



# Farnhill and Kildwick Local History Group

## Review of the Year – 2016

*During 2016 the group has enjoyed a variety of activities and events and would like to thank all our supporters including speakers, Kildwick and Farnhill Institute, Farnhill Parish Council and everyone who has attended a meeting or event or helped us in any way*

### Our Guests have included...

- Chris Riley and Robin Longbottom who presented their recent work on local parish and township boundary stones and bridge markers
- Maggie Fleming and Derek Barker who talked about coal, lime and bricks on the canal including the history of the Kildwick coal chutes
- Pat Walker, former housekeeper at Kildwick Hall who shared her experience of working there when it was an upmarket hotel visited by the rich and famous
- David Gulliver of Cononley History Society who spoke about visiting archives and finding ancient documents relating to Kildwick and Farnhill
- Jeff Wallbank who talked about uncovering history with a metal detector including the Silsden hoard of gold coins on display in Cliffe Castle museum



*The Coal Chutes at Kildwick*



*In September, many members of the group attended a talk arranged by the Institute and given by Mike Clarke of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal Society celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its completion*

*Some even got up early to photograph the commemorative flotilla passing through on the morning of October 17<sup>th</sup>*



**NEXT MEETING: 7pm Tues 21st Feb 2017**

**KILDWICK & FARNHILL INSTITUTE (DOWNSTAIRS ROOM)**

## Farnhill World War 1 Volunteers Project

The group supported the Institute's successful Heritage Lottery Funding bid which resulted in an award of £8,400 to research the lives of the Farnhill Volunteers who served in World War 1. Their biographies and articles about what village life was like at the time will be published on a website. We look forward to sharing our archive with the project and being actively involved when it starts in January 2017. There are lots of different activities and events to get involved in, so if you are interested please email

[farnhillww1volunteers@gmail.com](mailto:farnhillww1volunteers@gmail.com)

***In May, Helen and Graham gave a slideshow and talk about the history of Farnhill which raised £230 for Institute Funds***

### The group has also...

- heard about the early history of Farnhill and Kildwick from the ice age to the Domesday book
- listened to recordings of former villagers talking about days gone by including recollections of horse pulled boats on the canal and working at Farnhill Mill
- visited older residents of the neighbourhood to capture their local knowledge, anecdotes and memories



- displayed material at Kildwick Summer Fair, an event commemorating the Somme at Skipton Library and a local history day at Cross Hills Library
- continued to add to the village archive which now contains over 2,000 items. A selection can be seen on our webpages

- added more articles and material to the website including the late Michael Baumber's completed but unpublished History of Kildwick Parish (AD950 - 1660) with the kind permission of his sister
- visited Ponden Hall to discover its Bronte connections with a talk by Isobel Stirk on the history of the area
- enjoyed the annual Christmas get together and quiz

**For more details visit our website at  
[www.farnhill.co.uk/farnhill-history.html](http://www.farnhill.co.uk/farnhill-history.html)**

**To contact the group email: [history@farnhill.co.uk](mailto:history@farnhill.co.uk)**



*The Travelling Canal, seen here at the Kildwick Summer Fair*