

GASKELL SOCIETY AUTUMN MEETING

SATURDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 2019 at Knutsford Methodist Church, Princess Street.

10.30am Coffee

11.00am The Joan Leach Memorial Lecture will be given by **Carolyn Lambert**, taking as her title, “**Narrating Sexuality.**”

Gaskell was intrigued by questions of gender and sexuality and explored these in her writing in surprising ways. This presentation focuses on Gaskell’s presentations of masculinity in her shorter fiction but also her subversive challenges to cultural expectations of femininity.

Carolyn Lambert is a visiting lecturer at the University of Brighton where she teaches nineteenth-century literature. She is the author of *The Meanings of Home in Elizabeth Gaskell’s Fiction* (Brighton: Victorian Secrets, 2013) and co-editor with Marion Shaw of *For Better, For Worse: Marriage in Victorian Novels by Women* (London: Routledge, 2017). She has a chapter entitled ‘Female Voices in Elizabeth Gaskell’s *Mary Barton*’ in *British Women’s writing from Brontë to Bloomsbury, Volume 1* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018), edited by Adrienne E Gavin and Carolyn W de la Oulton. Her book on Frances Trollope is forthcoming from Edward Everett Root Publishers and her article ‘Performing Masculinity in Elizabeth Gaskell’s *Cranford*’ is appearing shortly in the *Victorian Review*.

12.30 (approx) Buffet Lunch

2.00pm **John Tiernan** will talk on “**The Hollands of Liverpool and Wirral: Merchants, Entrepreneurs and Adventurers.**”

Samuel Holland of Knutsford (1768-1851) founded the Liverpool branch of the family when he set up business in the expanding seaport in the 1790s. The family became involved in pottery, slate-mining, railways and ship-owning and its members played important (if minor) key roles as part of one of the city’s many influential Unitarian families. John will describe the establishment and growth of the family in the Nineteenth Century, as well as their links with Elizabeth Gaskell.

John Tiernan spent thirty five years working in Liverpool City Libraries, retiring as Assistant Director. He continued his active professional involvement as Chair of the Liverpool Athenaeum Library Committee between 2004 and 2010. He has an MA from Liverpool University and was Chair of the Liverpool History Society for twelve years: he has also been a Council member of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire since 1997.

3.30pm Finish

NB The Annual Gaskell Service at Brook Street Chapel, Knutsford will be held on Sunday 22nd September 2019.

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

11.00 am. Gaskell service

I/We will/ will not attend the **Autumn Meeting** £17.50 (including lunch) £11 (talks only)
Non-members £19.50 including lunch. £13 (talks only) Please make cheques payable to The Gaskell Society and send to Mrs Pam Griffiths, 37, Buckingham Drive, Knutsford, Cheshire. WA16 8LH by 21st September.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

TEL/EMAIL