

GASKELL SOCIETY AUTUMN MEETING

SATURDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2017 at Knutsford Methodist Church, Princess Street.

10.30 am Coffee

11.00 am The Joan Leach Memorial Lecture will be given by **Dr Ingid Hanson**, taking as her title: “ God shall wipe away all the tears from their eyes”: Elizabeth Gaskell, the body and the idea of peace.

Ingrid Hanson is a lecturer in English and American Studies and Creative Writing at The University of Manchester .Using extracts from Gaskell’s *North and South* and *Ruth*, where reference is made to the eyes of the characters, this lecture will consider ways in which eyes and bodies in Gaskell’s texts register tumult, disorder and disharmony, forcing people to acknowledge conflict and move towards peace- personal, social, political and religious. Drawing on the discourses of Victorian psychology and of Gaskell’s own Unitarianism, paying attention to the interactions of war, commerce and class relations in Victorian Britain, Ingrid will argue that Gaskell both contributes to and draws on contemporary debates about the meaning of peace and the means of its achievement.

12.30(approx) Buffet Lunch

2.00 pm **Helen MacEwan** will speak on “ Brontë and Brussels”

We are pleased to welcome the return of Helen MacEwan who spoke to us at last year’s AGM talk on Winifred Gerin, biographer of Gaskell and the Brontë siblings and again at the MLF last October. This time, turning her attention to the fact that two of Charlotte’s four novels (*The Professor* and *Villette*) and are set in Brussels and her stay there (in 1843-44) was highly significant for her life and work, Helen will talk about Charlotte’s time in Brussels, paint a picture of 19th Century Brussels and discuss the ways in which Charlotte depicted the city and Belgian society in her novels. Members may like to read the two novels beforehand.

3.30pm. Finish

NB! SUNDAY 24th SEPTEMBER 2017, The Annual Gaskell Service at Brook Street Chapel, Knutsford.

10.45 am Lay flowers on the Gaskell grave and Joan Leach’s grave

11.00am. Gaskell service

I/we will/will not attend the Autumn meeting. £15 (including lunch). £7.50 (talks only). Non-members £17.50 including lunch. £10 (talks only) Please make cheques payable to The Gaskell Society and send to Mrs Pam Griffiths, 37, Buckingham Drive, Knutsford, Cheshire. WA16 8LH by 23rd September 2017.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

TEL/EMAIL