

# Bank Hall NEWS



## Winter 2021



### Editorial

In respect of the occupation of the Hall, we understand that at least 5 residential units have now been sold and are occupied by their new owners or tenants of the owners. The main gates have now been installed and certainly look impressive. The central area is still to be made ready and we understand that the Interpretation Displays may be installed in January.

I have included a photograph of the ground floor at the entrance to the Hall. This was taken in October and is looking outwards (North). This area was once part of the Main Hall. It originally extended to the left and was double the size. It originally included an Inglenook fireplace on the west side, the outline of which is now incorporated in one of the apartments. The area you see has been reduced further by the utility cupboards on the left. The door on the right is the entrance to a number of apartments and is in the location of the entrance to what was a corridor to the servant's quarters. Behind in this view is the entrance to the Tower and an entrance to the apartments on the west side.

### Bad Weather Causes Open Day Cancellation

It was again unfortunate that we had to cancel the Haunted Autumn event on the 31st October but with a week or more of wet weather before the event, the grounds were not in a suitable condition to run the open day. The Walled Garden where we hold most of the event was absolutely saturated and we had not been able to cut the grass because of this. Many of the paths were also in a very boggy state.

### Potting Sheds

Phase I of the Potting Sheds was due to start in November but has been delayed due to the personnel changes at HTNW (see below). Hopefully work on the Potting Sheds will now start in the New Year. Our Grounds team have done sterling work in carrying out the initial clearing of both sides of the area involved in readiness for this work.

## Changes at FoBH and HTNW

**FoBH** - As you know from the Autumn newsletter, John Howard took over as our new Chairman and since then Janet Edwards, after stepping down as Chair, has now been appointed as Vice-Chair. I have decided to step down as Secretary of FoBH on the 31st December and consequently this is likely to be my last newsletter. The current quarterly newsletter, I started 13 years ago in 2009 after I took on the role of Secretary. It replaced an Annual newsletter from our Chairperson. Initially in a Word document we later decided to brand the newsletter and for this I am grateful for the abilities of my fellow Trustee, Andrew Allen. I am remaining as a Trustee and as Archivist/ Chair of the Archives & Interpretation Sub-Committee and also for the time being as Membership Secretary.

**HTNW** - In 2017 John Miller retired as CEO of Heritage Trust for the North West. He then continued in that role on a voluntary basis. In October the HTNW Trustees appointed Liz Moss as the new CEO of the Trust. John Miller was instrumental in setting up HTNW in 1978 and has worked for them since then on a variety of projects to save Heritage buildings. He attended the first meeting concerning Bank Hall at Chorley Town Hall and it was at this meeting that he suggested that a feasibility study be carried out. That study was subsequently prepared by Niall Phillips.

## Grounds Information

In 2005 as part of the lottery funding an Historic Landscape Survey & Restoration Plan was carried out. The purpose of that survey was to establish the nature of the grounds for the future restoration of the area around the Hall. It is intended that a plan be formulated for the grounds but those concerned with this should be guided by that document. Various plans were included in the document including the 1838 Tithe Map, a section of which was reproduced in the last News Sheet.

### Archivist & Membership (inc Volunteering) Secretary

Lionel Taylor, Email: [l.taylor@bankhall.org](mailto:l.taylor@bankhall.org)  
Tel: 07845-959222

A Membership Form and a Gift Aid form can also be downloaded from our website or we can email the forms to you.

### Chairman

John Howard Email: [j.howard@bankhall.org](mailto:j.howard@bankhall.org)  
Tel: 07528-606102

Website: [www.bankhall.org](http://www.bankhall.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bankhall>

The Friends of Bank Hall (Registered Charity 1147592) News Sheet 52  
(FBH is associated with Bank Hall Action Group & Heritage Trust for the North West)

## What's in an Artefact



The hinge in the picture was recently found on a door surround. The hinges were fixed on by using hand-made nails two of which were recovered and are shown in the picture. The hinge has been preserved and on investigation it is of a style known as "Surrey" which was introduced about 1734. The hinges are clearly crudely cut and certainly appear to be an early version of this type of hinge.

## Events

Our next proposed Open Days will be in February for "Snowdrop Sundays". They will be on the four Sundays in February (6th, 13th, 20th and 27th) from 12 Noon to 4.00 pm but please check our Website and public facebook page for further information.

