

## ***A New Local History Book....***

### **The Courts and People of South Craven Manors**

Introduced and edited by David Gulliver

*Transcriptions of manor court records relating to the ancient parish of Kildwick, taken from the court rolls of  
Cononley, Cowling, Silsden, Steeton, Sutton, Kildwick (Bolton Priory & St. John's) & Farnhill*

**Published by Kiln Hill (Cononley Local History Association) ISBN 978 0 9538970 6 3**

***See overleaf for a full list of the court rolls and other documents included***

Our new book enables readers access to the lives of people who lived in Airedale hundreds of years ago. The book includes documents which have never before been published. These local court records tell of the everyday concerns, disputes and relationships of many hundreds of people living between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. We frequently discover who these people were, where they lived, who their relations were and, sometimes, who their adversaries were. A third of the book is devoted to an extensive introduction, appendices, glossary and notes. Although the book is complete in itself it does complement 'Cononley Manorial Courts' published in 2007 and includes the full texts of a number of court rolls referred to in 'A South Craven History: The Tillotson Family and its neighbours' published in 2011.

The book explores the courts which began life under the auspices of Bolton Priory and the Knights Hospitallers of St. John. Bolton Priory's interests were predominantly in Cononley and Kildwick. By contrast the remarkable 'St. Johns' courts of Farnhill had members living in every community throughout the ancient parish of Kildwick. An exceptional survival, easily accessible for the first time, is a record of a court meeting held in Steeton in 1377. A later Steeton court roll reproduced in the book featured business relating to Glusburn. One of the four appendices reproduces an extensive unpublished listing of over 400 people living in the later 17<sup>th</sup> century. These people, each one listed under his home township, were living *throughout* the ancient parish of Kildwick in 1684, when they were assessed for a rate raised to support the poor.

***See contents list (overleaf) for all the transcriptions and translations included in the book.***

Publication date: **October 2015**. 72 pages, A4, saddle stitched, with an attractive card cover in colour. Illustrated with documents and reproductions of maps. All the maps are in colour.

**Orders are being taken now.** A limited number of copies of the book will be printed.

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