester Region Industrial Archaeology Society

Visit to Stockport 11th May

Meet 10.30 a.m. St Mary's Parish Church, Churchgate, Stockport
opportunity to see Stockport's ancient parish church - 'St Mary's in the
Marketplace' and the market area then lunch before a guided walk, starting at 13.00
and lasting about 2¼ hours, viewing the remains of early industries and water
features.

I would remind potential participants that Stockport sprawls down the side of a
fairly steep sided valley though, no doubt having respect for the chairman's age and
dubious fitness, I am sure that the pace will be reasonably sedate.

Please make cheques payable to MRIAS and post, with booking slip, to

Gordon Browne, 622 Wilmslow Road, Manchester M20 3QX

I wish to book ____ places @ £5.00 per person = £_____

NAME(s) (please print)

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tel:

e-mail address

Dig it

Attention all archaeologists and metal detectors...The Manchester Museum has a new

drop in Archaeology Identification service.

Dig it is a monthly event where our curator Bryan Sitch will be on hand to identify all your archaeological finds. So whether you dug something up in your garden or discovered it with a metal detector this is your chance to get a little bit closer to history and get answers to your burning questions.

Bryan will also be recording all archaeological objects found in England and Wales which date from before 1700 for the Portable Antiquities Scheme, as the Finds Liaison Officer is no on maternity leave.

The next session is on the 19th April from 12-1pm in the Collection Study Centre.

More information can be found here:

<http://www.museum.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/services/identification/>

Cheshire Archaeology Day, Saturday 20th April 2013

Winsford Lifestyle Centre, The Drumber, Winsford CW7 1AD 9.45am - 4pm. Organised by Cheshire Archaeology Planning Advisory Service with the support of The Cheshire Local History Association, Chester Archaeological Society and Middlewich Town Council.

9.15 Doors Open

9.45 Welcome and Introduction

Jill Collens, Project Manager, Cheshire Archaeology Planning Advisory Service

9.55 The Seven Lows barrow cemetery: "wher be seen VII caste dykes...made by men of warre" Dan Garner, formerly Habitats and Hill forts Project Officer

10.35 Salt Production in Salinae: Latest Excavations in Roman Middlewich

Ian Miller, Senior Project Manager, Oxford Archaeology North

11.15 Tea and Coffee

12pm Sugar and Slavery: Archaeology in the West Indies Dr Rob Philpott, Head of Archaeology, National Museums Liverpool

13.00 Lunch

14.30 The Lion Salt Works, Marston, Northwich: The Restoration of the Last Open-Pan Salt Works Chris Hewitson, Lion Salt Works Project Officer, Cheshire West and Chester

15.10 A Medieval Murder Mystery at Norton Priory Lynn Smith, Senior Keeper, Norton Priory Museum & Gardens

15.50 Closing remarks Jill Collens, Project Manager, Cheshire Archaeology Planning Advisory Service

16.00 Close

Plus local society displays, bookstalls and pottery identification by Historic Environment Team staff (maximum 10 washed and dry sherds per person, find spots will be required).

To reserve your place, please e-mail: Archaeology@cheshireeast.gov.uk or telephone: 01244

973997 complete a booking form, and return it with your payment to the address shown.
Location : Winsford Lifestyle Centre, The Drummer, Winsford, Cheshire, CW7 1AD Telephone: 01606 550700.





Gordon prepares to enter the Alderley Edge mines

Manchester Region Industrial Archaeology Society

Visit to Liverpool - Albert Dock, tour by DUKW of town and dock area and Queensway Tunnel - 13th June

Meet 10.00, Albert Dock, for a walking tour of the dock
~12.00 embark on a 'unique, amphibious, duck-tour vehicle' for an hour long drive taking in the cathedrals, the Philharmonic Hall, the Cavern (of course) a number of Liverpool's architecturally interesting commercial buildings before taking to the water to tour the docks.

Then lunch before a guided tour of the 'working' side of the Queensway Tunnel.

Please note. The tour organisers warn that the visit to the tunnel area involves climbing down and up a number of steps and that the areas visited will be cold and dirty

Please make cheques payable to MRIAS and post, with booking slip, to

Gordon Browne, 622 Wilmslow Road, Manchester M20 3QX

For those travelling by car, there is car parking available at £3.00 for the day.
Details available on request

I wish to book ____ places @ £20.00 per person = £_____

NAME(s) (please print)

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tel:

e-mail address

Threads and Tales

Telling Our Story: Our Northern Mills receives Heritage Lottery Fund grant for new project involving some of Greater Manchester's textile mills and their communities

This exciting project, entitled "Threads and Tales" is to be led by Our Northern Mills (ONM) which has been awarded £7,800 by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). This grant funding will enable ONM to work with certain mills and communities in Greater Manchester to tell their own story and find out more about the history of the textile industry within their local communities. 'All Our Stories' is a brand new small grant programme, launched in November last year – in support of BBC Two's *The Great British Story* – has been designed as an opportunity for everyone to get involved in their heritage. With HLF funding and support, ONM will work with, and support, community groups to carry out a range of activities that will help people explore, share and celebrate their local heritage.

ONM will be visiting five communities over the course of the "Threads and Tales" project: Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, and Wigan. In each location, ONM will hold a collaborative community workshop where local people can come along to share their stories and participate in our community documentary film. We welcome anyone interested in textile mills or local history to join us as we explore our local industrial heritage.

At the end of the project, we will produce a short film bringing together all the footage and different 'threads' of historical information collected at each of the five communities to share the 'tales' of textile heritage across the study area.

If you have any photographs or memorabilia relating to local mills you would like to share with ONM, please let us know and bring them along to one of the workshops. Our website is currently under construction so we would invite anyone wishing to participate or support our "Threads and Tales" project to contact us at:

ournorthernmillsgroup@gmail.com

ONM will announce further details of this exciting project in the near future!

Adrian Bailey
ournorthernmillsgroup@gmail.com

Book Review

The Peak Forest Canal and Railway: An Engineering and Business History - Grahame Boyes and Brian Lamb.

220 pp, 250x170.5mm, 113 pictures (8 are coloured), 14 diagrams, 19 maps,

24 tables, 9 appendices, hardback, Railway and Canal Historical Society, 1-2 Vernon Street, Derby, DE1 1FR, 2012, ISBN 978 0 901461 59 9, www.rchs.org.uk, £30.

Many persons are acknowledged as contributing to this book, but it chiefly stems from the pioneering work of Brian Lamb who died in 2007. In the early 1960s, Brian made a study of the canal and particularly the Bugsworth Basin, taking many photographs, a number of which have been reproduced in this book. His texts and maps are today of great historical interest and constantly referred to. Brian is therefore included, unusually, as a posthumous author and quite correctly so.

The book is profusely illustrated with previously unpublished or little seen illustrative material including old and new photographs, modern and historic maps and plans and some coloured nineteenth century prints. Particularly, the cartography is outstanding in its layout and colour coding. The text is highlighted by informative sub headings and the use of bold type face, while the extended captions to the photographs and maps are particularly to be commended. There are also various supporting tables and graphs. There is an attractive two column format varied by half or full page photographs, maps and diagrams and further variety is given with inserts of coloured text boxes with details of some of the leading persons involved in the establishment and operation of the canal.

The thirteen chapters are carefully referenced by endnotes (there are 430) many of which are usefully extended beyond the usual bare source details (useful for future researchers) and there are additional footnotes of more general interest. The range and quality of the source material is impressive.

The chapters covers all the aspects of the financing, building ,operation and maintenance of the canal, the limestone and stone trade, the principal features of the canal including eight pages on the Todd Brook and Combs reservoirs, the impact of railways, Bugsworth Basin and the operation of the Peak Forest Railway. Grahame explains the use of the term 'railway' instead of the more commonly used 'tramway', which is still used in certain circumstances. The chapters end with a consideration of the canal's decline and revival in the last century.

The many books on the canal and railway going back to the 1920s are recognised in the bibliography. These include the recent successful three-volumes by the late Olive Bowyer of New Mills Local History Society. But the most important new research will be found in websites (many have picture galleries) and publications such as Archive, the Derbyshire Archaeological Journal, the Journal of the R&CHS (13 articles by Brian), and particularly in **174** (formerly Onward) the outstanding newsletter of the Inland Waterways Protection Society whose members have spent over forty years restoring the Bugsworth Basin.

This book is a triumph of writing, editing and publication and many will wish it to grace their bookshelves.

(This review first appeared in the Journal of the Railway and Canal Historical Society, February 2013)



Roger about to enter the Alderley Edge mines

**Manchester Region Industrial Archaeology Society
Visit to Quarry Bank Mill and Apprentice House, Styal,
Thursday, 4th July**

Meet 2pm at the Mill for guided tour lasting about 90 minutes
then on to the Apprentice House

Roger Thwaite advises going early as visitors can visit the gardens and restaurant

Please make cheques payable to MRIAS and post, with booking slip, to

Gordon Browne, 622 Wilmslow Road, Manchester M20 3QX by the end of May

**NT members must bring their membership cards and complete the details below
(i.e. places required & personal details only as this visit will be free for NT
members - including guides)**

I am a National Trust member and require places.

For non-National Trust members:

to visit the mill only:

I wish to book ____ places @ £8.50 per person = £_____

to visit the mill and apprentice house

I wish to book ____ places @ £10.15 per person = £_____

Both NT and non-NT members complete the following:

NAME(s) (please print)

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tel:

e-mail address

Manchester Region Industrial Archaeology Society

**Visit to The British Commercial Vehicle Museum, King
Street, Leyland, Lancashire PR25 2LE and Global
Renewables Lancashire Ltd, Environmental Education Centre,
Lancashire Waste Technology Park, Sustainability Way,**

Leyland, Lancashire. PR26 6TB 25th July

Meet 10.30 am, at the Museum for tour.
Then lunch before a guided tour of this large, modern, waste recycling plant

Please make cheques payable to MRIAS and post, with booking slip, to

Gordon Browne, 622 Wilmslow Road, Manchester M20 3QX

I wish to book ___ places @ £8.00 per person = £_____

OR I wish to book ___ places @ £11.00 per person = £_____ (This includes a hotpot lunch!)

NAME(s) (please print)

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tel:

e-mail address

Manchester Region Industrial Archaeology Society
Visit to Llanymynech - Hoffman Kiln, Montgomery Canal and
the Shropshire and Montgomeryshire Light Railway
10th August 2013

Meet 10.00, at the car park next to Llanymynech Post Office for tour of the 'heritage site'. This kiln is one of only 3 remaining in the country and, arguable the best preserved/restored and having the best/most accessible associated workings. There are the option of 2 tours available - a shorter (1½ mile, on the level) tour on a surfaced buggy/wheelchair friendly route taking in all the major features associated with the kiln's workings and the canal or a longer (3 mile) tour involving some hill climbing.

The timetable is reasonably flexible so lunch - packed lunch or resorting to local hostelrys, cafes can be taken before we look at some features of the restored canal and the remnants of Colonel Holman F Stephens' Shropshire and Montgomeryshire Light Railway which, because of inter-railway rivalry, ran out of steam in Llanymynech

There is no charge for this walk which will be led by our Chairman, Neil Davies. However donations to MRIAS always welcome!

Further information: tel. 01706 814998 email mrias@btinternet.com



Carreghofa Lock near Llanymynech

North West Industrial Archaeology Panel, Salford Local History Forum and MRIAS

RE-CAPTURING THE PAST OF SALFORD QUAYS

**A one day conference at Ordsall Hall, Salford, Friday 18th October
2013**

2014 will be the 120th anniversary of the opening of the Manchester Ship Canal, and it is 30 years since the closure of Manchester Docks. This conference aims to illustrate and explain the history and

archaeology of the docks and to discuss their transformation to Salford Quays. There will be talks on the Old Port of Manchester, the building of the canal, ships and cargoes, dock warehouses and the heritage of the Quays. Tours of the medieval Ordsall Hall will be available at lunchtime and a choice of guided walks in the area of the Quays in the afternoon.

The price per head of £25 includes tea and coffee on arrival, and a buffet lunch with hot and cold drinks. Free on-site parking will be available for 50 cars. The nearest Metro-Link tram station is Exchange Quay on the Eccles line.

For further details and booking please contact: Tony Wright, MRIAS, 9 Perth Close, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire, CW4 7JH (email; antheword@msn.com)

RE-CAPTURING THE PAST OF SALFORD QUAYS

A one day conference at Ordsall Hall, Salford, Friday 18th October 2013

I enclose a cheque for _____ places at £25 per person = £_____

NAME(S) (Please print) _____

FULL ADDRESS including post code

Contact Telephone number _____
email _____

Please tick one box for preferred, afternoon guided walk:

- A Ordsall District (short, easy walk)
- B. Ordsall, Pomona Docks etc (medium distance)
- C. Salford Quays environment (longer walk)
- D. Salford Quays industrial archaeology (longer walk)

Please submit to Tony Wright

Please Complete the Attached Membership Questionnaire (If you have not already done so)

Attached below to this newsletter is a form requesting contact information from members.

Why are we asking for this information?

In a society like MRIAS opportunities for fieldwork, visits and events often occur at short notice. Particularly during the summer months it can be difficult to contact members and keep them up to date. Addresses are held by the Membership Secretary but mail is slow, labour intensive and expensive. We do not have a complete record of telephone numbers, mobile numbers or email addresses. At the same time it would be useful to have a more complete record of member's interests in fieldwork and research and the special expertise they may have, so that we can target information or questions. The information will be recorded on an Access Database and will only be available to or through members of the committee. We will not release it to third parties.

Your participation is, of course, completely voluntary. Most members who attended the New Year Social completed a form and if you did that there is no need to repeat the information.

**Please return the completed questionnaire to, Peter Bone (MRIAS)
17 Riverstone Bridge, Littleborough, Lancs OL15 8JF or scan & email to
pwbarchaeology@btinternet.com If you have any question please give me a call
on 01706 838106**

Peter Bone



MRIAS Membership Questionnaire

Events and opportunities occur that need to be communicated to members between meetings and newsletters and during the summer months. Although addresses are held by the membership secretary we do not have a complete record of telephone numbers, mobile numbers or email addresses. At the same time it would be useful to have a more complete record of members interests in fieldwork and reasearch and the special expertise they may have. The information will be recorded on an Access Database and will only be available to or through members of the committee. Your participation is, of course, completely voluntary. (As a non-profit organisation holding only information necessary for the running of the Society and not releasing it to third parties we are exempt from the need to register under the Data Protection Act 1998).

Please return completed questionnaire to Peter Bone (MRIAS) 17 Riverstone Bridge, Littleborough, Lanc's OL15 8JF

or Scan & Email to pwbarchaeology@btinternet.com

First Name ----- Surname -----

First & Surname of Joint Member (if any) -----

Address

Postcode

Telephone ----- Mobile -----

Email

Would you like to take part in MRIAS fieldwork projects.	Tick for Yes
--	--------------

Would you like to take part in MRIAS Desk research.	Tick for Yes
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Areas of Special Interest e.g., railways, canals, textiles, etc.

Areas of Special Expertise e.g., Areas in which you have worked, have professional qualifications or special skills such as tech drawing, surveying, photography etc.