

Dear All

Subscriptions

Subscriptions for 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2027 will remain at £25 (to include refreshments at monthly meetings) Subscriptions will be collected at the April meeting by cash or cheque please. Alternatively, please post your cheque payable to Towneley Hall Society to our membership secretary,

Sandra Thompson
Apartment 2 Osborne Grove
367 Colne Road
Burnley BB10 2LB.

A stamped addressed envelope would be appreciated, and your membership card will be posted to you. Please advise if any of your details have changed, as to comply with data protection rules you will be required to complete and sign a new membership form. Life Subscriptions are available at £175. Your membership card entitles you, plus a guest to entry to the Hall at any time on numerous occasions, and a Towneley Hall car parking permit may be purchased at a reduced rate. Please note that your membership card should be displayed at all times when using the Events car park.

THS Committee

A warm welcome is extended to Howard and Nancy Mitchell who have volunteered to take up vacancies on our Committee and we all look forward to working together in the future.

Tours of Towneley Hall

As promised we can now offer members a guided **Tour of Towneley Hall**, highlighting some of the restoration work which has been carried out over the last three years. Two dates are available and places are limited. Please do not book and fail to take up a valued place. In the event of an unforeseen event, a message of cancellation would be appreciated.

Tours commence at 2.00 p.m. and we shall meet in the Lecture Theatre.

Afterwards, you are invited to stay for refreshments and perhaps to jointly assimilate what we have seen and learnt during the tour. Both dates are Tuesdays, the 24th of February and the 3rd of March.

Early bookings are advised, please contact me by telephone or email.

Advanced notice of a **Tour of the Exterior of Towneley Hall** escorted by our President, Tony Mitchell, is planned for Wednesday, April 22nd leaving from the Lecture Theatre at 2.00 p.m. Refreshments afterwards. Booking is essential.

Past Events

At our last meeting in November, Graham Kemp made his now annual visit to relate the story of William Marshall, "**The Greatest Knight in Christendom**" taking us back to the 11th century during High Medieval England.

On Remembrance Sunday, two of our Committee members, Sandra Thompson and Jill Turner represented the Society at the service held at the War Memorial in the Park.

Afterwards, they helped to serve refreshments in the Regency Suite to dignitaries, ex servicemen and members of the public. This event will now be included in our future programmes.

Later in the month, eight teams took part in our **Annual Quiz** which resulted in a win again for "The Amnesiacs" who stormed ahead in the final round in what had been a closely fought battle once again with the "Don't Knows". Let's hope they remember to turn up for this year's contest. Thanks to board marker Sandra.

Hallelujah! Our **Christmas Celebration** was held in the newly refurbished Regency Suite and once again we were privileged to enjoy the splendour of our surroundings. The occasion got off to a good start in the Red Room with Pendle Ladies Choir entertaining us singing a selection of Christmas Songs and carols with lots of audience participation. A Festive Tea in the Green Room followed and one lucky member at each table took home the stunning fresh flower

table centre created and donated by Society member Lindsay Williams. What a nice surprise! Thank you Secret Santa Lindsay. Both events included raffles which were well supported both by donations and ticket receipts.

In an excellent start to the 2026 section of our current programme, in January we welcomed back Frank Vigan with his illustrated talk entitled "Don't shoot the messenger" looking back at the history of advertising. Gosh! Did he give us something to think about? Entertaining! Amusing! YES but also stimulating and very thought provoking!

Funding Requests

A request for the sum of £75 was received in December to cover the purchase price of a medieval silver annular brooch unearthed in Habergham Eaves by a metal detectorist. The brooch was valued at £150 but the landowner declined to accept the half of the proceeds to which he was legally entitled. In January we were asked for £200 towards the purchase of a set of photographic glass negatives depicting the history of the coal mining industry in Burnley, deemed to be a rare documentation.

Both requests were granted and I hope that this meets with your approval.

Independent Financial Auditor

Jim Leaver has reluctantly advised us that he is no longer able to perform this important role due to health issues. We were extremely grateful when Jim volunteered back in 2019 and, over the six years that he has dutifully examined our accounts and signed them off. Sincere thanks for your support Jim, much appreciated. I'm pleased to report that we are indeed fortunate in that new Committee member Howard Mitchell is ready to take up the reins so it will be business as usual. Thank goodness!

Sandra writes:

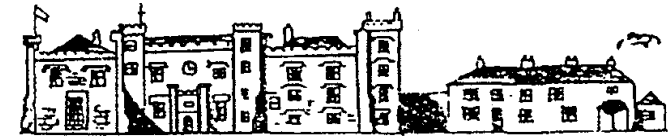
This year's Summer Outing is planned for **Tuesday 11th August**. Save the date visiting Sizergh Castle and Gardens, near Kendal. En route, we will have a stop at Kirkby Lonsdale with ample time for a browse a coffee/early lunch.

The price will be £25 (£12 for National Trust members).

Early bookings will be accepted at our February meeting or email me at -
cassandra81241@gmail.com

60th Anniversary of The Towneley Hall Society

Our celebratory year is at an end, the highlight being the Concert with Supper held in the Regency Suite on Friday, October 17th. Surrounded by the newly refurbished splendour of the rooms, surely it was an evening to remember.



THE TOWNELEY HALL SOCIETY

(www.towneleyhallsociety.co.uk)

February, 2026 Newsletter

Patron
Peregrine Towneley

*The Towneley Hall Society is a Registered Charity
(No 515939)*

Chairman-Rita Walsh
26 Langwyth Road, Burnley BB10 3JX
Mobile-07946 503000
chairths@gmail.com