GASKELL SOCIETY AGM, 2017

We shall be holding our Annual General Meeting on Saturday, 8th April at Cross Street Chapel, Manchester.

10.00am: Tea and Coffee

10.30am: AGM

11.30am: The Daphne Carrick Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Katie Baker taking as her title, **Elizabeth Gaskell: A Radical Voice**. Katie is a PhD student and Visiting Lecturer at the University of Chester .Her research focuses on the connections between Elizabeth Gaskell and her contemporary, Margaret Oliphant. She will explore how both women used their "radical voices" within their writing to communicate topics such as female sexuality, and to promote the idea of choices for women in marriage, education and employment. She will offer examples from *Ruth*, *North and South*, *Cousin Phillis* and *Lizzie Leigh* to show how Gaskell opened up new conversations about women's lives.

12.45pm (approx) lunch

2.15pm: Dr Simon Rennie will be talking on "This 'Merikay War": Lancastrian poetic commentary on the American Civil War during the Cotton Famine. Dr Rennie is Lecturer in Victorian Poetry at the University of Exeter. He is currently Principal Investigator on a large-scale project examining function and address in Lancashire Cotton Famine poetry published between 1861 and 1865. In this paper, he will tell of the hundreds of poems that were published in newspapers across the Manchester and Lancashire region, commenting on the effects of the famine and the international causes of it. His paper presents a new perspective on a particular historical moment, through poetry, some of which has not been read or studied for 150 years.

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I/we shall be attending the AGM

£15 with lunch non-members £17.50 £7.50 without lunch non-members £10 (please specify)

Please make cheques payable to The Gaskell Society and send to Mrs Pam Griffiths, 37 Buckingham Drive, Knutsford, Cheshire. WA16 8LH Tel: 01565 651761 mobile: 07792 241290 pamgriff54@gmail.com by Monday 3rd April 2017.

Name: Address: Email: Tel no: