

# THE GATEACRE SOCIETY

Founded 1974. Charity Registration No.508024.

'Guarding the Past, Safeguarding the Future'

Website: www.gatsoc.org.uk Email: info@gatsoc.org.uk

## IF YOU HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS

and would like to receive your Newsletters by email instead of by post, please let us know by sending a simple message to membership@gatsoc.org.uk quoting your name and postcode

## Officers for 2005/06

- Chairman: Tony McCann  
Vice Chairman: Brian Doman, 6 Hayles Grove, L25 4SL (722 6368)  
Hon.Secretary: Mrs Joan Gadd, 59 Hunts Cross Avenue, L25 5NU (428 8884)  
Hon.Treasurer: Mrs Eryl Chitty, 16 Chartmount Way, L25 5LB (428 7801)  
Membership Sec.: Mrs Rosemary Doman, 6 Hayles Grove, L25 4SL (722 6368)  
Environment Sec.  
& Newsletter Editor: Mike Chitty, 16 Chartmount Way, L25 5LB (428 7801)

## Membership Subscriptions

Household £4 Single pensioner £3 Company, etc. £6

You may pay for up to three years in advance, if you wish, at these annual rates.

## Already a member?

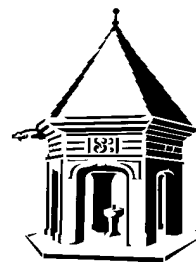
To find out whether you are a paid-up member of the Gateacre Society, please check your address label, which indicates your membership expiry date (e.g. 31/10/06).

## 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 Rosemary Doman, 6 Hayles Grove, Liverpool L25 4SL: cheques payable to 'The Gateacre Society'.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Annual subscriptions become payable immediately after the A.G.M., and our Membership Secretary Rosemary Doman will be happy to receive payment at the meeting. (Your address label will indicate whether your current membership expires on 31/10/06, or whether you are already paid-up in advance). To simplify our record keeping, **please use the envelope in which your Newsletter is delivered** to enclose your payment for 2006-07 (and up to two further years if you wish) and hand it in, either at the A.G.M. or at a future meeting, writing the amount alongside your address label so we know who you are and how much you have paid.



# The Gateacre Society

Registered with the Civic Trust and as a Charity

## NEWSLETTER - October 2006

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN GATEACRE

**Sunday 29th October**,  
10am-4pm, Conservative  
Club, Grange Lane:  
Christmas Crafts Fair

**Tuesday 31st October**,  
8pm, Gateacre Chapel  
Hall: The 32nd ANNUAL  
GENERAL MEETING of  
the Gateacre Society  
(See inside for details)

**Wednesday 8th  
November**, 6.30pm,  
Gateacre Chapel: Friends  
of Gateacre A.G.M. (See  
inside)

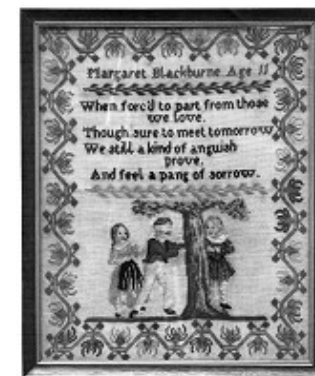
**Saturday 11th  
November**, from  
1.30pm, Chapel Hall:  
Gateacre Chapel's  
Christmas Fair

**Sunday 26th  
November**, 11am,  
Gateacre Chapel: All-  
faith Winter Festival  
service (Look out for  
local publicity nearer the  
time)

**Sunday 3rd December**,  
2.30pm, Chapel Hall:  
Gateacre Society talk  
'Finding Out About  
Family History' (See  
panel on right)

## FINDING OUT ABOUT FAMILY HISTORY

A talk by  
Adrian Wood



*on Sunday 3rd December at 2.30 pm  
in Gateacre Chapel Hall,  
Sandfield Road, Liverpool L25*

The recent recovery from Sweden of a tapestry (illustrated above) is the basis for this talk by Adrian Wood, who last came to speak to us about his researches almost 7 years ago.

Margaret Blackburne was born in 1846 at the butcher's business on the corner of Belle Vale Road and Halewood Road, a site now occupied by the undertaker's premises opposite the Black Bull. Her family background and life will be recounted - but the theme of the talk will be how to trace family history using census details, church records and other possible sources of reference. The original tapestry, photographs and various parish records will be produced, and many questions are anticipated!

*ALL WELCOME - Gateacre Society members  
free of charge - Visitors 50p*

# THE HISTORY AND WORK OF THE NSPCC

## A Review of our May Talk - by Mary Champion

On Tuesday May 23rd we had an interesting talk by Hazel Russell and Caroline Walsh of the NSPCC.

Hazel spoke to us first and told us about the foundation in 1883 of the Liverpool Society for the Protection of Children - the first such charity in the country. Liverpool was a grim place for children and there were no laws to protect them. Thomas Agnew gathered rich colleagues to a meeting in the Town Hall and the Society was established. The next year a second society was founded in London, and soon became nationwide.

The world is still a dangerous place for children. In 2006 one in two of the children who die do so because of abuse. 32,700 children in the UK are on child protection registers. 25% of children have experienced some form of violence, and for 78% of these children this violence happens at home. Two key areas need to be enhanced: protecting children who are caught up in domestic violence and children who are born to mothers abusing drugs and alcohol. To help combat these issues the Liverpool NSPCC is building a new Centre - 'hug shaped' and child friendly - for which John Hargreaves of Matalan generously kick-started the appeal in 2004.

The new building will be the base for four key services: a greatly enhanced domestic violence team, a brand new service to young mothers abusing drugs, the investigation of cases of organised child abuse within the region, and an internet service where children can discuss their problems online with trained staff in total privacy. A site has been secured in Great Homer Street, building work will start in June and the Centre will open in April 2007.

Caroline Walsh - who, among other things, co-ordinates fundraising by small groups and helps with promoting events like the Big Bike Ride - then talked to us about the other work that is done by the NSPCC in Liverpool. Children who have witnessed violence are given counselling, as are the parents and grandparents. The service is to the whole family, the aim being to help people to change. The NSPCC also works in schools, the Women's Hospital and Styal Prison.

This was a worthwhile and thought-provoking evening.

## WHERE HAVE ALL THE FLOWERS GONE ... ?

Many people have commented, with regret, on the empty and neglected planters in and around Gateacre village this summer. For a variety of personal reasons, the band of volunteers known as the Friends of Gateacre were unable to repeat last year's very successful efforts, and decided to take 'time out' prior to a re-launch in the autumn. The Friends of Gateacre have a lot to be proud of - like the restoration of the Chapel Hall garden, and the plans for improving the Cricket Field which are still very much 'on track' - and we hope that anyone disappointed by the lack of Bloom in Gateacre this summer will volunteer their services when the group embarks on its programme of winter planting in preparation for 2007. The Friends' next open discussion evening - and Annual General Meeting - takes place on Wednesday 8th November in Gateacre Chapel, starting at 6.30 pm. Please contact Chris Fitzpatrick at 3 Halewood Road, L25 3PH, for further details, or to be added to the Friends' mailing list.

## A.G.M. REMINDER

As announced in the last Newsletter, the Annual General Meeting of the Gateacre Society will be held on

**TUESDAY 31st OCTOBER**  
in the Chapel Hall, Sandfield Road, starting at 8 pm. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting, which as usual offers you the chance to meet and chat to your fellow members (refreshments provided!) at the conclusion of the formal business. We shall be re-living the discovery of the Gateacre Hall Hotel time capsule, as copies of its contents will once again be on display.

Even more so than in the past, we very much hope to see some new faces on the Committee this year, as unfortunately our Hon. Secretary, Joan Gadd, is standing down after 20 years' service to the Society. We urgently need someone to receive and report on correspondence, arrange our programme of meetings, etc. Perhaps you are new to the area and keen to help with the running of the Society? Perhaps you are newly retired, and have time and useful experience to offer us? Or perhaps you just want to get more involved in our discussions and activities?

As usual we shall be inviting nominations for Committee membership at the A.G.M. - so please give this a bit of thought if you are at all interested. (At present, the Committee meets on Tuesday evenings, about every 5-6 weeks).



## MICHAEL TAYLOR GARAGE SITE - REVISED PLANS

Following the rejection by the City Council's planners of previous applications for a block of flats, Mr Taylor has now applied for permission (ref. 06F/2557) to build 7 town houses. The proposed houses are architect designed and, in our view, a great improvement on the previous submissions. We have written to the Planning Department reiterating our support for residential redevelopment of this unsightly garage site, and broadly welcoming the design, landscaping and materials of the latest proposal (see pictures above and below, kindly supplied by the architects, KDP of Liverpool). We remain concerned about the inadequacy of car parking provision - each of the new houses will have a single space, either in the front garden or alongside it - but we recognise that it will be expensive to clear and decontaminate the petrol station site. We have asked the Council's planners to investigate whether these costs do indeed justify the number of houses proposed. We have also suggested a reorientation of the proposed Grange Lane frontage, so as to make the walls run parallel to the back-of-pavement line rather than at a slight angle as shown on the submitted layout plan.

