

Lancaster Archaeological & Historical Society

Newsletter -- February 2014

We are now more than halfway through our Winter programme. We have speakers for our February and March meetings as well as for the AGM on the 24<sup>th</sup> April. Please do try to attend.

It is hoped that our members have found our speakers both interesting and informative. As we are both an archaeological and historical society the Committee tries to arrange for an equal number of speakers on each classification to be included in the programme. The Committee always welcome suggestion for speakers/subjects and will do their best to accommodate their wishes. The same applies for our summer excursions. A separate booking form is being circulated in respect of the first - a full day covering Brough Castle, Barnard Castle and the Bowes Museum which is of course on the outskirts of the attractive town of Barnard Castle.

Efforts are always made to keep the cost of our excursions as reasonable as possible but all prices (coach hire, admissions etc) are tending to rise and this has to be reflected in the cost of our trips

We are pleased to report that the number of members now exceed 100. Excellent news but additional members are always welcome – try inviting a friend to the next meeting.

The Fairfield Association, a local environmental body have recently purchased the fields off Aldcliffe Road opposite the Canal. These are to be ploughed in the Spring and we are then to be invited to join in a 'treasure hunting' expedition over the ploughed land before it is sown. Some early 19<sup>th</sup> century coins have already turned up - unfortunately not very valuable ! More details later.

Work is proceeding slowly on the book on Lancaster Castle. This has delayed publication of the next issue of Contrebis though the latter has not been forgotten.

George Howson

Chairman