

THE GATEACRE SOCIETY

Founded 1974. Charity Registration No.508024.
'Guarding the Past, Safeguarding the Future'

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Membership Subscriptions

Household £3 Single pensioner £2 Company, etc. £5
(all plus £1.50 postage if outside hand-delivery area)
You may pay for up to three years in advance, if you wish, at these annual rates.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

If your address label reads '31/10/04', your membership of the Gateacre Society has now officially LAPSED. In order to be sure of receiving future issues of this Newsletter, please renew your subscription as soon as possible.

Not a member? Want to join us?

If you wish to join the Society - or to renew - please send the appropriate subscription to the Membership Secretary, Mrs Beryl Plent, at 27 Grange Lane, Liverpool L25 4RZ: cheques payable to 'The Gateacre Society'.



The Gateacre Society

Registered with the Civic Trust and as a Charity

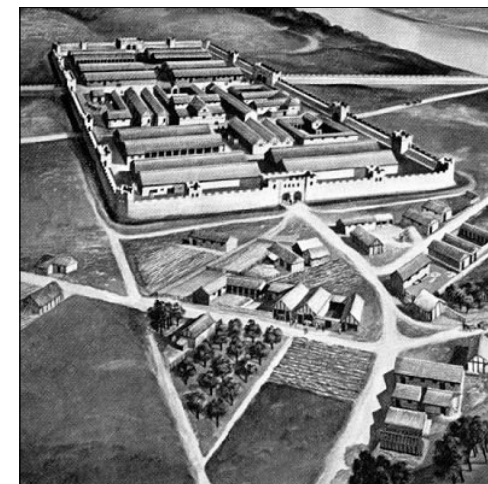
NEWSLETTER - March 2005

Our next meeting:

THE ROMANS IN BRITAIN

A talk by Colin Twist

Tuesday 22nd March at 8 p.m.
in Gateacre Chapel Hall



Above: A model of Roman Chester

Our speaker, Colin Twist, is a favourite with Gateacre Society members. This talk will trace the influences of the Romans on the Iron Age culture of the British Isles. Using slides, Colin will escort us on a tour of the main Roman sites. The meeting takes place in the Chapel Hall, Sandfield Road, Liverpool L25 (off Gateacre Brow), starting at 8 o'clock.

ALL WELCOME - Gateacre Society members free of charge - VISITORS 50p

A COACH TRIP TO LEEDS on Saturday 21st May

Following our very successful joint outing to Nottingham last summer, the Wavertree Society has arranged another trip, this time to Leeds where we shall be the guests of the Leeds Civic Trust. The pattern will be similar to last year - with an introductory tour of the city and guided walks provided by our hosts - but we are assured that plenty of free time will also be allowed for shopping! The coach will leave from Gateacre village at about 8.45/9 a.m., and return by about 7 p.m. If you are interested, please telephone our Hon.Treasurer, Mrs Eryl Chitty, on 428 7801. Please note that the trip is open to paid-up Wavertree/Gateacre Society members only, and the cost is £10 per person (payable in advance).

AN ARCTIC CRUISE

A review of our February talk by *Mary Champion*

On February 1st Bill Wilcock came to talk to us about his Arctic cruise, which took place last summer. His talk was illustrated with excellent slides and at appropriate moments we had snatches of music.

The ship was Cunard's Caronia. What a ship - one of Cunard's smaller liners, but like a floating palace. We saw the magnificent public areas and the decks and heard about the mouth-watering food. We saw shots of Bill's cabin, and of the big swimming pool - not filled if bad weather was expected. We also had a glimpse of afternoon tea in the Garden Restaurant.

The ship left Southampton and its first port of call was Edinburgh. It took one-and-a-half days to get there and they arrived early morning. An excursion took in Leith Marina, Princes Street Gardens - looking bright and lovely - the new Parliament Building in all its modern splendour, the Firth of Forth and the two famous bridges, railway and road, and then returned to the ship via Cramond, a pretty village by the Forth.

Every time they left port the band played and drinks were served. Then the cruise continued up to the Faroes, arriving at 7 a.m. The islands have 44,000 inhabitants, who have their own parliament but claim Danish citizenship. Sheep farming and fishing are the main occupations. The party had to go to the two main islands by tender - very small compared to the Caronia. We saw pictures of the many wildflowers, the houses - many with turf roofs - and the Caronia at anchor in Torshaven.

Then began a long journey to Iceland. The Caronia is equipped for leisure and learning pursuits - there is a computer room, and seven times round the deck is a mile walk! Three guest lecturers, including Terry Waite who was on board with his wife, gave talks. En route whales were spotted, and on the Iceland mainland we saw horses and ponies and learned that Iceland is the seventh healthiest place in the world to live. All heating in Reykjavik - in houses and greenhouses - is from the geysers. We saw two great waterfalls and the site of the Icelandic parliament. An interesting slide showed heritage houses made of peat.

Shortly after Iceland we came to the Arctic Circle, and we had wonderful shots of the midnight sun. Then on to Norway - in Tromso a Museum of Laplanders, and in Trondheim a free afternoon to walk around. After Norway a two-day cruise back to Southampton, with a gala lunch and formal dinner to conclude.

Bill's talk provided us with another interesting evening. It may even be whetting a few appetites to go on a similar cruise.

PLANNING NEWS

An outline planning application (ref. 040/4590) was submitted in December to build a house alongside 16 Blackwood Avenue, and to relocate the existing electricity substation. We objected to this proposal (which was additional to the already-approved new house between No.14 and No.16) because of its potential impact on the adjacent woodland area, designated as Green Space in the city's Unitary Development Plan. Later we were pleased to hear that the application had been refused.

WARTIME MEMORIE S WANTED

This summer marks the 60th anniversary of the ending of the Second World War.

A number of commemorative events are being staged nationally in July, and local communities are being encouraged to organise their own activities. Particular emphasis is being put on the bringing together of the generations - the passing on of the memories of those who lived through the war to the children and young people of today.

The Friends of Gateacre are co-ordinating this in our area, and have the support of the Gateacre Institute, Woolton Conservative Club and Gateacre Chapel, as well as local youth groups and schools. We in the Gateacre Society have been asked to put together a 'Gateacre in Wartime' display of photographs and memorabilia, but as yet we are very short of suitable material.

If you can help, please contact Beryl Plent (428 5379) or any other Committee member as soon as possible.

CHANGES ON THE WAY AT CLEGG'S

As foreshadowed in our November 2003 Newsletter, plans have been drawn up for the conversion of the former Gateacre Brewery building - more recently Clegg's Felt Factory - into residential apartments. The plans include the demolition of the more modern factory buildings to the rear of the site, and their replacement by apartment blocks and town houses.

Altogether about 30 dwelling units are proposed, with vehicular access from Lower Sandfield off Sandfield Road. Some of the flats will be built on a 'deck' above the proposed parking area, which is designed to accommodate about 35 cars, and further parking spaces will be laid out at the Sandfield Road entrance to the site. The old Brewery building - including the former manager's house at 42 Gateacre Brow - is a Listed Building, and the plans aim to preserve its Victorian character. However, the rest of the development - on the advice of the City Council's conservation officer - will be designed in a more contemporary style, and the 'old' and 'new' parts of the complex will be linked by a 'glass box' structure accommodating one of the staircases.

Members of our Committee were given a preview of the plans earlier this month, when the architect and the owner's representative showed us round the building and described what is being proposed. We shall shortly be examining the scheme in more detail, and forwarding our views to the Council's Planning Department in the usual way.

The drawings should very soon be available for inspection at Millennium House, Victoria Street, Liverpool - the reference number of the planning application is 05F/0664, and there will also be a listed building consent application - and we would encourage all members of the Society to study them and send us (and the Council) any comments. The phone number for enquiries about this and other Liverpool planning applications is 233 3021.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

In conjunction with the Friends of Gateacre, we are planning a major door-to-door delivery and publicity exercise within the next three months. If you would be willing to help with this - or with any of our other administrative tasks - please contact any Committee member (see back page for names/addresses).