



### Portland Basin Museum

The museum is housed within the restored nineteenth century Ashton Canal Warehouse in Ashton-under-Lyne. Combining a lively modern interior with a peaceful canal side setting, it is an exciting family-friendly museum, with something for all ages.



# Tameside HISTORY FESTIVAL

## 1st - 30th September 2021



### Enjoy our temporary exhibition, Food Glorious Food, 24/7/2021 – 3/4/2022.

This new and exciting temporary exhibition at Portland Basin Museum will look at changing attitudes and practices around what and how we eat. The exhibition is being generously supported through a grant from The Linbury Trust as part of the 'Take One Ingredient' project involving local arts organisation Interference Arts and The Sainsbury Archive.



Step back in time on our 1920s street, as the sights and sounds of bygone Tameside are brought to life. Take a look into our kitchen and parlour to find out how we used to live. Visitors can explore the area's industrial heritage and discover what life was like down the mines, or on the farm.



<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/portlandbasin>



Edible England



# Tameside HISTORY FESTIVAL

Your chance to explore and celebrate Tameside's Heritage. The theme this year is **Edible England**.



Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture. Every year in September, places across the country throw open their doors to celebrate their heritage, community and history. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences – and it's all free!



## Tameside Local History Forum

The Tameside Local History Forum was established in January 2000 to increase public awareness of local history and heritage throughout the borough.

The Forum aims to promote the study of archive and source material for social, business and archaeological purposes, and to make sure that such material is well preserved, collated and accessible to all. Co-operation is encouraged between related historical and civic societies and statutory authorities with the Forum acting as a point of contact.

## Tameside Local History Forum - the voice for heritage in Tameside

### Local Studies and Archives

Tameside Local Studies and Archive Centre is your first stop for finding out about the history of Tameside. We hold unique documents about our area. Visit us if you are looking for the history of your house, doing your homework, writing an essay or thesis on any aspect of the history of the area, interested in finding out about the place where you live, planning anniversary celebrations for a local club or organisation, or researching the Manchester Regiment. We host a large variety of workshops and classes about all aspects of local and family history which are a great way to start off your lifelong learning journey, meet new people and find out about your local area.

**find us at**  
[www.tameside.gov/archives](http://www.tameside.gov/archives)

## Tameside Local History Forum celebrates 21 years

During a conversation at the opening of Portland Basin Museum in 1999, a number of local historians agreed that a group was needed to make sure our local history and heritage had a voice in Tameside.

The five founding members were Alan Rose, Jill Cronin, Christine Clough, Harry Lever and Jean Marlor, who were already involved in other local history groups.

The first meeting was held on January 25th 2000, at the local Volunteer Centre and after introductions, representatives from each local history society had a chance to talk about the work done in their group, covering the nine towns in Tameside.

Everyone was in agreement that there was a need for a co-ordinated group to represent local history societies in meetings with Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council.

The group would:

Convey information through local history groups.

Co-ordinate, and interact with Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council .

Identify buildings of interest that need to be listed.

Ensure that Blue Plaque information was correct.

Promote activities through the appropriate channels.

Liaise with Portland Basin Museum.

Jill Cronin suggested that an initial newsletter should be compiled to be ready for the next meeting on April 4th. This was to be distributed by the groups to libraries.

We were able to access £150 for the first newsletter funded by TACO, and £186 for three meetings, refreshments, transport and stationery.

### To date 2021

The Forum has many contacts with societies, libraries and groups within Greater Manchester. Some groups have used our constitution as a base for starting other umbrella groups bringing together people interested in our heritage.

### Our website

[www.tamesidehistoryforum.org.uk](http://www.tamesidehistoryforum.org.uk) receives many queries world-wide about local and family history.

An exhibition will be at Portland Basin Museum during September 2021 showing twenty one years of our successes and work to promote heritage in Tameside.

As secretary of the Forum, I have met and worked with some wonderful people and I am very proud of our achievements.

Christine Clough

Secretary, Tameside Local History Forum



## Edible Mossley

Edible Mossley will explore Mossley food shops over the decades via a display, digital presentation and a Mossley Walking Trail which will direct visitors to places of local edible heritage.

Mossley has had lots of small, independent food shops (decades before they became trendy!) and in particular one very famous eating place.

Edible Mossley will explore the sites and history of these shops.

Visitors to Mossley Heritage Centre will discover when and where allotments were first introduced and what happened when people had to Dig for Victory. They can also investigate how Mossley's community continue to nurture the idea of locally grown food.



The original Mossley Co-op



## Ashton-under-Lyne Civic Society



Join us to meet people who care about our town of **Ashton-under-Lyne**.

We organise talks and visits.

We join with other groups such as the Tameside Local History Forum.

We discuss and comment on building and environmental developments in the town.

We encourage high standards of town planning through our Building of the Year Award.

These are some of the visits arranged in recent years:

River Mersey Cruise,  
Castle Howard, (historical and TV)  
Staffordshire Hoard, (ancient gold find)  
Harewood House, (royalty, aviary, and extensive grounds).

We would like to welcome new members to continue our work.

## Dukinfield Old Chapel (Unitarian)

The Neo-Gothic Grade II\* listed chapel features an unusual structure, fine stained glass windows, a listed organ and a crypt containing a mysterious well.

Its graves date from the 18<sup>th</sup> century including that of the Leech family, maternal forebears of Beatrix Potter. Beatrix and her family will be the focus for 2021 and refreshments will feature food from Mr McGregor's garden from The Tales of Peter Rabbit.

We will be open on:

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 11am to 3.30pm

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September 1.30pm to 4pm

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September 11am to 1pm

**Contact: Dawn Buckle 07542001003**

Email: [dawnbuckle@ymail.com](mailto:dawnbuckle@ymail.com)



## Dukinfield Old Hall Chapel

Come and see Dukinfield's oldest building, in its unexpected location near Globe Lane. Let us transport you back to 1793. Hear about the Old Hall, its Chapel, its people, and our campaign to preserve this Grade II ruin.

Visit on either Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>, or Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2021, at 11.30 am or 2.00 pm. Free. Booking essential. For more details, phone 0161 330 4188

or email [jackietucker11@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jackietucker11@hotmail.co.uk)

## Greater Manchester Churches Preservation Society

The Society was launched at the Fairfield Moravian Settlement in 2006 and now has 130 church groups and individual members.

The Society operates with the support of the leaders of the main denominations in Greater Manchester and under the patronage of the Lord-Lieutenant, Warren Smith.

Its aims are both educational in raising awareness of the rich variety of church buildings in the area, and practical in the longer term by raising funds to allow the society to make grants for repairs to those buildings

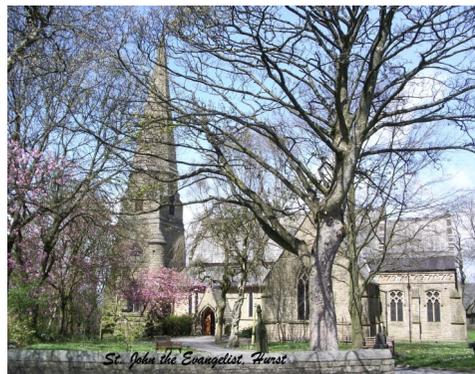
Individuals, churches and corporate bodies are invited to become members, receiving three newsletters a year and invitations to a series of day events to explore buildings of every denomination in Greater Manchester.





The Reporter Group of newspapers has been delivering news of the area from east Manchester to Glossop and north east Cheshire for over 165 years. In 2014 they donated their photographic archive to Tameside Local Studies and Archive Centre. This included black and white prints, film negatives and fragile glass plate negatives, mainly taken in the second half of the 20th century.

A grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund has enabled 26,000 negatives to be digitised. They can be viewed on twitter, Facebook and on line at [www.smiletameside.wordpress.com](http://www.smiletameside.wordpress.com).



## St John the Evangelist, Hurst, Ashton-under-Lyne OL6 9NH

St John's was built in the Gothic style by Oldham Whittaker, local mill owner.

Designed by Shellard and consecrated in 1849, the transepts, tower, spire and Whittaker Chapel were added in 1862. These were by George Shaw, of Saddleworth, and the unique dark oak panelling, and the stained glass windows are impressive.

Come and explore the growth of the Hurst Cross community through local industry; hear the stories of those resting in our graveyard, our communist vicar and the (now stuffed) owl who lived in the church during his time.



## Denton Local History Society

Since 2000 the Forum has given us a stronger voice. Our representative sits alongside council officers from Local Studies & Archives, Events & Publicity, Museums & Planning, plus those interested in family history, churches, buildings and parks. We share ideas and projects, to protect our heritage.

The Forum magazine gave us a place to publicise our work, and small grants to help with publishing and exhibitions. We also enjoy social events, outings and entertainment.

Our representative on Tameside Heritage Advisory Group, gave us the opportunity to discuss our concerns and suggestions.

## Local History Forum in Hyde/Gee Cross

The Cenotaph in Werneth Low Country Park is owned and managed by Hyde War Memorial Trust. The land was bought by public donations to honour the 710 men of Hyde who died in WW1.

The Visitor Centre holds a fascinating record of them all. <http://hwmt.org/>



## Gee Cross Community Well Dressing



Revived in 2000 by the local Women's Institute, it takes place annually in July. Wells are decorated with pictures often made with flowers, following an old tradition. They are blessed during a popular procession led by a band.

## Fairfield Moravian Settlement and Museum.

Built in 1785, Fairfield Square is a unique settlement with cobbled streets and Georgian buildings. It is regularly used as a filming set, most recently in Mrs Lowry & Son. Open on Sunday 12th September from 1pm to 5pm as part of the Heritage Weekend. Tours are available from 1pm, every half hour, with the last one leaving at 4pm. Bookings are preferable, as numbers will be limited. To book, please contact [jwarr@uwclub.net](mailto:jwarr@uwclub.net). Please state the time of the tour and numbers attending. Light refreshments available and free children's treasure hunt. There will also be a variety of stalls.



Tameside Local Studies & Archive Centre holds a wealth of information about the nine towns of Tameside, such as maps, newspapers, photographs, books and original documents. Facilities are also available for tracing your ancestors, wherever they lived in the country, and volunteers are on hand to help if you need it. You can also find many books about the area by local authors that are available to buy. Monthly talks and workshops are held on many historical topics.

Check the website for more details  
[www.tameside.gov.uk/archives](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/archives)



Family History Help Desks will resume - Tues, Weds, Thurs & Sat 10am-1pm. Make an appointment to start or get free 'one-to-one' help with your family tree.

Throughout the whole month there will be an online exhibition on traditional Lancashire food plus Junior History Club activities.

# Tameside HISTORY FESTIVAL

## Thursday 2nd September, 2pm

Gay Oliver will speak about the 21 years of Tameside Local History Forum via Zoom. Email: [gayjoliver@gmail.com](mailto:gayjoliver@gmail.com) to be sent the link on the day.

## Saturday 4th September, 12.30pm the launch of the Local History Forum's 21st Birthday Exhibition at Portland Basin.

12.30pm with Tameside Mayor Councillor Janet Cooper

## Sunday 5th September

Newton Hall Heritage Open Day.  
(please look at website for details)  
[www.tamesidehistoryforum.org.uk](http://www.tamesidehistoryforum.org.uk)

## Tuesday 7th September, 2pm Making Friends with the Archives

Edible Archives, a look at food, recipes and rationing.  
Email: [archives@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:archives@tameside.gov.uk) to book

## Friday 10th September, 5pm - 8pm

Foodie Fridays, Armentieres Square, Stalybridge. Every 2nd Friday, street food and entertainment.

## Friday 10th, Saturday 11th, Sunday 12th September

### Dukinfield Old Chapel (Unitarian)

We will be open on:  
Friday 10th September 11am to 3.30pm  
Saturday 11th September 1.30pm to 4pm  
Sunday 12th September 11pm to 1pm  
Contact: Dawn Buckle;  
Mobile: 07542001003;  
Email: [dawnbuckle@ymail.com](mailto:dawnbuckle@ymail.com)

## Saturday 11th, Sunday 12th September, 11.30am and 2pm

Dukinfield Old Hall Chapel  
Free, booking essential. For more details, phone 0161 330 4188 or email [jackietucker11@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jackietucker11@hotmail.co.uk)

## Saturday 11th September, 11am and 2pm

Currier Lane Historical Society  
Join David Dawson on a heritage walk on Tameside's Ancient Highway - Currier Lane, Ashton.  
Meet at the Seraphina Café at St Michael's Square, Ashton OL6 6XJ

## Saturday 11th September, 11am - 4pm

Albion United Reform Church, Stamford Street East, Ashton-under-Lyne, OL6 6QQ

## Sunday 12th September

Newton Hall Heritage Open Day.  
(please look at website for details)  
[www.tamesidehistoryforum.org.uk](http://www.tamesidehistoryforum.org.uk)

## Sunday 12th September, 4pm

Grade 1 listed church built 1882. Conservation area, rectory and school. self guided tours. St Annes Church, St Annes Road, Denton M34 3EB.

## Sunday 12th September, from 1pm

### Fairfield Moravian Settlement and Museum

Tours are available from 1pm, every half hour, the last one leaving at 4pm. Bookings preferable but not essential, as numbers limited, to [jwarr@uwclub.net](mailto:jwarr@uwclub.net).

## Wednesday 15th September, 2pm

### Tameside History Club Talk

Something to chew on –the history of local sweet makers by Mike Pavasovic.  
To book call 0161 342 4242 or email [archives@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:archives@tameside.gov.uk)  
[www.tameside.gov.uk/archives](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/archives),

## Friday 17th September, 11 - 4pm

## Saturday 18th September, 10.30am - 4pm

Mossley Heritage Centre  
Emmaus Building, Queen Street, OL5 9AH

## Saturday 18th, Sunday 19th September, 11.30am and 2pm

Dukinfield Old Hall Chapel  
Free, booking essential. For more details, phone 0161 330 4188 or email [jackietucker11@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jackietucker11@hotmail.co.uk)

## Wednesday 22nd September, 2pm

Visit to Incredible Edible at Valeside, Mossley, to hear how they use spare land, followed by a visit to Sweet Vintage café. To book call 0161 342 4242 or email [archives@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:archives@tameside.gov.uk)  
[www.tameside.gov.uk/archives](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/archives)

## Saturday 25th September, 10am - 5pm

Ashton Artisan Market  
Ashton Market. Last Saturday each month, the best homemade produce available to purchase.

## Saturday 25th September 10am-3pm

Tameside Local Studies & Archives  
@ Victoria Baths, Manchester.  
Information & book stall.

## Tuesday 28th September, 10.30am and 1pm

Currier Lane Historical Society  
Join David Dawson on a heritage walk on Tameside's Ancient Highway- Currier Lane, Ashton.  
Meet at the Seraphina Café at St Michael's Square, Ashton OL6 6XJ

## The Currier Lane Historical Society

This group was reformed 2 years ago by the late Lyndon Beckley from previously known C.L.A.R.A. Our new president's sudden death was a great loss so soon after our reformation. One of the first changes made was to extend our research area beyond today's Currier Lane, incorporating its original length as the direct highway between the historic towns of Ashton and Stalybridge.

As old as Ashton Town itself, the lane has played an important role in the development of the area for 800 years. The Ashton section of the old turnpike road built 200 years ago still retains much of its historic charm.

Our current project preserves what remains of the ancient Toll Road leading down to the well preserved transshipment warehouse at Lock 3 of the Huddersfield Canal in 1792. This was Ashton's main wharf, supplied with cotton and coal from Ashton's original cotton mills and mines at Hurst, Botany and Cockbrook. This predates Portland Basin and the coming of the railway by 50 years.

It is hoped that during the coming year we can establish permanent signposted walks around the area.

Anyone interested in assisting with our work please text Dave on mobile 07939163038

## Tameside Family History Centre

One unique feature of the collaboration between Tameside Council and the University of Manchester Archaeological Unit was the introduction of a family history advice service.

Operating as part of Tameside's museum service, the rationale was that, visitors having learnt about Tameside's history then had the opportunity to find out about their own family history.

The service, now run by volunteers, has since moved to the Local Studies Library. Together with the Cheshire Family History Society's fortnightly sessions the volunteers continued to provide help and advice until the first Covid-19 lockdown in 2020.

**It is hoped that the sessions will begin again in September ahead of the eagerly awaited publication of the 1921 census in early 2022.**

## Friends of Gorse Hall Using the past to promote the future

The Friends were formed in 1999 to promote the history of the 35 acre site of Gorse Hall, once part of the Manor of Dukinfield. This hill site situated on the borders of Stalybridge and Dukinfield, provides fantastic views over the Cheshire Plain and beyond.

The site is managed by volunteers as a public open space with woodland, meadows and pond. Heritage information boards show the history of the site with building remains attesting to past lives.

With links to Beatrix Potter and a famous unsolved murder, the site has many mysteries and stories to tell.

**Website: [www.gorse-hall.co.uk](http://www.gorse-hall.co.uk)**

Join our volunteers to help in conservation work onsite.

## Newton Hall, Hyde

In February 2012, more than 50 enthusiastic archaeologists and historians gathered under the old beams of Newton Hall, Hyde.

They had come to hear about a new project organised by the Tameside Local History Forum with funding provided by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The Forum members explained how the history and archaeology of the Hall would be rediscovered and explored by local community volunteers and Tameside school children, with the support of professional archaeologists from the University of Salford.

This could not have been achieved without the support of William Kenyon & Sons who owned the land and building. Initially to be demolished in 1967, Sir George Kenyon saved and restored this late medieval barn (dated to 1530).

Sir George Kenyon continued to support the Tameside Local History Forum, with Christopher Kenyon carrying this on.



## The Tameside Archaeological Survey, 1990 to 2012

Begun in 1990, and funded throughout by Tameside Local Authority, with supplementary funding from The Heritage Lottery Fund (now NHLF) for 1997 to 2001 (Park Bridge), The Friends of Gorse Hall in the years 2001-07, and the Tameside Local History Forum in the years 2008-12, the survey ran for 22 years. It had three main aims:

- primary research to improve the understanding of the area and to feed new evidence of how the local communities and landscape developed into the museum service;
- community engagement of schools and adult volunteers through hands-on field-work, workshops, guided research, family history advice and research, classroom activities, and exhibitions;
- and legacy through the dissemination of the new information in a variety of forms, such as publications, museum exhibitions, and an improved Historic Environment Record.

As Tameside MBC was only created in 1974, this project was seen by the Council as one way in which the new borough's identity could be promoted through the exploration of its archaeology and history.

As the survey progressed, it became clear that Tameside's landscape contained a huge amount of post-medieval and industrial archaeology, much of it of regional or national significance but little of it studied systematically.

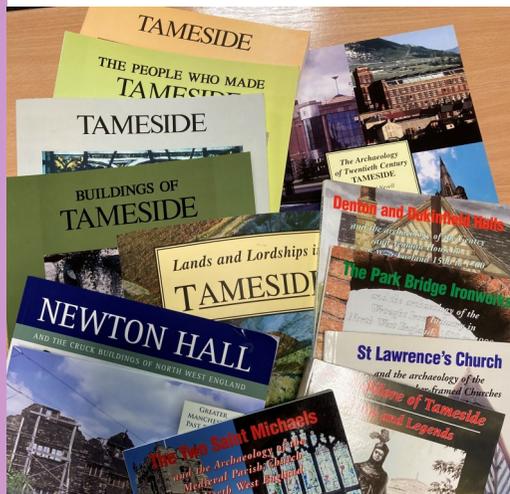
**The results of the survey were substantial:** 24 research excavations, over 110 detailed building surveys; two publication series amounting to 18 academic and popular monographs. The archive for the project is deposited with Tameside Museums and Galleries and the Tameside Local Studies Library, where a list of the monograph series can be found and purchased.

The Tameside Archaeological Survey pioneered the Manchester Methodology, a landscape research technique developed by the project from 1998 to cut through and sort the overwhelming mass of archaeological data for the industrialisation period. This was done through organising post-medieval and industrial sites into monument types, identifying the earliest documented examples, linking these to the local social hierarchy, and then charting the spread and density of new structures across the landscape and by social group during the period 1600-1900.

The Survey also undertook pioneering excavations on late 18th century textile mills, an 18th century Newcomen colliery pumping engine (Fairbottom Bobs), and landscape research on the archaeology of the twentieth century.

The project has won many awards including a highly commended finalist in the 'best archaeological research project' category for the British Archaeological Awards in 2014.

Dr Michael Nevell ran the project with many others involved, Tom Burke, Prof John Walker, John Roberts, Sue Mitchell, Brian Grimsditch, and Phil Mayes, Director of the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit, being just a few.



## Family History Society of Cheshire Helping family historians since 1969

We have two research centres at Mobberley and Crewe and 13 groups across Cheshire each with their own programme. During lockdown we moved to a series of Zoom talks and these have been very popular with people from all over the world.

As we move towards face to face meetings again we will still be continuing to offer some virtual meetings and from the autumn we will be running a series of larger Cheshire-wide seminars.

Facebook: @CheshireFamilyHistory  
Twitter: @FHSoCheshire  
Website: fhsc.org.uk

Gay J Oliver is Web Administrator and Tameside Group Leader

## Mossley Civic Society

Mossley Civic Society, formed in 1966, has been affiliated to Tameside History Forum from their inception. The society has been able to benefit from shared experiences, activities, ideas, and support.

For the last 20 years Mossley's heritage has been explored and celebrated from a base in Longlands Mill.

The Mossley Heritage Centre provides artefacts, displays, and a nostalgic look at Mossley's past. A website, Facebook page, publications, local trails, and regular events mean that the small group of volunteers that run MCS continue to provide the local community with access to a wealth of information about their town.

[mossleyheritage.org](http://mossleyheritage.org)

**Mossley Heritage Facebook**

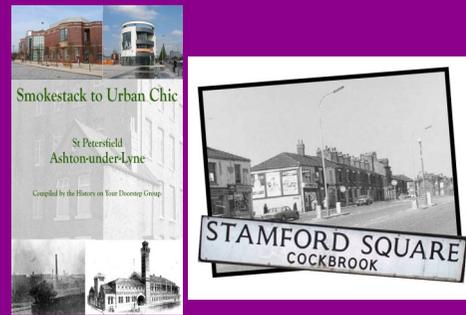


## History on Your Doorstep

This group began as an adult education class in 1997 and then became involved in local history research projects.

These included research into the St Peter's area of Ashton, a series of publications: 'History in your own words' and an annual 'History Alive -Tameside' magazine. When the tutors Alan Rose and Jill Cronin retired, the group continued to meet to carry out research and prepare exhibitions. Display topics have included a history of Cockbrook, the Ashton Mechanics Institute, and the Peterloo Massacre. 'Tameside Remembers Peterloo, 16 August 1819' was published in 2019. The group sorted photographs donated to Tameside Local Studies and Archives Centre by the Reporter Group of Newspapers. These have now been digitised as part of the Smile! Project.

History on Your Doorstep meet at 1pm on Thursdays in Tameside Local Studies and Archives Centre. New members are always welcome.



## Cockbrook Project

An exhibition uncovering the history of the Ashton hamlet of Cockbrook was staged at the Astley Cheetham Art Gallery in Stalybridge in 2016. The research was carried out by the History on Your Doorstep group and the project was a partnership between the History Forum, Ashton Photographic Society, Interference Art and Tameside Cultural Services.

All aspects of Cockbrook life were covered, including mills, transport, schools, churches, shops, pubs and notable personalities with connections to the area. There was something of interest for everyone and the exhibition proved very popular with a record number of visitors.

## Hollinwood Canal Society:

The Hollinwood Branch of the Ashton Canal ran from Droylsden, through Littlemoss, towards Oldham. Opened in 1797 to carry coal to Manchester, it survived as a working waterway until around 1932 but had become abandoned by 1961.

The society focuses on the preservation of the Droylsden to Hollinwood canal, particularly the remaining heritage and the restoration of the canals within Daisy Nook Country Park and elsewhere. This creates a green and pleasant route through the built-up areas to the countryside in between.

To join or help us (e.g. on our working parties) please see our website: [www.hollinwoodcanal.co.uk](http://www.hollinwoodcanal.co.uk)



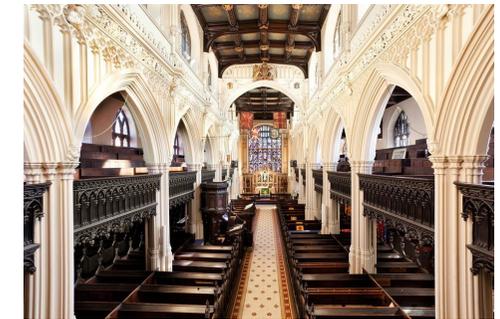
## Friends of Ashton Parish Church

### Heritage Weekend 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> September 2021

The church dates back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century with a complete set of medieval stained glass, a three-deck pulpit and pews facing the pulpit from both sides of the chancel arch.

The church will be open on both days from 10.00am to 4.00pm with guided tours at 10.30am & 2.00pm. There will be trips up the tower, weather permitting, with volunteers available on-site. We urgently need volunteers even for an odd hour. If you can help please ring 0161 330 5829.

If you are interested in helping to preserve this wonderful building and becoming a Friend, please check our website for details. [www.goodshepherdashton.org/the-friends-of-ashton-parish-church](http://www.goodshepherdashton.org/the-friends-of-ashton-parish-church)



## Albion United Reformed Church, Stamford Street East, Ashton-under-Lyne, OL6 6QQ

Albion URC opens its doors on Saturday 11th September. This year we look back at the Whit Walks in Ashton-under-Lyne. Following the Edible England theme, raspberry buns, traditionally served after walks, will be available along with other refreshments.

Albion URC's Grade II\* Gothic style building was completed in 1895. Architectural features include: hammerbeam roof with angelic support, stained glass by Burne-Jones, installed by William Morris, a Lewis Grade II organ, and the Pilkington Tile War Memorial designed by Gordon M. Forsyth. Many names have been researched to commemorate World War 1. Church marriage registers as well as a variety of historic artefacts are on show.



Members of the congregation will be available to share some of our history. There will be Albion Explorer Packs for use by children to help them discover interesting facts about this magnificent building and the Whit Walks tradition.