

THE GATEACRE SOCIETY
Registered with the Civic Trust for the North West

Chairman: Mr. Tim Brakell, Linden Cottage, Halewood Rd.
Hon. Sec: Mrs. Sylvia Lewis, Grange Lodge, Grange Lane.

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER - 1977.

We wish all our members and friends a very happy

Christmas and a prosperous New Year, which we hope,

with your help, will produce a great many new members.



The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING was held on Tuesday 1st November at the Gateacre Chapel Hall and the following Officers were elected: -

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tim Brakell, Linden Cottage, Halewood Road.	428 - 3105
VICE-CHAIRMAN: Mr. Alan Wilson, 2 Gateacre Brow.	428 - 1965
HON. SECRETARY: Mrs. Sylvia Lewis, Grange Lodge, Grange La.	428 - 3671
HON. TREASURER: Mr. Harry Winsor, 26a Thornside Walk.	428 - 8337

The following Committee Members were then elected: -

Mrs. Sheila Bee, 'Velova', Grange Lane.	428 - 5497
Mrs. Pat Inman, 'Elmsvale Bungalow', Belle Vale Road.	428 - 4847
Miss Edith Lewis, 7 Church Cottages, Belle Vale Road.	487 - 7034
Miss Nan Lythgoe, 168 Gateacre Park Drive.	428 - 3963
Mr. Tony McCann, 5 Greendale Road.	428 - 1044
Mr. Graham Olsen, 8 Dale Mews, Sandfield Road.	428 - 2368
Mr. Sam Prince, 1 Paradise Row, Grange Lane.	428 - 6914

Co-opted member - Mr. Lionel Shepherd, Browside Cottage Sandfield Road.	428 - 6986
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After the elections Mr. Shepherd showed slides of the Gateacre Jubilee Celebrations on the Village Green, there were also photographs to look at taken by himself and Mr. Rimmer of the Woolton Society. All this was enjoyed so much that Mr. Shepherd has agreed to show them again at the February meeting.

The Chairman then thanked all those members who had helped with the work of the Society in many different ways and asked for their continued support during 1978.

Mrs. Sheila Bee is now the Membership Secretary so if you have not yet paid your subscription for 1977/78 - which was due at the A.G.M. - please let her have your money as soon as possible. Under the constitution members can only be given 3 months grace, if their subscriptions are not paid by then we have to cross them off our circulation list. Reminders to those who have not yet paid are enclosed.

Mr. Shepherd is now in charge of deliveries of notices and newsletters, if you feel you can help him by offering to post even a few envelopes through letter boxes in your area please get in touch with him.

The type of meetings which members would like us to arrange was discussed and we are working on the suggestions offered - see Future Programme.

There was some discussion about problems in the Village, these seemed to be mostly about traffic and the amount of litter in our streets. We will be pressing the appropriate departments to take some action. Damage to the Prudential Building by tall vehicles turning into Sandfield Road is once again causing concern. We have written to the Planning Office about this and the Prudential Assurance Company has too; the Conservation Officer would find it helpful to know who the offenders are, so if you can let us know what type of vehicle causes this damage &/or the name of the firm concerned we will pass on the information.

On the 29th November the Rev. Victor Davies came to talk to us. The lecture was billed as a talk on Classical Architecture but it turned out to be about WHAT WE OWE TO THE NORMANS. He described vividly the way of life in the early settlements and how the first primitive castles were built - first the mott and bailey of earthworks and timber and later of stone. He told us that one was shown on the Bayeux Tapestry and he

quoted many Norman strongholdings - notably the Tower of London. According to the Domesday Book half the land was in the possession of the Church; the Benedictines, Clunaries and Cistercians came from France and founded some of our most famous abbeys, cathedrals and parish churches. A series of beautiful slides rounded off his lecture and he showed us where the Norman foundations were still to be seen.

CAROL SINGING ON THE GREEN. We had hoped to arrange an evening of Carol singing on the Village Green before Christmas, lead by children from the local schools. Unfortunately it was impossible to agree on a date which was suitable to everyone, but we feel the idea was a good one and will start earlier and hope for more success next year.

POLLUTION. The Woolton Society are concerned about pollution in their area and they have sent round a Questionnaire asking for information. If any members feel that they have this sort of problem please let us know and we will give them one of the forms to fill in.

CONSERVATION AREA. The extensions to the Conservation Area in Halewood Road and Belle Vale Road have been approved at last by the Regional office of the Department of the Environment in Manchester. Before long the people concerned should receive notification from the Planning Office. They are also working on some new leaflets designed to inform residents living in Conservation Areas what this means, and what they may and may not do to their property without Planning Consent.

THE PRACTICAL FUTURE FOR MERSEYSIDE. On the 5th November some members attended a stimulating Conference in Liverpool University's Department of Civic Design. There were several excellent speakers outlining our problems and ways in which our environment can be improved. We had an Exhibition of 'Rehabilitation in Gateacre' on display which attracted some interest.

NEWS FROM OTHER AMENITY SOCIETIES. We had an interesting letter from Mr. Michael Dent formerly of South Station Road and now living in Harefield, Middlesex. He had driven through Gateacre during the summer, noticed our Conservation Area Signs and written to the City Planning Officer asking to be put in touch with us. Mr. Dent is Chairman of the Advisory Panel for Harefield Conservation Area and he sent us their Annual Report and two leaflets which show that they have similar problems to us. Their Panel was set up by the Council and its members are nominated by local Associations and Societies. They consider planning applications, give the Council advice and make suggestions for future policy proposals; thus constituting (like the Gateacre Society) an important link in the process of public participation in decision-making which affects all aspects of life in a Conservation Area.

FUTURE PROGRAMME. We have had a number of suggestions from members about our future meetings and we have drawn up a Programme as far as April 1978. If you have your new diaries you can now make a note of the dates, but you will also receive a reminder notice before each meeting.

January 31st. Dame Ethel Wormald 'Experiences in Public Life'.

February 21st. Afternoon Meeting for people who prefer not to go out at night. Slides - including those of the Jubilee and some new old-photographs of Gateacre.
Evening Meeting 8 p.m. The same. If any members have slides they feel might be of interest please contact Mr. Shepherd.

March 11th. Saturday. Jumble Sale. Please keep all your jumble - and tell your friends.

March 21st. Mr. F. Elter Topical talk with slides.

April 18th. Dr. Hugh McAllister of Ness Gardens. 'Trees, Shrubs and trouble-free gardening'. Dr. McAllister will be prepared to answer your questions.

STOP PRESS To-day 17th December news was received...