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THE GATEACRE SOCIETY
Reg. with the North West Civic Trust

CHAIRMAN: Tony McCann, O.L.A. School
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LIVERPOOL LIBRARIES
28 NOV 1988
SERIALS SECTION



Next Meeting -

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 14th Annual General Meeting of The Gateacre Society
will be held on

TUESDAY, 1st NOVEMBER 1988

at 8 p.m.

THE GATEACRE INSTITUTE, GRANGE LANE

At the meeting a number of recently acquired photographs
of old Gateacre will be on display

DIARY DATE: 22nd Nov. TREASURES OF CLWYD by John Dewsnap.

PORT SUNLIGHT - As this is the centenary year of Port Sunlight at our meeting on the 26th July we had the pleasure of a talk by Merseyguide Mrs. Anne Coombes about the origin and development of the village. Born in 1851, Lord Leverhulme started a soap factory in Warrington; wanting to expand he had difficulty obtaining money and land, so in 1888 he started up again at Port Sunlight where he found cash and land more readily available.

He was a non-conformist with a social conscience and built houses for his workforce far in advance of their time. He was a strict man and laid down rules for running the 'Garden City', and if these were broken the tenant was evicted with the loss of his job in the soap works.

The idea of a garden city came from the 'picturesque' 18th century villages, following which came residential parks (Fulwood, Woolton etc.) where the houses were built away from the teeming city for the wealthy. Lord Leverhulme himself lived in three main houses at various times - The Bungalow, Rivington; Thornton Manor and The Hill, Hampstead.

At Port Sunlight he had his houses in the model village designed by some of the leading architects of the day - William & Segar Owen, Sir Ernest George, John Douglas, Grayson and Ould, Lomax-Simpson, Sir Edwin Lutyens and Professor Sir Charles Reilly of the Liverpool School of Architecture.

We cannot finish without a mention of the Lady Lever Art Gallery with its permanent collection of 18th and 19th century paintings, furniture and much, much more. All this is on our door-step and very well worth a visit this centenary year, yet how many of us have even spent a couple of hours there ?

H.G.

RECREATION GROUND - A short time ago we heard rumours that the Council may be selling this local amenity for housing. We made enquiries from a number of sources and have been assured that no such plans exist and that the ground is to be up-graded within the next twelve months.

DOG WALK ON A WET SPRING MORNING

Droplets on hawthorn and holly
The newly-born and the evergreen
The splash of cars on a city street
Suburban gardens tidy and neat
The damp moss on sandstone walls
Turn the corner and, O, surprise

Many colours drenched in rain
Spring has come yet once again
The tulip has so many colours
Purple and white and lots of others
Down the road and up the hill
Everything now is calm and still

A narrow path where giants once rolled
Birds are a singing, trees are felled
Muddy puddles and overgrown grass
As we walked along this country-like path
A sense of spring was round about
As we came back to the busy street

We apologise to the author, Christopher Bee, aged 9, of Grange Lane, for the unavoidable delay in publishing his poem and we wonder how many members can work out where his walk took him ?

COACH TRIP TO YORK - At the time of writing this news-letter there are still a few tickets left for the Christmas shopping/sightseeing trip to York. The date is the 29th November (Tuesday) and the coach will leave Gateacre (from outside the Midland Bank) at 9.20 a.m. The very reasonable cost is £5 - but ring Miss Elaine Mooney, 428-1764, at once if you wish to go.

WILSON MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN 1883 - Have you noticed that the gutters and pigeon cote have recently been renewed ? It has taken us some time to get this work put in hand, but we did have a promise from the City Estates Dept. that as soon as money became available this listed building would

receive attention and we are most grateful this has been done before the onset of winter weather.

A.G.M. - After reports from the Secretaries and Treasurer and the election of Officers and Committee, refreshments will be available and we look forward to having the time to talk to each other in a relaxed atmosphere. We hope for a good turn-out of members and particularly look forward to meeting our new members, some of whom may not yet know our upstairs meeting room at The Institute - the original home of the Gateacre C. of E. School and later of the Little Woolton Local Board of Health, formed in 1867.

We have 2 vacancies on the Committee, which meets every six weeks or so, and nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretaries or at the meeting.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS - 88T/1733 Tree work in Chartmount Way. We understand that four trees are to be removed due to disease, one being in the middle of the pavement between the Midland Bank and Chartmount Way. Other trees are to be crown topped.

88P/1861 Site at Glenville Close - to erect 5 detached houses. This is a fresh application by different architects. We have not yet seen the plans but these are available for inspection on the first floor in the City Planning Office.

GRANGE MANOR - The owner has appealed to the Department of the Environment against the decision of the City Planning Officer to restrict opening hours, in the restaurant and associated bars, to 10.30 p.m. We feel strongly that these bars should be limited to public house hours and have written to the D.O.E. to that effect.

We have lost a few members since last year as old friends have moved away - why not find out if your neighbours are interested and bring them along to the A.G.M. ?

S.M.L. 9.10.88