

# South Ribble Primary Schools

## Local History Project

### The Tudors of South Ribble



This document provides additional local material to teachers for the teaching of the National Curriculum (History) in Primary schools and has been compiled by Dr David Hunt. These take the form of teaching notes highlighting local links based around a Time Line. They should be seen as a supplement to the mass of national material available on the Internet and on CD.

#### Contents

- 1 – Time Line
- 2 – Dissolution of the Monasteries
  - Preston's Leper Hospital
  - Preston Friary
  - Penwortham Priory
  - Whalley Abbey
- 3 – Prominent local Tudors and their landed Estates
  - The Lords of Samlesbury: the Southworths
  - Barons of Walton: the Langtons
  - Squires of Leyland: the ffaringtons
  - The Lords of Hoghton: the Hoghtons
- 4 – Witchcraft and Wizardry
  - Raising the dead?: Walton 1560
  - The Samlesbury Witch Trial of 1612
- 5 – Coughs and Sneezes: some diseases
  - The Black Death 1349
  - The Plague of 1631
- 6 – The Tudors at Play
  - The visit of King James 1617
  - The Tudor Appetite
- 7 – Education and Public Welfare?
  - Leyland Free Grammar School
  - The ffarington Alms Houses`

## **1 Tudor South Ribble: local Time Line**

The Tudor unit of the National Curriculum is extremely well catered for by websites and commercial CDs on virtually every aspect of contemporary life.

The local material is not so accessible. This is unfortunate because our district was closely involved in the controversies and possibilities of the age, and has a number of interesting sites to visit.

To base the teaching of this unit solely on local materials might be restrictive, but the district does provide interesting and local examples of the broader themes so successfully developed on a national basis.

These:

### **Local Tudors Time might comprise:**

\* Key legislation directing the English Reformation

#### **1485 Henry VII**

1485 Plague known as 'Sweating Sickness'.

1498 Henry ffarington (1471-1550) becomes 'Squire of the King's Body'.

1501 Preston Guild. Henry ffarington (1471-1550) inherits the family estates.

#### **1509 Henry VIII**

1513 Battle of Flodden: locals participate.

1524 Henry ffarington endows chantry and Leyland Free Grammar School.

\*1527 Quarrel with Rome begins.

1529 Fall of Wolsey.

\*1533 Katherine of Aragon deposed as Queen.

1533 Thomas Langton (1487-1569) knighted.

\*1534 Act of Supremacy: Henry VIII Head of the Church.

1534 Henry ffarington buys the Worden Old Hall estate.

\*1536 Act for the Suppression of the Lesser Monasteries.

Henry ffarington appointed a Crown Commissioner for the Suppression of the Lesser Monasteries.

1537 Pilgrimage of Grace: uprising in the north. Forces gathered in Preston to subdue rising and the Abbott of Whalley hanged.

1537 Dissolution of Whalley Abbey: its church and lands at Walton valued at £27-11-2d per year.

\*1539 Dissolution of the Great *Monasteries*.

1539 John Fleetwood (d.1590) leases lands of Evesham Abbey: purchases them 1543. Prior converted to house.

1539 Document of Henry VIII describes Henry ffarington as a 'Knight of Our Body'.

1542 Preston Guild.

\*1546 Suppression of the Chantries: funding of Leyland School passes to County.

#### **1547 Edward VI**

1547 Thomas Langton (1487-1569) opens discrete chapel at Walton Hall.

1547 John Southworth (1526-95) knighted whilst fighting in Scotland.

#### **1553 Mary I**

Catholicism partly restored. Protestants now persecuted.

The restoration of Catholicism is so rapid around Preston as to suggest that little had ever changed.

1554 Burning of Archbishop Cranmer

### **1558 Elizabeth I**

\*1559 Elizabethan Church Settlement.

This establishes a very moderate Church of England which – away from Lancashire – quickly becomes strongly established.

1559 Trouble at Walton when the mass is suppressed.

1560s Thomas Hoghton rebuilding Hoghton Tower.

1560 Edmund Kelley 'raises the dead at Walton'.

1561 William ffarington (1537-1610) becomes secretary to the Earl of Derby.

1562 Preston Guild. 'Great plague'. Religious wars in France.

1567 Gentry begin to refuse to attend their parish church: fine one shilling.

1568 English College at Douai founded to train priests for England.

1568-87 'Period of Plots'.

1569 'Rising of the North' in support of Mary Queen of Scots fails.

1569 Thomas Hoghton flees to the continent in exile.

1570 Pope excommunicates Elizabeth.

1570 The Bishop of Chester writes: 'the people fall from religion, revolt to popery and refuse to come to church'.

1572 First strongly Protestant vicar appointed at Preston.

1575 ffarington family lose Farington itself (following religion-based intrigues?) and move to Old Worden Hall.

1575 First Lancashire-born priests trained at Douai return.

1576 John Southworth (1526-95) reported to be hiding priests at Samlesbury Hall.

1576 Government attempts to get Thomas Hoghton to return.

1577-81 Francis Drake sails round the world.

1578 Former Catholic priests reported to be still serving their flock in Walton and still living in their old priest's house!

1580s Jesuit missionaries begin to enter the country to try and win it back: Government reacts harshly, fines for not attending church increased to £20 per month, even greater for landowners.

1581 High treason for a priest to say mass.

1581 Priest Edmund Campion visits the Southworths and Hoghtons.

1581 John Southworth (1526-91) arrested for Catholicism.

1582 Preston Guild: protests over Catholic content of ceremonies 50 years after the key events of the reformation.

1585 Death penalty for convicted seminary priests introduced: fears of a Spanish invasion.

1586 Thomas Southworth reported to be hiding a priest at Samlesbury Hall.

1587 Men mustered for invasion. Mary Queen of Scots executed. Cadiz burnt.

1588 Meeting at Preston to arrange preparations for expected Spanish invasion. Armada defeated.

1589 'Battle of Lea': Langtons and Hoghtons fight it out.

1590 Report of half-hearted efforts by Magistrates to suppress 'Popery'.

1590 Lord Burghley's map of Lancashire Catholics produced.

1592 Spy 'Dingley' at work locally: Southworths, ffaringtons and Langtons watched. Raid on Samlesbury Hall.

1596 Thomas Langton (1561-1604) forced to mortgage Walton estate for £14000.

1600 Richard Hoghton (1570-1630), brought up a strict Protestant captures priests at

Preston.

1602 Preston Guild.

**1603 James I**

1604 Death of Thomas Langton: last of the Langton Lords of Walton.

1605 Gunpowder Plot.

1607 William ffarington (1537-1610) reforms the Leyland Alms Houses. Colonisation of Virginia.

1611 Richard Hoghton purchases a Baronetcy: fighting in Ireland.

1612 Samlesbury and Pendle Witches tried.

1617 King James's visit to Hoghton Tower.

1619 People of Samlesbury accused of Catholic practices.

1620 'Mayflower' sails.

1630 Great Plague.

## **2 Dissolution of the Monasteries**

Anxious for the health of their souls the locals had been presenting lands to the Church for over four hundred years. Very large ecclesiastical estates had grown up, including the estates of the abbeys at Cockersand, Evesham, Sawley and Whalley, the priories at Lythan and Burscough and the Order of the Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem. As the dissolution of the monasteries and related institutions gathered pace in the 1530s and 40s these valuable assets were quickly snapped up – often by the same families whose ancestors had originally donated them.

Important local institutions affected include:

### **The Leper Hospital and the Maudlands**

Preston Leper Hospital acquired by John Fleetwood in . The hospital is first definitely recorded in 1178 but may have been founded 50 years earlier by the monks who established Furness Abbey. It was grandly styled the 'Hospital of the Brethren of Saint Mary Magdalen of Preston'. The institution was sited on a pleasant vale overlooking the town from the north and did great work during the Black Death. St. Walburge's church today occupies much of the original site, but no archaeological traces of the hospital seem to have been found. It was a small building but had a chapel and a warden to supervise it, and had a small estate known as the Maudlands. Leprosy had long been one of the scourges of Europe but by the sixteenth century had greatly declined, and the hospital at Preston was 'in grete ruin and dekey' when it was abolished in 1548 and the estate bought by John Fleetwood.

As virtually the only place where people of any class might obtain medical treatment in its day the Hospital had clearly been an enormous benefit to the district.

### **Preston Friary and the Grey Friars**

The Franciscans worked among the poor of the town and lived by begging. They were called Grey Friars because of the colour of their habits. Their friary was built on what was then the outskirts of the town, and the track leading away to it gave its name to one of the main roads through Preston – the Friars Gate. Many people think that it was founded in 1260. It seems to have been a small square building laid out around its cloister and small chapel. The Friary was dissolved in 1539 and acquired by Thomas Holcroft. Fragments of the old church buildings may have survived into the nineteenth century. Its position can be estimated with some accuracy, lying about 75 yards west of both Ladywell Street and Marsh Lane in what is now a deep cutting on the Preston inner ring road. Thousands of people thus pass through Preston Friary every day to and from their work.

### **Penwortham Priory**

Warine Bussel, lord of Penwortham, granted the church here to the Benedictine monks of the abbey of Evesham about 1140. The abbey agreed to station a small number of monks with a chaplain at Leyland, and so the priory came into being. Other local people added to the church lands and a large estate was built up. This included Howick, Farington and part of Longton. The Ribble fishery was particularly valuable and one man gave one fish in every four he caught to the priory! In 1535 the income was £114-16-10d, of which over half was sent to the abbot at Evesham.

The priory and estate was acquired as a part of Evesham Abbey by John Fleetwood in 1539. Converted into a gentleman's residence the house underwent a number of re-buildings prior to its demolition to make way for the modern housing estate beside the

parish church in the 1920s.

### **Whalley Abbey**

About 1172 Cistercian monks established a small abbey at Stanlow, on mud flats close to the River Mersey. This proved to be a poor choice of a site, and could be flooded to a depth of 3-5' at very high tides. The de Lacy family had endowed them with extensive lands in east Lancashire and they began to agitate for a move to a new site beside the ancient church at Samlesbury. Enormous legal problems had to be overcome and the monks at Sawley Abbey saw them as rivals, but the migrants made a ceremonial entry into Whalley on St. Ambrose day 1296. and the foundation stone was laid on 12 June 1290.

Whalley Abbey thrived for 250 years, and became an important landlord and force for progress in east Lancashire. To the east lay Sawley Abbey and Bolton Priory, with the enormous abbeys of Yorkshire beyond them. Whalley administered the churches at Walton and Samlesbury and had 'granges' (a sort of 'holiday home') in both places. Medical relief of at least some kind could be had from the abbey dispensary. Rents were generally relatively light, and much aid was given to the poor. In 1535 the Abbey had an income of £550. Of this sum over 3116 was allowed for almsgiving and the support of the poor. The house ran an almshouse for 24 'poor and feeble folk' costing £49, and gave £62 for the relief of the 'casual poor'. Donating around a third of its income to local 'good causes' explain why Whalley did not arouse the resentment faced by many of the very rich houses.

These factors proved to be very important in understanding the resentment that followed their dissolution, and the selling off of their lands to more exploitative landlords. These economic factors contributed to a brief rebellion in the north known as the Pilgrimage of Grace. Whalley was the local centre of these events and the 25<sup>th</sup> and final abbot - the aged Abbot Paslow - was arrested by Henry's forces and executed at Lancaster. The dissolution of the great Whalley estate quickly followed. John Braddyl took most of the land, and Richard Assheton the church buildings which he converted into a fine house.

### 3 Prominent local Tudors and their landed Estates

#### The Lords of Samlesbury

Thomas Southworth (1496-1546)

John Southworth (1526-1595)

The Southworth's acquired Samlesbury through marriage in 1325 and **Gilbert Southworth** then built the Great Hall of Samlesbury – the 'Higher' or 'Over Hall'.

It is clear that the family played a direct part in England's wars with her neighbours - Scotland and France as this brief survey shows:

**John Southworth (1360?-1415)** 55 years of age. One of the 2000 Englishmen who died of dysentery at the siege of Harfleur in Autumn 1415.

**Thomas Southworth (1392-1432)** 40 years of age.

**Richard Southworth (1420-1472)** 52 years of age. In 1429 he married Elizabeth the daughter of Sir Richard Molyneux.

**Christopher Southworth (1442-1487)**, 45 years of age.

**John Southworth (1478-1517)**, 39 years of age. Knighted in 1504. Present at the Battle of Flodden. He gave £20 not to be awarded the Order of the Bath.

**Thomas Southworth (1496-1546)**, 50 years of age.

Knighted whilst serving in Scotland. Sheriff of Lancashire.

The man who rebuilt modern Samlesbury Hall possibly using materials from the destroyed Whalley Abbey which his father-in-law had purchased. The sword and helmet hanging in the church may be his.

**John Southworth (1526-1595)**, 70 years of age.

Married Mary the daughter of Sir Richard Assheton just a few weeks before he was knighted in Scotland in 1547. In 1557 he was again serving in Scotland with his 100 men, his responsibilities were increased and in 1562 he was appointed Sheriff of Lancashire.

He now came to the notice of the Privy Council for his strong Catholicism.

In 1576 he was reported for hiding priests and attending secret masses.

In 1581 he was arrested, and put into New Fleet prison in Manchester. He was next ordered to go to live in London; he would be less dangerous there than living in Lancashire where he was 'greatly aided and friended'.

In 1586 his younger son Thomas was reported to be hiding a priest at Samlesbury Hall.

In 1587 he paid £400 of his £1100 fine, but would be let off the rest if he would go to church.

His grandson's widow was the Jane Southworth of Samlesbury Witches fame.

John Southworth's landed Estate at his death in 1595.

His lands in Samlesbury

20 messuages

1000 acres of land

200 acres of meadow

40 acres of pasture

60 acres of wood

40 acres of moor

100 acres of moss

40 acres of gorse or heath

The water mill at Samlesbury Bottoms  
Total lands in Samlesbury 1480 acres.

Mellor	1030 acres
Pleasington	94 acres
Livesey	120 acres
Brockhall	180 acres
Fernhead	130 acres
Oswaldrtwistle	90 acres
Ribchester	85 acres
Goosenargh	28 acres
Whittington	53 acres
Southworth (nr Warrington)	3280 acres
Croft	100 acres
Newton in Makerfield	150 acres
Arbury	130 acres
Houghton in Makerfield	110 acres
Middleton	170 acres
Other	350 acres
<b>Total estates</b>	<b>7576 acres</b>

An account of a 'police raid' on Samlesbury Hall in 1592.

The strongly Catholic Southworths were carefully watched by government agents, strange visitors to the district were noted and a watch kept on the hall. It was raided on November 21st 1592. Books containing 'much papistrie' were found, along with 'a frize gown without a pocked and yet devises secretlye to keepe letteres in'. In the roof they discovered, 'A secrett vawlte over the dyninge chamber and another chamber' containing 'one canabie to hang over the alter...two candlesticks of brasse of the fashion used in the tyme of Superstition...fourteene images of divers fashions'. But significantly no weapons.

### **The Barons of Walton** (...and Bamber Bridge)

Thomas Langton (1497-1569)

Thomas Langton (1561-1604)

### **Thomas Langton (1497-1569)** 72 years of age.

The Langtons held the barony of Newton and had been the lords of the manor of Walton-le-Dale since 1293. Knighted in 1533. Church going became a subject of great interest to the authorities, so in 1547 he obtained a license for a discrete chapel at Walton Hall – well out of the way of prying eyes. He was Sheriff of Lancashire in 1556 and 1557.

### **The Langton Estates**

The Langtons had assembled a great estate, of which their lands at Walton were only one part. Sir Thomas Langton's will, made on the 4th of April 1569, reveals an enormous estate comprising: '

*the manors of Newton, Wigan, Walton in le dale, Mellor, Darwyn, Nether*

*Darwyne, Cuerden, Makerfield, and Little Harwood, together with the advowson of Wigan church and 600 messuages, 200 tofte, 12 mills, 20 dove houses, 600 gardeyns, 600 orchards, 6000 acres of lande (arable), 2000 acres of meadow, 5000 acres of pasture, 1000 acres of wodde, 6000 acres of heath, 600 acres of more, 1000 acres of mossys, three score pound of rentes...and the free fisheries in the waters of Darwyn and Ribble in Walton, Ffishewicke and Preston'.*

Walton Hall was the great Baron Langton's main residence.

### **Old Baron Langton's interesting will**

He wished to be buried on the south side of Walton church, and left £20 for repairs to the building. The will lists his family heirlooms: his 'gold chain', 'standing cup and cover of silver', 'greatest gold goblet', and his valuable 'drinking cup of silver with two handles'. He left a long list of legacies to his family and friends, even to his servants: his ploughboys got 6s-8d each, and his maids 10s-0d – enormous sums of money at the time. Perhaps for these reasons his heir's estate was deeply indebted and ultimately bankrupted.

### **Thomas Langton (1561-1604) 44 years of age.**

Since his 6 sons died in his own lifetime old Baron Langton was succeeded by his eight-year old grandson Thomas, who, having no children was to be the last of the Langton lords of Walton. In 1596, heavily indebted, he obtained a mortgage of £14,000 for the manor from a group of 'London Citizens and Clotheworkers'. It was thus a heavily mortgaged property which after 300 years passed to the Hoghtons in settlement of the dispute arising from Thomas Hoghton's death at Langton's hands at Lea in 1589.

### **A spy's report...**

During the 1580s and 1590s Queen Elizabeth's government kept a close watch on the local Catholics, fearing that they would rise up in support of a Spanish invasion. In reality no such plans seem to have ever existed. A very careful watch was kept on Thomas Langton who seems to have been a man of action and a schemer. In 1592 a local spy known only as 'Dingley' kept a close eye on the comings and goings of priests at Walton Hall. Elizabeth's great minister Lord Burghley reported that he 'would be more determined than any other to take Dingley's life if only he knew what Dingley had said of him'!

### **'The Crow is White': The 'Battle of Lea' 1589**

In 1589 a dispute between Thomas Hoghton and Thomazine Singleton, widow of John Singleton of Staining, over cattle, led to the celebrated affray at Lea. Thomas Langton lord of Walton was convinced of the justice of her case, and with others took part in an attempt to repossess the animals from the Hoghton's manor house at Lea.

*A force including Langton and Thomazine '..armed with long pickes, gunnes, long staves, welshe hooks upon long staves, swords and dagges, bows and arrows and bills, on 20th November at 11 at night assembled on Preston Marsh...and agreed to go and drive away the cattle'.*

Thomas Hoghton had got word of these warlike preparations, and mustered a force of about 30 armed with 'Staves, 1 pike, 1 gunne charged with haile shott, 2 pistols, 1 bow and arrowes and swords and dagges', which lay in ambush in one of the outbuildings.

When Langton's party appeared it 'offered resistance', and a great affray began within 60 yards of the house. Thomas Langton's company used the password, 'The crow is white',

and Thomas Hoghton's people used the word 'Black, black'. Amidst the profusion of heads broken in the dark Thomas Hoghton and another had been killed, whilst Thomas Langton 'Being sore wounded...was presently apprehended lying in his bed at Broughton tower'. Three years later the affair had still not been settled between the families, and the Earl of Derby wrote to Lord Burghley warning him of the danger of the dispute, and urging pardons for the estate people involved ('The poorer sorte'). There was a real danger of the dispute escalating among the gentry involved, for the *'Better sorte are great in kindred and affynitie, and soe stoared with friendes, as yf they should be burnte in the hande, I feare it will fall oute to be a ceasles and most dangerous quarrel'*. The settlement eventually agreed saw the heavily mortgaged Walton estate pass to the Hoghtons who eventually moved into Walton Hall.

### **Thomas Langton's epitaph:**

An inscription found in Wigan church provides an interesting memorial to the last of the Langtons:

*'To oblivion and ye true bones of Sir Thomas Langton of ye Hon'ble Order of ye Bathe Knight, Baron of Newton Makerfield ye last of his name and ye undoubted patron of this church descended from a most antient famous and farre renowned family of Langton in Leicestershire who some times were of great authority both in ye church and Commonwealth of this Kingdome and for ye space of 300 yeres have flourished in this County. A gentleman yt many times tugged with extremityes and made warre with ye worst of misfortues etc. He departed this lief in ye Citty of Westminster 20 Feby 1604 when he had lyved 44 yeres and lyes buried nere ye high alter in St Peters adjoining to ye Abbay.'*

The Squires of Leyland (and large parts of Penwortham)

### **The ffaringtons of Worden**

Henry ffarington (1471-1550)

William ffarington (1537-1610)

William ffarington (1583-1658)

Let us start with the spelling of Farington:

- F The F can be spelled Ph, be an F or ff or a Ff .
- A Is sometimes an E
- R Sometimes rr
- I Until Tudor times is usually a Y
- N Yes there's always an N but not always followed by a G
- G Occasionally this letter is left out altogether
- T Sometimes a D
- O In older documents this is a U
- N Yes an everpresent, but it sometimes has an A put after it!

How many variations can you find?

Why did it not matter too much in the past how we spelled it?

We will spell the family's name ffarington.

The modern family spell their name Farrington and the lord of the manor today is thus Sir Henry Farrington.

The ffaringtons acquired lands in Farington (from which they took their surname when surnames became fashionable) in the thirteenth century. Their home was Farington Hall, a timber framed moated manor house on Hall Lane (off Golden Hill Lane). It was demolished in the 1980s.

Like our other gentry families they were a warlike bunch and fought in the wars against the Welsh, Irish, Scots and French, and by 1500 had built a large estate centred around Leyland.

### **Sir Henry ffarington (1471-1550)** 80 years of age

Henry inherited the estate in 1501. He contained all the contradictions apparent in Henry VIII's character – a man he must have personally known very well.

In 1498 he was appointed 'Squire of the King's Body' (Henry VII), and a patent of Henry VIII in 1539 describes him as 'Knight of our Body'. This strange title was that of a sort of bedroom doorman.

Like his King his early career shows him to be a devout Catholic, giving money to the church.

He was also a 'Renaissance man', and recognised the importance of education in the modern world by the formation of the Leyland Free Grammar School.

Yet he was also part thug: when bailiffs demanded rents which he thought rightly his '*The said Henry with the assistance of his tenants and friends, to the number 100 and above, with bows and arrows etc set about to kill them*'. They seem to have cornered the intruders in an ale-house. In the scrap which followed Seth Sumpner was savagely struck in the face while drinking ale, and Thurstan Cooper's pregnant wife was viciously hit in the stomach with a pot of ale.

When he caught Edward Lykas digging in his marl pit he drove him out himself 'on payne of my head', and so the list goes on.

With his position at court Henry was clearly 'in the know' when the dissolution of the monasteries got under way from the 1520s. Though his heir Robert was a priest he was appointed one of the Crown Commissioners for the suppression of the monasteries.

On November 17<sup>th</sup> 1539 Evesham Abbey with its priory at Penwortham was suppressed, and large parts of Penwortham were duly added to the ffarington estate. Another important acquisition was the Worden Old Hall estate in 1534.

Though his heir Robert had judiciously left the priesthood in good time, Henry was worried that his Catholicism might lead to the confiscation of the estate. This led to a series of legal problems culminating in the loss of Farington itself after 370 years in 1575, and the family's move to Old Worden.

### **William ffarington (1537-1610)**

William ultimately inherited a diminished estate from his grandfather Henry, and he set about repairing the damage. Through marriage he acquired both a fortune and a close connection with the Earls of Derby. In 1561 he became the Earl's secretary, and from 1586-91 he was steward of his household.

He was a clever lawyer and businessman, expanding the estate, and taking great care to keep his Catholicism secret. Nevertheless he was closely watched by Lord Burghley's spies, and his activities reported to Elizabeth's court.

Some scholars have suggested that the young Shakespeare may have encountered the officious nobleman-steward at the Earl of Derby's great house at Latham, and to have based the character 'Malvolio' on him in 'Twelfth Night'.

His home affairs were less than happy, his son Thomas was a spendthrift enjoying the high life in London, and William passed the restored estate to William his grandson. Large number of his letters and papers survive, many of them written in his 'closet' or office at Worden Hall.

### **William ffarington (1583-1658) 75 years of age**

This William inherited the estate on the death of his grandfather in 1610. In 1636 he was appointed Sheriff of Lancashire, and represented the county during the 'short' parliament of 1640.

His personality was perhaps more moderate than those of his great predecessors: *'a man of placable disposition, bending all the counsellors to accommodation and quiet of the countrey'*

### **The Civil War (1642-51)**

The War found him on the Royalist side, he was with the King at York in 1642, and both he and his son (yet another William) were closely associated with the siege of Latham. Returning to Leyland he was arrested, the estate confiscated and Worden Hall stripped of its contents by Parliamentary soldiers: *'In the Higher Dining room : one long table, fifteen plain Buffet stooles, three little tables with coverings, two chairs, four set Quishions, two covered forms and one chimney with furniture'*. Farm animals, pots and pans, crops, kitchen tools were also taken, but the family's valuable heirlooms had been hidden away in good time. His wife Margaret and their children were left penniless; the ffaringtons took no further part in the war, fines were paid and normality eventually returned.

### **William ffarington's Testament 1650**

In a letter to his friend the minister of Heapey the last of the Tudor ffaringtons outlined his philosophy on life:

*'From my clossett at Worden – the strong and almost invincible inclination I have to solitude and retirement, with a natural aversion from ye controversies of this age, wherein ther is so little Christian candour, fidelity, ingenuity, and moderation to be found, hath given me no small satisfaction in my being presented hitherto from these vexatious conflicts which I see many learned and pious men involved in.'*

### **The Lords of Hoghton**

#### **The Houghtons:**

Richard Hoghton (1498?-1559)  
Son 1 Thomas Houghton (1518-1580)  
Son 2 Alexander Hoghton (?-1581)  
Son 3 Thomas Hoghton (?-1589)  
Richard Hoghton 1<sup>st</sup> Bart (1570-1630)

In the twelfth century Hamon or Hamlet le Botelier had lands in the moor quarter of

Leyland parish, and his grandson signed himself Adam de Hoghton. The Hearth or Chimney tax of 1666 listed 77 chimneys in Hoghton – 22 of them at the Tower!

### **The Estate**

An inquest made in 1489 describes the family estate on the eve of the Reformation. It comprised 'The manors of Hoghton and Lea, and half the manor of Ashton, with 200 messuages, 2000 acres of land, 5000 acres of meadow, 2000 acres of pasture, 300 acres of woodland, 1000 acres of turbarry, and 500 acres of moor in Hoghton, Lea, Alston, Grimsargh, Goosnargh, Whittingham, Halghton, Cuerden, Ashton-juxta-Preston, Tulketh, Ravensmeles, Chipping, Dilworth and Goldborne'.

### **Sir Richard Hoghton (1498?-1559)** 60 years of age

Sir Richard was another colourful character in the mould of Sir Henry ffarington. Though married at least four times and having at least 10 legitimate children it was reported that he 'had putt away his lady and wife' and lived with his mistress by whom he eventually had perhaps 7 children.

The 'Boars Head Inn takes its name from the badge of Alice Assheton his first wife.

He acquired Stanworth from the confiscated lands of Whalley Abbey.

When the good people of Preston elected a Mayor not to his liking he and his supporters rode into Preston and threw the officer out. At the election he strode about 'with a heygh voice and angry cowtenance' threatening people. When he was ordered to stop 'in the Kings Name!', he replied 'scornfully and in derysion', '...Commandest Me in the Kings Name! Get thee hom to thy supper!'. Clearly he was a man not to trifle with.

Thomas Hoghton (1518-1580) 62 years of age.

By contrast his son Thomas was a cultured almost saintly man who loved music and players and whose own son became a Catholic priest. He built or rebuilt Hoghton Tower in palatial style in the 1560s and it, rather than the timber framed manor house at Lea, henceforth became the family's main residence until the move to Walton Hall about 1710. After over 150 years at Walton Hall the family moved back to the Tower in the second half of the nineteenth century.

As a devout Catholic Thomas came under the scrutiny of the authorities, he fled the country with his son who eventually died in prison.

Alexander Hoghton (d1581)

During Thomas's exile the great estate was managed by his brother Alexander. Opinions of him differ. One school has him as one 'of the longest obstinacy' to the new religion. Others have him conspiring to prevent his brother's return by thwarting a settlement of his problems. He lived at Lea Hall.

There was some upset over his will: originally he was known to have left a large sum of money to his 'natural' daughter Margaret Crichelow and her children, but after his death the family claimed that he had struck out the bequest on his deathbed.

Thomas Hoghton (d1589)

Alexander was succeeded by his stepbrother Thomas, who was killed in the 'Affray at Lea' (See the entry for Thomas Langton)

His widow's troubles were not restricted to the loss of her husband.. In October 1592 it

was reported to the government that, 'Mrs.Hoghton of the Lea, hathe kepte sithence the deathe of her husband one Richard Blundell...who is an obstinate Papiste, well acquainted with a number of Seminaries, and he teacheth her children to singe and plaie upon the virginalls'.

**The 1<sup>st</sup> Baronet and the alum mine: Sir Richard Hoghton (1570-1630)** 60 years of age

After all the problems caused by religious disputes in the second half of the sixteenth century great care was taken over Richard's upbringing. He was a strong supporter of the reformed faith and a leading figure in the county. Indeed 'He did greate work in apprehending sundry priests', including Robert Middleton near Preston in 1600. He also took a leading part in the administration of the town during the great plague epidemic of 1630.

He purchased the family's baronetcy in 1611, and was very energetic in developing the estate along modern lines. He was especially keen on minerals and invested large sums in the Alum mine at Pleasington, described in 1672 as 'a verie profitable mine'. Alum was a valuable mineral used in the dying of yarn and cloth (it stops the dyed colour from washing out). Indeed the celebrated visit to Hoghton Tower in 1617 was in reality 'laid on' to persuade King James 1<sup>st</sup> to lend cash-strapped Sir Richard more funds for his mine.

### **The Lords of the Manor of Penwortham**

John Fleetwood (?-1590)

Richard Fleetwood (?-1626)

John Fleetwood his grandson (1611-1657)

Edward Fleetwood

Warin Bussel Lord of Penwortham gave a very large part of Penwortham to the monks of Evesham in 1140. At the dissolution of the monasteries this estate was purchased by John Fleetwood. The smaller portion of the ancient manor continued, it eventually passed to the Crown and was acquired by the ffaringtons of Worden in the seventeenth century. So technically there are two Manors of Penwortham. Here we shall consider only the old Priory lands.

In 1666 the Hearth Tax collectors found 82 hearths in Penwortham to tax – 17 of them in Edward Fleetwood's home at Penwortham Priory.

John Fleetwood (?-1590)

John Fleetwood is described as 'of London', but had Lancashire connections. In 1539 he obtained the lease of the vast Evesham Abbey lands, purchasing them outright in 1543. He was an enthusiastic supporter of the new religious order and particularly of the dissolution of the monasteries, profiting mightily from it. He was Sheriff of Lancashire in 1578. His elder son received his great Staffordshire estate, and his second son Richard received the Penwortham lands. The old Priory became the family home and was successfully developed as a 'modern' home, but observers even two hundred years ago were unable to make out much about the original religious building

Richard Fleetwood (?-1626)

Though a fragment of his father's estate the Penwortham lands were very extensive in themselves. He was greatly put out when his heir Edward married a Catholic, and took

pains to ensure that Edward's children were not brought up Catholics on their father's death. Accordingly he was succeeded by his grandson.

John Fleetwood (1611-1657)

Although he does not seem to have served personally in the Civil War John Fleetwood provided the King with men and arms. Lord Derby stayed at Penwortham following his defeat at the battle of Whalley in April 1643. The victorious Parliamentarians confiscated the Penwortham estate and John was forced to pay a large fine - £617-3-4d - to get them back.

### **Penwortham Priory**

A fine engraving of Penwortham Priory was squeezed into a corner of Bucks' 'Prospect of Preston' (1724), showing the house set in ornate gardens. This building was replaced in 1832, and was described around 1900 as 'A picturesque modern brick building of two stories with gables and mullioned windows ...erected on part of the site of the Priory buildings'. This was in turn demolished in the early 1920s to make way for a modern housing estate.

## 4 Witchcraft and Wizardry in South Ribble

### An account of 'raising the dead' in Walton-le-Dale: 1560

In his 'Ancient Funeral Monuments' published in 1631 Dr. Weever recounts a story – then 70 years old – of strange events at Walton.

This is a paraphrased version of Weever's account:

It was at Walton-le-Dale in 1560 that Edmund Kelley, alias 'Talbot', a distinguished English alchemist of the day and an associate of Dr. Dee, Warden of Manchester, is said to have raised the body of a poor man, and who by incantation he made to deliver strange predictions. It is recorded that upon a certain night Kelley, with a companion named Paul Waring, 'Invoked one of the infernal regiment to know certain passages in the life, as also what might be known by the devil's foresight of the manner and time of the death of a noble young gentleman, as then in his wardship', and that accompanied by this gentleman they then proceeded to the other incantation. They claimed that 'the body became animated by the spirit entering again rose and stood upright before them, not only satisfying their wicked desires, but also delivering strange predictions concerning the persons in the neighbourhood, which were literally and exactly fulfilled'.

### The Samlesbury Witch Trial of 1612

Lancashire was a remote and distant place. The general fear of 'witches' reached a peak during the Lancaster Witch Trials of 1612. In all 19 people were accused, the most famous group being the Pendle Witches, but the first case to be tried was...

#### *The Trial of the Samlesbury Witches*

At the Lancaster assizes on the 19<sup>th</sup> August 1612.

#### *Who were they?*

-Jane Southworth, she was the widow of Sir John Southworth's grandson who had died in 1598 and had continued to live at Samlesbury Lower Hall with her children. Her acceptance of the new religious order may have caused some friction with her Catholic in-laws.

-Jennet Birley, Henry Birley's mother.

-Ellen Birley, Henry Birley's wife.

#### *The Accusation:*

That the three bewitched to death Thomas Walshman's child, its grandfather was the Samlesbury ferryman.

#### *The Accuser:*

Grace Sowerbutts a girl of 14 living with her father: 'A girl of licentious and vagrant habits'. Her testimony was the only evidence.

#### *Who was she?*

Jennet Birley's grand-daughter and Ellen & Henry Birley's niece.

#### *Her Charge:*

The women 'did draw her by the hair of hair head, and lay her upon the top of a hay mow, and did take her senses and memory from her; that they appeared to her sometimes in their own likeness, and sometimes like a black dog'.

'They prevailed upon her to join their sisterhood ...they were met from time to time by four black things going upright, and yet not like men in the face who conveyed them across the Ribble where they danced with them'.

#### *Her most serious charge:*

'The prisoners bewitched and slew a child of Thomas Walshman's by placing a nail in its

navel, and after its burial they took up the corpse ...they ate part of the flesh and made an unxious ointment by boiling the corpse'.

*The Court's summing up by Sir Edward Bromley:*

'Grace being demanded whether the accusation she laid upon her grandmother Jennet Birley, Ellen Birley and Jane Southworth of witchcraft - viz: the killing of the child of Thomas Walshman with a nail in the navell, the boyling, eating and oyling, thereby to transform themselves into diver's shapes was true, - shee doth utterly denie the same; or that she ever saw such practices done by them.

She further saith that one Master Thompson which she taketh to be Master Christopher Southworth to whom she was sent to learne her prayers, did perswade counsel, and advise her, to deale as formerly hath been said against her said Grandmother, Aunt and Southworth's wife (widow) and further she confesseth and saith that shee never did know, or saw any devils, nor any other Visions, as formerly by her hath been alleaged and informed.

Also she confesseth and saith, That shee was not throwne or cast upon the hen roost, and hay mow in the barne but that she went up into the hay mow her self by the wall side.

Being further demanded whether she ever was at the Church shee saith, shee was not, but promised here after to goe to the Church and that very willingly'.

*The verdict:*

Case dismissed.

*The next case today?*

In all 19 people were tried at the great Lancaster Witch Trials of 1612. The most famous group being the Pendle Witches.

*The Plot:*

Alice Nutter has the right to part of her late husband's estate for life, on her death it passes to her stepson. He can't wait so plans to get her out of the way.

*The Verdict:*

All 8 women and 4 men are condemned to death but Old Demdike dies in prison.

*Was this the last of the Lancashire Witches?*

No. A further trial took place in 1633, and in 1663 17 people from the Pendle area were carted off to Lancaster and condemned to death, but later pardoned.

## 5 Coughs and Sneezes some diseases...

### **Epidemics of Plague: The Black Death 1349-50**

Epidemics of serious diseases have swept through humanity many times. We know very little about most of them, the Roman and Chinese Empires were often seriously affected, and the first well-recorded example is that of the Black Death of 1347-51.

Emerging in Central Asia in the early 1340s Bubonic Plague reached western Europe by 1346 and then spread rapidly within the expanding pattern of trade. It is a highly infectious fever, largely spread by the flees of rats.

Why Bubonic? Because of the large swellings or 'buboes' which develop in the victim's groin and armpits. The first symptoms are shivering and sickness, followed by a high temperature (40 degrees C).

Epidemic – A serious outbreak covering a wide geographical area, such as a town.

Pandemic – An epidemic which extends over a number of countries or continents.

The winter of 1349/50 saw Bubonic Plague sweep through Britain, killing perhaps 16000 people in the Preston area, perhaps a third of the population.

What has this to do with the Tudors?

Gradually the pandemic ended, but the filthy condition of many towns and the people's poor diet meant that it never entirely disappeared and would flare up from time-to-time for a further 400 years.

### **Epidemics of Plague: Preston & South Ribble 1630-1**

The disaster which overwhelmed Preston and South Ribble in 1630 rivalled the Black Death of 1349 in its intensity. It escaped the severe outbreaks at Wigan (1603) and Manchester (1605) but was less fortunate a generation later. Outbreaks were thought to be spread by traded goods, particularly cloths.

In 1635 the officers in the Forest of Pendle were ordered by the Preston magistrates to watch the house of Nicholas Hargreaves, whose daughter, recently arrived from London, had '*brought with her certen clothes packed upp in a bundell or truncke, much dreaded to be infectious*'.

The outbreak is well recorded in the town records of Preston, but is also reflected in the lists of burials for the outlying parishes, most notably at Penwortham.

The plague first appeared here in October/November 1630, for the register for the latter month is headed: '*Heare begineth the Visitation of Almighty God, the Plague*'.

The first two burials are listed as 'The wife of Thomas Wilkinson, 8 November, James Sudell Lining [linen] Webster'.

This version of the disease (perhaps akin to anthrax) spread rapidly within families, as this extract of burials from the parish register shows:

George et Thomas	15 December 1630
Henry et Mary children of	16 December 1630
John et Margret Rob. Tumlinson	17 December 1630
Jennet Wife of Robt Tumbleinson	22 December 1630

In neighbouring Walton-le-Dale and Broughton the outbreak seems to have been so severe that no record of burials or other church ceremonies was maintained at all.

Great efforts were made by the county administration to contain the outbreak:

Public assemblies were banned.

Parish officials were ordered to keep a watch for people escaping from Preston and threatened with fines of £20 if caught neglecting their duty.

Locals were not allowed out to collect winter firewood.

A 'Pest House' was established for the Preston sick.

Affected families were boarded up in their houses.

All trade and markets stopped: firewood could not be collected from the countryside

Donations were collected from neighbouring towns and given to the poor.

The letters of Alexander Rigby tell us about the panic: *'The sicknes in these partes increaseth much and disperseth: it is now in Fulwood, Cadeley, and Broughton, and in Kirkham, so that the inhabitants and bordering neighbours leave their houses and seeke and resort to forein places.'*

The outbreak reached its peak in July and August 1631, when 331 and 280 burials were recorded.

In August the mayor William Preston surveyed the situation: one thousand people had died, and perhaps a thousand had fled. Overwhelmed by death, the people unable to buy and sell in the markets, houses boarded up, food and fuel in short supply, Preston and South Ribble were places to avoid in the summer of 1631.

PERFECT SURVEY SENT US BY THE MAIOR. August 16th 1631

The number of Persons:

In the Fishergate and Markett place which hath releife  
[assistance from the relief fund]

78

Which have no releifes

25

In the Churchgate releived

245

Which have no releife

27

In the Fryergate releived

180

Which have no releife

79

In the Pesthouses and houses shutt upp

253

Summa Totalis of them which have releife

756

Of them with no releife

131

total

887

WILLIAM PRESTON, MAYOR

Half of the fatalities occurred during the hottest months of 1631, but after the disease then declined rapidly, and the outbreak was over by January 1632.

This was to be our final outbreak of 'plague', though outbreaks continued to occur and Samuel Pepys described the great outbreak in London in 1665. Why it died out is not clearly understood, but a much improved diet (more fruit and veg) clearly helped. This resulted in an increased resistance to disease, and it is important to remember that all the children are direct descendants of the survivors of 1349 and probably 1631!

## 6 The Tudors at Play...

### The visit of King James 1 to Hoghton Tower: August 1617.

King James's Royal party was on its way south from a visit to Scotland staying with wealthy landowners en route. Sir Richard Hoghton's house - Hoghton Tower - was one of the stops. Sir Richard laid on lavish entertainments in the hope that the King would invest in his alum mine.

Nicholas Assheton and his brother of Downham agreed to help in the entertaining, and recorded events in his diary.

*Thursday August 14*

Wee were desired to be merrie, and at nyght were soe ...All Preston full.

*Friday August 15*

King came to Preston. Ther at the Crosse, Mr. Breares, the lawyer, made a speech and the Corporation presented him with a bowle; and then the King went to a banquet in the Towne Hall, and so away to Hoghton; ther a speech made. The King hunted and killed a stag. We attend at the Lords' table.

*Saturday August 16*

Hoghton. The King hunting; a great companie; killed affore dinner a brace of stagge. Verie hot; soe he went into dinner. Wee attend the Lords' table, and about four o'clock the King went down to the allome-mynes, and was ther an hower, viewed them preciselie, and then went and shott at a stag, and missed. Then my Lord Compton had lodged two brace. The King shott again and brake the Thigh bone. A dogg long in coming, and my Lord Compton shott again, and killed him. Late in to supper.

*Sunday August 17*

Hoghton, Wee served the Lords with biskett, wyne and jellie. The Bishopp of Chester, Dr.Morton, before the King. To dinner. About four o'clock ther was a rush-bearing and pipeing afore them, affore the King in the Middle Court. Then to supp. Then about ten or eleven o'clock a Maske of Noblemen, Knights, Gentlemen, and Courtiers, afore the King in the middle round in the garden. Some speeches; of the rest dancing the Huckler, Tom Bedlo, and the Cowp Justice of Peace.

*Monday August 18*

The King went away aboot twelve to Lathome. There was a man almost slayne with fighting. Wee back with Sir Richard. He to seller, and drunk with us kindlie in all manner of friendlie speake. Preston; as merrie as Robin Hood, and all his fellows.

*Tuesday August 19*

All this morning wee plaid the Bacchanalians.

*What is missing from this eye-witness account?*

Our witness makes no reference to the Knighting of the Loin!

### The Tudor Appetite...

Details of scale of the King's feasting at Hoghton Tower can be gathered from the list of dishes served up to him. This is an extract from menu for dinner served on Sunday August 17<sup>th</sup> 1617:

*First Course.* Pullets, Boiled Capon, Mutton boiled, Boiled Chicken, Shoulder of Mutton roast, Ducks boiled, Loin of Veal roast, Pullets, Haunch of Venison roast, Burred Capon, Pastry of Venison hot, Roast Turkey, Veal Burred, Swan roast, one and for tomorrow,

Chicken pye hot, Goose roasted, Rabbits, cold Jiggits of Mutton boiled, Snipe pye, Breast of Veal boiled, Capons roast, Pullet, Beef roast, Tongue pye cold, Sprod boiled, Herons roast cold, Curlew pye cold, Mince pye hot, Custards, Pig roast.

*Second Course.* Hot Pheasant, one and one for the King; Quails, six for the King, Partridge, Poults, Artichoke pye, Chickens, Curlew roast, peas buttered, Rabbits, Duck, Plovers, Red Deer pye, Pig burred, Hot Heron roast, three of a dish; Lamb roast, Gammon of bacon, Pigeons roast, made dish, Chicken burred, Pear tart, Pullets and grease, Dried Tongues, Turkey pye, Pheasant pye, Pheasant tart, Hog's cheek dried, Turkey chicks cold.

A similar menu followed for 'Supper'. Monday's breakfast was even larger!

A large force of cooks was kept at work:

Chief Cooks Mr.Morris, Mr.Miller,

For the Pastries, 4 men,

For the ranges, 4 men,

For Boiling, 2 men,

For Pullets, 2 men.

## **7 Education and Public Welfare**

The unreformed Church had provided rudimentary public services. The Dissolution of the Monasteries left a great vacuum, which eventually private charity and the state sought to fill. Most parishes have a history of the provision of these services of some sort, and large lists of 'charities' of all kinds. Leyland for example has two interesting institutions: the parish school and the ffarington alms houses. Richard Burscough who died in 1624 left money in his will to the 'poore' of Leyland and Walton and £100 each to their schools.

### **Leyland Free Grammar School ('Leyland School')**

1524 Sir Henry ffarington (1471-1551) established a Chantry in the parish church at Leyland. A chantry was a means of funding priests to undertake various good deeds and say mass (hence 'chanting' in the chantry). In this case Henry employed priests to pray for his soul and those of his ancestors. Virtually all of our old parish churches will have had chantries. One priest was to run a small school, which was to meet in the church itself. We know very little about it because the early documents have been lost, but soon after its formation a teacher was employed to run the school. In 1546 the chantries were abolished, and although the schoolmasters wage was reduced from £4.30 to £3.85 per year his wage was guaranteed by the Duchy of Lancashire.

Perhaps around this time a special building – or 'school' – was built in the corner of the graveyard to house the scholars. It survives today as the Museum and Exhibition Centre and is a most interesting old building. The outside is not as old as the interior, which was rebuilt in hand-made brick about a hundred years later. The interior is the remnant of the former wattle and daub timber-framed structure. The upstairs rooms have changed very little since Sir Henry's time, and the original school room still exists.

The list of 22 masters from Thurstan Taylor to John Westley in 1874 is almost complete. Many of the masters are buried in the adjacent churchyard. The school seems to have been at its peak of achievement in the seventeenth century when a number of scholars went on to study at the universities.

William Walker 'Batchelor of Musicke' taught here, and on his death in 1588 he willed that 'Everie one that isa scoler at Leyland scole at the tyme of my death shall have one

halfpenny in silver'. His fine gravestone has an image of him carved upon the stone, and can still be seen in the graveyard.

Hugh Bonkin (master 1671-81) wrote an account of the school: it had 'No bookes save a Dictionarie which is Gaudman's workes; which the churchwardens of the parish of Leyland hath for the use of the schoole'.

Thomas Moon (master 1716-76). Buried next to the school his stone described him as 'A man of sound learning, wit and probity. An instructive companion and a sincere friend, to whom a good conscience was more dear than accumulated wealth. He was 60 years master of the Free Grammar School'.

### **Walton-le-Dale Grammar School**

The date and original location of the school is not known; it existed before 1624 and was probably held in the church. In 1672 a new building was erected in 'School Lane' Bamber Bridge, and continued to 1862 when the present St.Aidan's primary school was established.

In the eighteenth century the funds ran to almost £200, and this with the children's pence paid for school and teacher: 'The master takes all the children of the town of Walton who apply, and they are taught reading, pay only 4p a week each ...but for writing and accounts, and for teaching other children to read, he is at liberty to make his own charge'.

The following advertisement for a new teacher is from 1834:

*'Walton-le-Dale Grammar School.*

*Wanted; A master for this school, at Christmas next. He will be expected to be well qualified to teach Writing and Accounts, Geography and English Grammar, and to initiate such as the scholars as wish to learn in the principles of the Greek and Latin languages ... The election to take place at Walton Hall, on Tuesday the 23rd of December, when proper persons will examine the candidates'.*

The new appointment was made and duly advertised his services::

*Walton Grammar School:*

*The Master, Mr.Wm Houghton, would respectfully solicit the attention of the inhabitants of Preston and the neighbourhood, to this establishment for classical and commercial education. The terms are*

*For day boarders, £12 per annum.*

*The rest of the fees are per quarter;*

*For instruction in Reading, Writing and Arithmetic, 10/6d*

*For instruction in Reading, Writing and Arithmetic and the Classics, 15/-*

*The school will re-open on January 18th.*

*A quarters notice is required before the removal of a pupil.*

*School Lane, near Walton.*

### **The ffarington Alms Houses**

These were houses in which people who had no homes of their own and were being maintained through charity might live. The ffarington family seem to have established houses at Seven Stars quite early, and their date stone (preserved in the Museum) bears

the inscription 'Will Farington 1607'. These properties were swept away and moved to the quaint houses - which still survive - on Fox Lane.

The early history of the houses is now largely lost, and the provision was revised from time to time. In 1661 William Farington provided for 6 houses; the alms people had £6 per year to live off (50p each twice a year), new clothes every third year, and turf from the moss for their fires. In return they must be born in Leyland, attend the parish church regularly and have the letters 'WF' stitched onto their coats so that everyone could recognise them!

Susan Maria Farington described the houses in the 1860s, when the almspeople's 'wages' had risen to 15p per week:

'They must actually reside in the houses, must keep them clean and neat, and take their share in keeping the garden tidy, and they are expected to live in peace and goodwill with each other.

We find that it does not answer to make the almshouses too much of an infirmary ...very deaf or great invalids are very inconvenient, as they are a perpetual burden on the other inmates'. Such cases were sent to the workhouse!

As in previous generations the alms people seem to have been reckoned to have been onto a good thing, for Miss Farington continued: 'We have given them for some years a meat pie at Christmas, and seed for their gardens, and occasionally once in two or three years they come to the hall for tea'.

Produced by

South Ribble Museum & Exhibition Centre  
The Old Grammar School, Church Roar, Leyland PR25 3FJ  
Telephone: 01772 422041 ~ Email: [Dhunt@southribble.gov.uk](mailto:Dhunt@southribble.gov.uk)

Sponsored by



In 2006 South Ribble Borough Council was awarded a grant to run an educational programme by the American Alcoa Foundation. The objective was to provide key source materials to teachers to supplement the teaching of Local History at Key Stage Two with information which they may not otherwise have the time to locate themselves.