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# THE GATEACRE SOCIETY

Registered with the Civic Trust for the North West.

Chairman: Mr. Tim Brakell, Lindeh Cottage, Halewood Road.  
Treasurer: Mr. John Keggen, 23 Belle Vale Road.  
Hon. Sec: Mrs. Sylvia Lewis, Grange Lodge, Grange Lane.  
Ass. Sec: Mr. Henry Waterman, 7 Gateacre Rise.

SUMMER NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 1977



## Jubilee Celebrations, Saturday 4th June.

We were lucky with the weather on our Jubilee Day and everyone who turned up on the Village Green enjoyed the party. Our thanks go to Miss Hulme of the Gateacre C. of E. School for organising the colourful tableau of important events during the last 25 years and the singing of the choir, they were all splendid. We also thank Mr. McCann's troop of well-drilled cubs with their excellent colour party from Our Lady's School, and Mr. Crowther and his musicians from the Comprehensive School for providing some stirring music throughout the afternoon. We hope all the children enjoyed their buns and lemonade afterwards.

It was nice to see Miss McAndrew and Miss Crinnon planting our Jubilee Trees, although they both come from Woolton, they have, over the past 35 years, made a special place for themselves in Gateacre. The two trees *Acer Dasycarpum* and *Acer Drumondii* will always be known in the Village as "Winnie" and "Claire". Long may they flourish.

Mr. Prince and his wife Vera, made a colourful contribution to the day both sartorially and with the decoration of their cottages. He and other members of the Committee put in a great deal of hard work too, including setting the Commemorative Plaques in stone; this was buried deep in the Green early in the morning and unveiled later by the Chairman Mr. Tim Brakell who made a fine patriotic speech in keeping with the occasion.

The Exhibition held afterwards in the Chapel Hall, Sandfield Road, was visited by over 200 people who were able to see something of the work of the Society, a fine display of our Listed Buildings and a look back with nostalgia at the photographs of Gateacre and Woolton 25 years ago, and some dating back to the turn of the Century. Our thanks to the Woolton Society for their participation invaluable help and loan of some of their new screens.

Incidentally we were taken to task during the Exhibition for not showing any old photographs of Sandfield Road. The fact is that we haven't any - if anyone has any material of the old Sandfield would they please let us borrow it and we can have it copied?

## Gateacre Comprehensive School Fair.

We were invited to show the Exhibition again, together with the Woolton Society, Jubilee Exhibition on July 9th at the Comprehensive School Fair. It was a successful venture, and the material displayed was used by the staff and children during the following week. Thanks to the Woolton Society a Catalogue was available and both the School and the parents expressed interest and pleasure in our work.

## The Gateacre Walk.

On July 16th members of the Woolton Society joined us and we walked round Gateacre looking critically at our more interesting buildings dating from before 1700 to the present day. We all learnt something of the history and the architecture of the Village, and we would like to thank our excellent guides Miss Gnosspelius and Mr. Dewsnap for talking us round Gateacre and for all the preparation the walk entailed. About 70 people were present and at half-time we all enjoyed a welcome tea in the Chapel Hall - our thanks for this to Mrs. Wilson and her helpers. We must also thank Mr. Blundell for allowing our two parties inside the Riding School on a busy afternoon and for telling

173 Grange Lane.

Planning consent for the sale of 'hot take-away' food at this address was given on 4th October 1976, subject to the following conditions:-

- 1). The hot food shop hereby permitted shall not remain open for the sale of food after 23.00 hours on weekdays and shall not be open to the public at any time on Sundays.
- 2), The equipment, fume extraction system and external extraction duct shall be installed in accordance with a scheme as may be agreed with the local planning authority, or in default of agreement as shall be determined by the Secretary of State.

These conditions were imposed for the reasons that:-

'It is in the interests of the amenity of nearby residents'.

Condition (1) has not been observed and an Enforcement Notice was served by the City Solicitor on 11th August. This notice must be complied with by the 10th October.

The pollution caused by the noisy, badly-positioned-extractor unit and the unhygienic state of the yard at the rear of the shop is a problem for the Environmental Health Department. We have spoken to the Chief Environmental Health Officer - Mr. C.H. Rena, and his department are working on this.

We should like to thank our Councillors Mr. McVeigh and Mr. Hallows for their interest and help in this matter.

#### Woolton Hall Inquiry.

This Public Inquiry started on August 2nd and lasted 4 days, and held by an Inspector from the Department of the Environment in 14 Sir Thomas Street. On one side was the Notre Dame Trustee Company who wish to demolish the Hall and on the opposing side the City Planning Department who have twice before refused Listed Building consent to demolish on account of it being listed Grade I (one of only 8 in Liverpool) and of the architectural and historical importance of the building.

Miss Gnosspelius, who carried out the Inspection of the Fabric of Woolton Hall for the City Planning Department in 1972-3 was called by the City Council to speak as their 'expert witness', and the Woolton Society's case for conservation was presented by Mrs. Carmichael who founded the Society in 1972 when the first application to demolish was sought.

The Secretary, Mrs. Lewis, attended and submitted the Gateacre Society's objection to demolition. It was a most interesting and instructive four days, ending with a site visit by the Inspector and one or two 'interested parties'. The Secretary, who had never before been inside Woolton Hall felt very privileged to be one of the eight people present and enjoyed the tour of inspection enormously; this ranged over the whole building from the cellars to the roof - the view from which is magnificent.

We understand that the result of the Inquiry may not be know for six months.

#### Committee members.

We regret that we are losing our good friend and Treasurer John Keggen who is moving to the Isle of Man. He will be greatly missed in the Village as well as by the Society. We send our best wishes with him and his family, and hope they will visit us when in Liverpool.

Looking ahead to the A.G.M. in October, we are going to need a new Treasurer and some more Committee members. If you feel you can help or know someone else who could, would you start sounding them out now?

#### Next Meeting.

This will be a Social Evening to say farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Keggen on ~~Monday~~ <sup>Tuesday</sup>, 19th September, in the Gateacre Institute, Grange Lane, at 8.00pm.  
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