

## ***Our Contributors***

**Jim Kenny** is a graphic designer in Liverpool. In his spare time he researches the history of Liverpool, with an emphasis on the history of Toxteth Park and the city's involvement in the transatlantic slave trade. For over a decade he has been publishing his history research online on the Wordpress site *The Priory and The Cast Iron Shore*, under the name Glen Huntley. The vast majority of the subjects he has researched have often been previously relegated to mere footnotes in the histories of Liverpool. His main area of research is Liverpool in the 18th early 19th centuries.

Kenny's research into whether Penny Lane was *really* named after the slave merchant James Penny led to him collaborating with the International Slavery Museum. This was to replace their exhibition on streets named after slave merchants that had incorrectly included Penny Lane. Kenny also collaborates with Darren White on their Bygone Liverpool website. Their posts often use original archives, some have never been published before. Bygone Liverpool's posts have covered subjects such as locating the site on Castle Street where self-proclaimed witches lived in the 17th century, a Nazi Consulate in Rodney Street, and a history of the famous Liverpool warehouses with an infamous name - the Goree Piazzas.

Their latest work is a comprehensive study of Rev John Newton's time in Liverpool, from 1748 to 1764. The latest instalment was commissioned by the Cowper & Newton Museum in Olney as part of their commemorations of the 250th anniversary of *Amazing Grace*. They were able to map 30 locations that are directly related to Newton's time in Liverpool. These included places of worship he attended and the sites where visitors preached such as Wesley and Whitefield. Of course, it also tracks Newton's time as a captain of slave ships.

**Ian Rocksborough-Smith** is an Assistant Professor of US history at the University of the Fraser Valley in S'ólh Téméxw / British Columbia, Canada. His research interests include the study of late 19th and 20th Century United States, public history, social movements, and histories of race, labor, religion, and empire in the Atlantic world. He has published in *The Black Scholar: Journal of Black Studies and Research*, *Afro-Americans in New York Life and History*, Harvard University's *African American National Biography*, *The Journal of American Studies of Turkey*, *Reviews in American History*, *The Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, *LABOROnline* (LAWCHA), *Canadian Dimension* and in *The Conversation* (Canada). Ian published a book in 2018

with the University of Illinois Press entitled: *Black Public History in Chicago: Civil Rights Activism From World War II into the Cold War*. His latest research focuses on the intersections of civil rights, religion, and urban change in post-World War II America.

**Rev Jim Corrigan** is the District Minister for Unitarians in London and South-East England. His ministries before this included five years with the Lancashire Collaborative Ministry and the congregations of Padiham, Rawtenstall and Chorley, and two years in Suffolk (at Ipswich and Framlingham), which followed Unitarian ministry training at Harris Manchester College, Oxford. His first career was journalism, which included 17 years at BBC World Service in London. An active trade unionist, Jim was president of the National Union of Journalists in 2004-5. Originally from South Africa, Jim was active in the struggle against apartheid for many years.

**Frank Walker** is a retired Unitarian minister who most recently served as minister of Cambridge and Bury St Edmonds from 1976 to 1999.

**Graham Murphy** was minister at Ullet Road Church, Liverpool and Principal of the Unitarian College, Manchester. He subsequently worked as a gardener and wrote three books published by the National Trust. He is also the author of *Land of Sacred Legends, a Guide to Early Christian Sites in north-west Wales*, Sigma Press.

**Marcus Braybrooke** is a retired Anglican vicar, Joint-President of the World Congress of Faiths and author of many books on religions and spirituality.

**Lena Cockroft** was born in 1953, the youngest of three children of Charles Jardine and Lena Elizabeth (Betty) Baxter of Dromore Co. Down. She attended Princess Gardens School, Finaghy - now Hunterhouse College - and Queen's University Belfast. After graduating Bachelor of Library Studies in 1976, she was assistant-in-charge of Dromore Branch Library for three years before answering a call to ministry. Through her mother, nee Rentoul, Lena is connected to a long and distinguished line of Presbyterian ministers. She trained at Unitarian College Manchester and Manchester University from which she obtained a Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1982 and was ordained and installed to the joint charges of Cairncastle, Glenarm and Ballymoney, where she ministered until retirement in 2016. While attending conferences in Britain, she got to know Unitarian minister, Rev Brian Cockroft, who moved to the Ards Peninsula, Northern Ireland. They were married at Cairncastle on 26th August 1991, in a new church they'd helped to build. Lena remains active in the church and has just

begun a second term as Moderator - one of very few church leaders to be in office during the death of Diana, Princess of Wales and that of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. She enjoys Golf and Bridge, without much success; whodunnits without much psychoanalysis and table quizzes without much pop music.