16th February 2013

In support of the Bacup Townscape Heritage Initiative the Nat was asked to help kick off what will be known as Owd Bacup week 16th - 24th February 2013. As a result that Nat will be open on Saturday 16th February from 10am till 1pm. Why not pop in and join us for a cuppa, and check out our brand new research and resource area. Take a look at our photograph collection and museum and see how we could help you in your own family or local history searches.

Councillor Jackie Oakes officially opened the newly refurbished Lecture and Resource Area. The opening was followed by a brief potted history of the Bacup Natural History Society spanning 134 years, followed by light refreshments.

The lecture room refurbishments had been funded by an award from the Bacup Neighbourhood Forum. Work on the refurbishments had begun in June 2012, and one of the first major tasks for the members was moving the filing cabinets, chairs and cabinets into the middle of the room. After moving one particular cabinet members were amazed to find a hole in the wall and a room that no-one had ever seen before or had any knowledge off. The room’s contents were the base of an old tippler toilet, a Belfast sink and stone trough and lintel along with two grave stones, why the last two items were ever placed in this room is anyone’s guess.

We do think it’s safe to say this room was at one time the toilet belonging to the pub which of course is what the Nat was before it became our home. However enquiries continue :) The work was finished in September 2012.
August 2012.

The Committee and Members of the Nat are very sad to share the news of the death of one of our much loved and valued members Mr John Bowditch aged 69, who passed away peacefully after a long illness on Monday 20th August 2012, in Somerset where he was staying with his sons. John had been a member of the Nat for several years serving on the Committee as Membership Secretary, up to a few months before he became ill. He spent many long hours producing our Royal Visit 1913 dvd, our deepest sympathy and condolences to John’s family.

The Committee and Members of the Nat are very sad to share the news that our Museum Curator Mr Ken Simpson Passed away on Friday 13th July 2012 aged 86. Ken was dearly loved by all who knew him old and young alike, a very much love member of the Nat and will be very sadly missed. Our deepest sympathy and condolence go to Craig his son and daughter-in-law Melanie.