

# THE GATEACRE SOCIETY

Founded 1974. Charity Registration No.508024.

'Guarding the Past, Safeguarding the Future'

Website: [www.gatsoc.org.uk](http://www.gatsoc.org.uk) Email: [info@gatsoc.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:membership@gatsoc.org.uk) quoting your name and postcode

## Officers for 2007/08

- Chairman: Tony McCann  
Vice Chairman: Brian Doman, 6 Hayles Grove, L25 4SL (722 6368)  
Hon.Secretary: *Post vacant*  
Hon.Treasurer: Mrs Eryl Chitty  
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. 31/10/08).

## 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'.



# The Gateacre Society

*Registered with the Civic Trust and as a Charity*

## NEWSLETTER - October 2008

*Don't forget the Annual General Meeting!*

## OLD PHOTOGRAPHS OF HALEWOOD ROAD

will be shown on the big screen, and described by Beryl Plent after the 'business' part of the Gateacre Society's A.G.M.:  
**Sunday 19th October, at 2 pm, in Gateacre Chapel,  
Gateacre Brow, Liverpool L25**  
*Existing and prospective members of the Society  
are welcome to attend - Refreshments provided*

*Our November meeting:*

## FORT PERCH ROCK

A talk by Derek Arnold  
**on Tuesday 4th November,  
at 8 pm in Gateacre Chapel**



The fort and lighthouse at New Brighton are familiar sights at the entrance to the river Mersey. But who built them, when, and why?

Derek Arnold is a maritime and military historian - a former seafarer himself - who has made a particular study of the Fort. He describes his talk as a 'light hearted look' at the long, eventful, and sometimes surprising history of the fort, the lighthouse and the surrounding area.

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

# PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

As mentioned in our last Newsletter, we are proposing to amend the Society's current Constitution (as adopted on 18.4.78) at the A.G.M. on 19th October.

Here are the relevant parts of the document, with the proposed new wording shown in **bold type**:

## 4. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The minimum subscription shall be:

**£4 per annum for a household, £3 per annum for a single pensioner, £6 per annum for a corporate member,**

or such other reasonable sum as the Executive Committee shall determine from time to time, and it shall be payable on or before 1st November each year.

Membership shall lapse if the subscription is unpaid three months after it is due.

*[Explanation: These are the current annual rates, which differ from those set out in the original Constitution]*

## 5. MEETINGS

An Annual General Meeting shall be held in or about October of each year **after at least 28 days notice** to receive the

Executive Committee's report and audited accounts and to elect members of the Committee. The Committee shall decide when ordinary meetings of the Society shall be held and shall give at least 14 days notice of such meetings to all members.

Special General Meetings of the Society shall be held at the written request of members representing not less than whichever is the greater of either 10 per cent of the existing membership of the Society, or twenty members, and whose subscriptions are fully paid up. **Fifteen** members personally present shall constitute a quorum for a meeting of the Society.

*[Explanation: The A.G.M. notice period was inadvertently omitted from the Constitution typescript. It has proved difficult to achieve the quorum of twenty specified in the original Constitution]*

## 6. OFFICERS

The Officers of the Society shall consist of: Chairman

Vice Chairman

Honorary Secretary or Secretaries

Honorary Treasurer

all of whom shall relinquish their office

every year and shall be eligible for re-election. **The Officers as aforesaid shall be appointed from the Executive Committee by a majority of votes of the Executive Committee at a meeting to be held immediately after the Annual General Meeting.** Nominations for the election of Officers shall be made at or before **such meeting**. Such

nominations shall be supported by a seconder and the consent of the proposed nominee must first have been obtained. The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill casual vacancies occurring among the Officers of the Society.

**6a.** A President and Vice President may also be elected at a General Meeting of the Society, for periods to be decided at such a meeting.

*[Explanation: The Committee feels that the election of Officers by the Committee rather than directly by the A.G.M. will make it easier to recruit postholders to these important positions.]*

## 7. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the management and administration of the Society. **The Executive Committee shall consist of not less than five and not more than twelve members.** Members of the Executive Committee shall be appointed annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Society. Outgoing members may be re-appointed. Nominations for election to the Executive Committee shall be made in writing at or before the Annual General Meeting. They must be supported by a seconder and the consent of the proposed nominee must first have been obtained.

Nominees for election as Committee Members shall declare at the Annual General Meeting at which their election is to be considered any financial or professional interest which may conflict with the aims of, or may be of concern to, the Society. If the nominations exceed the

number of vacancies, a ballot shall take place in such manner as shall be determined. The Committee shall have power to co-opt further members (who shall attend in an advisory and non-voting capacity). The members of the Committee shall normally be resident or work in the area of benefit but the Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members from outside the area of benefit. The Executive Committee shall meet not less than six times a year at intervals of not more than two months and the Honorary Secretary shall give all members not less than seven days notice of each meeting. The quorum shall, as near as may be, comprise one third of the members of the Executive Committee. The President and Vice President may attend any meeting of the Executive Committee but shall not vote at any such meeting. In the event of any equality in the votes cast the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

*[Explanation: This is a re-wording of the original Constitution which specified that "The Executive Committee shall consist of*

*the Officers and not more than seven other members".]*

## 8. SUB-COMMITTEES

The Executive Committee may constitute such sub-committees from time to time as shall be considered necessary for such purposes as shall be thought fit. The Chairman and Secretary of each sub-committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and all actions and proceedings of each sub-committee shall be reported to and be confirmed by the Executive Committee as soon as possible. Members of the Executive Committee may be members of any sub-committee and **membership of a sub-committee shall be no bar to appointment to** membership of the Executive Committee. Sub-Committees shall be subordinate to the Executive Committee and may be regulated or dissolved by the Executive Committee.

*[Explanation: The words in bold type were inadvertently omitted from the original Constitution typescript.]*

## SUDLEY HOUSE, MOSSLEY HILL

A review of our September visit - by Beryl Plent

Society members enjoyed a satisfying and SUNNY! visit to Sudley House on 21st of September. Built in the early 19th century, it is a classical style house of red sandstone in a sylvan setting and was, from 1884 to 1896, the family home of George Holt, founder of the shipping line Lamport & Holt. On entering there is a sensation of stepping back in time as the ground floor rooms, containing the works of art collected by Holt, appear much as they did in the late 1880's. Our tour guide regaled us with the stories behind certain pictures in each room. Details of the artist, the paintings subject and the symbolism contained in some works were explained.

Pre-Raphaelites were represented by John E. Millais and Holman Hunt – romantic classicism by Lord Leighton. The most important pictures were acquired after 1884, amongst them splendid portraits by Gainsborough, Sir H. Raeburn and Joshua Reynolds as well as the two atmospheric landscapes by J.M.W. Turner, bought in 1886 and 1888. Emma Holt's bequest to the city of Liverpool, in 1944, of Sudley House, together with 148 of her father's paintings, ensured this singular collection remained intact to be enjoyed by all.

*[Several members have expressed their appreciation of this summer's two special outings, and in particular their thanks to our hosts, the Lancaster Civic Society and the National Museums Liverpool - Ed.]*