

THE WOOLTON SOCIETY

www.wooltonsociety.org.uk

ISSUE NO: 342 May/June 2017

THE WOOLTON SOCIETY - SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR OVER 40 YEARS



NEWSLETTER



A tasty Woolton pie. See page 2 for report.

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Society News

The newsletter

As reported in issue 341, the society's newsletter will be sent out in e-mail form from 1 October 2017, when subscriptions are due. Members who wish to receive a paper copy of the newsletter will have to opt in to the postal system, which will cost an **additional £8** per year. The committee has taken the decision to end the hand delivery system, which is very labour intensive, because of rising costs. For some time now, all new members have had only the e-mail option, & the 2017/18 membership forms will reflect the new system.

Please note that you will receive your newsletters by e-mail from autumn 2017. If you wish to receive the newsletter by post, you will need to complete the postal option form and make the extra payment of £8 in addition to your subscription. The postal option form will be in the AGM issue in the autumn and will also be available on the society's website from the autumn. For those members who pay by standing order and wish to receive a paper copy, please ensure that you amend your SO from 1 October 2017.

N.B. The hand delivery system will cease after the AGM issue in September and the new postal option is an opt-in system.

February talk

Cliff Passey gave the first talk of 2017 on February 22nd when he spoke on metal detecting. This was a very entertaining & well attended evening, with members given the chance to handle many of the artefacts which had been brought to illustrate the talk.

March talk

Richard McDonald gave a very well received talk on 15th March, when he spoke on important women in Liverpool's history. There are so many women who fulfil this brief that Mr McDonald has enough material for a Part 2, which we hope he will deliver at a later date.

April talk

It was standing room only for Dr Janet Hollinshead's talk on Lord Woolton on April 19th. This was a fascinating talk on Frederick Marquis, born in Salford, later manager of Lewis's store in Liverpool, then wartime Minister of Food & ennobled as Lord Woolton. His recipe for a pie using root vegetables was promoted throughout the war, & is included in pamphlet number 2. Pamphlets 2 & 3, on the life of Lord Woolton & his home, Hillfoot House, were on sale at the talk but sold out very quickly. More copies have been printed, & will be available at future talks & at the farmers market stall.

The size of the audience has prompted the WS to ask if the larger room downstairs at the club could be used for all future talks. This is being considered, & we will keep members informed.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 17th May, Tom Preston: Fred Waldron & the Wayfarer

Local historian, Tom Preston will be our speaker in May, with engineer extraordinary Fred Waldron as his subject. Fred Waldron was chief engineer at Pilkington's glass from 1911 to the 1940s. He invented & designed torpedo boats & marine engines, factories & industrial processes, & was an advisor to the Ford motor company in Detroit, USA. Perhaps his most extraordinary achievement was designing & building all parts of a saloon car in the 1930s. This promises to be a fascinating talk on a little known subject.

Wednesday 21st June: Quiz Night

In a new departure for the society the event in June will take the form of a quiz night. We are inviting members & non-members to come along, individually or in groups to make up a team & take part in an informal evening of quizzing on general knowledge & local history. There will be a (very small) prize for the winning team.

Thursday 13th July: Dr Andrew Zsigmond, The Hungarian Revolution of 1956 & my subsequent escape

Local resident & WS member Dr Andrew Zsigmond will be talking of his escape from Hungary in 1956, & his eventual arrival in England.

This is another innovation for the Woolton Society: an afternoon talk in the Simon Peter Centre on Church Road. We realise that many members would appreciate a daytime talk, & also that some experience mobility issues. The Simon Peter Centre has disabled access, & is available mid-afternoon, so we are trying out this change of time & venue as a service to our members.

This talk will begin at 2.30pm at the Simon Peter Centre, & refreshments will be available.

Sunday 30th July: Guided walk: Ropewalks & Regeneration

Blue Badge guide Marie Passey will lead a two hour walk around the centre of the city, taking in Chinatown, the Ropewalks area, & a shelter for sedan chairs! The walk will be setting off from the John Lewis store, Liverpool One, at 2pm on Sunday 30th July.

The walk is limited to 25 places so booking is essential, with a payment of £5 per person. Please contact Viv Hicks on 428 3268 to reserve a place, or see committee members, with payment, at any talk.

All Woolton Society talks are free, & open to non-members as well as members. We have the use of a downstairs room at the Village Club, with the talks of May & June starting at 7.30pm. The July talk will be at the Simon Peter Centre on Church Road, with a start of 2.30pm. The walk in July will set off from the John Lewis store, Liverpool One at 2pm on Sunday 30th July. A payment of £5 is required for the guided walk.

Society publications

The society now has three pamphlets to its name, as well as two books.

Pamphlet 2, *"Who was Lord Woolton?"* was on sale at the talk of the same name in April, given by Dr Janet Hollinshead. Also on sale at the April talk was pamphlet 3 *"Hillfoot House,"* the Liverpool home of Lord Woolton. Both pamphlets sold out & have been reprinted for future events. Pamphlet 1, *"Who Lived at Woolton Hall"* has been selling briskly since its first publication & has been reprinted four times.

Future pamphlets will be on The Beatles in Woolton, & also education & medical care in the village. All pamphlets are priced at £1, & available at talks as well as at our stall at the regular farmers markets.

The book, *"Woolton Stone & Liverpool Cathedral"*, priced at £5 was published in 2016, & is stocked by the cathedral bookshop. Our bestseller is *"A History of Much Woolton"*, first published in 1975 & reprinted in 2012, priced at £3, & very popular with students of local history.

Both books are available at Brown's on Woolton Street, as well as at all society events.

Matters arising from the last newsletter

The report of the inventor of the police wireless system in issue 341 brought a swift response from a reader, a former policeman, & he is now advising the family of Edgar Menzies in having his work recognised officially. We shall report in future issues of any progress made.

The Prize Certificate awarded to Florence Lawton in 1915 which was reproduced on the back page has also produced a response from a member who has examined the census returns.

The 1911 census shows a Lawson family living at 5 Castle Street in Woolton.

Henry S. Lawton	aged 34	house plumber and painter	born Woolton
Florence M. Lawton	aged 32	wife	born Woolton
Florence Lawton	aged 6	scholar	born Woolton
Lilian Lawton	aged 6 months		born Woolton

This would have made Florence 10 years old in 1915 at the time of the certificate, & so the likely recipient of the award.

An appeal for information.

Do any readers have information about the former Liverpool Convalescent Hospital? It is now Woolton Manor Care Home, but was used some 50 years ago as The United Liverpool Hospitals' Nurses Preliminary Training College.

It would be useful to hear from anyone who knows something about the institution during these years - such as how many nurses were there? How long did they stay there? When exactly did the college close? Was anyone there themselves, or had a family member there? Does anyone have a photograph of the nurses there?

Please contact the society via the website or at any talk.

Environment, Planning News & Applications

Public Right of Way, Glenacres/Byron Court Update

Our thanks to members & residents who responded to our request to contact the council about the PRoW as reported in issue 341. Liverpool City Council received 5 objections to its Definitive Map Modification Order, & 40 letters of support for the order.

The correspondence will now be referred by the council to the Planning Inspectorate. If the order is confirmed then the footpath from Acrefield Road to Woolton Park will be officially designated as Public Right of Way number 77, & the brick wall on the Byron Court boundary will have to be demolished or modified.

We will keep members informed of all developments.

Traffic Report

In April several society committee members took a walk to assess the traffic situation around two local schools, together with Community Support Officer Liam Brown & Councillor Alice Bennett. CSO Brown reported complaints from residents in the Woolton Hill Road area, with instances of selfish parking, & cars stopping on zigzag lines. On Church Road the group observed vehicles blocking the pavement & junctions, & were informed that parents needed their cars in order to take their children to & from school. Who knew that children could no longer walk? The Magical Mystery Tour bus was early on this particular day, so we were spared the gridlock which occurs most days at 3.30pm.

Councillor Bennett also took the opportunity to photograph some of the many craters which make Church Road possibly the worst maintained highway in the city. All our local councillors report daily complaints about the state of the roads in the village. Let us hope that one day Woolton will reach the top of the list for road improvements.

Village news

As shown in the planning applications, there has been some interest shown in the site of the former HSBC bank. The excellent Istanbul restaurant has expanded its premises, but painted the exterior a vibrant shade of lilac which has caused comment on the society's website. Knolle Park has seen

some demolition work, but no building news as yet. The former library building has been put up for auction, with a guide price of £250,000.

Recent planning application of note

Please note, the development description is the one provided by the applicant/agent and is subject to change by a Planning Officer when the application is validated.

You can check the progress of each application online using the Planning Explorer at:

<http://www.liverpool.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/>

Application No:	17F/1002	Case Officer/Team:	City South	10-April-2017
		Ward:	Woolton	
Proposal:	To change use from shop (A1) to hot food takeaway (A5) and install extraction flue			
Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
13 Woolton Street	Mr David	13 Woolton Street	Steve	223 Queens Dock
Liverpool L25 5NH	Threlfall	Liverpool L25 5NH	Chapman MRTPI	Business Centre Norfolk Street Liverpool L1 0BG

Application No:	15F/1001	Case Officer/Team:	City South	13-February-2017
		Ward:	Woolton	
Proposal:	To erect single storey extension at rear, carry out internal and external alterations			
Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
Woolton Dental Practice	Dr Omar Butt	Woolton Dental Practice		
116 Allerton Road		116 Allerton Road		
Liverpool L25 7RH		Liverpool L25 7RH		

APP01, Approve with Conditions

Application No:	15L/1002	Case Officer/Team:	City South	24-January-2017
		Ward:	Woolton	
Proposal:	To erect single storey extension to the rear and carry out internal alterations			
Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
Woolton Dental Practice	Dr Omar Butt	Woolton Dental Practice		
116 Allerton Road		116 Allerton Road		
Liverpool L25 7RH		Liverpool L25 7RH		

APP01, Approve with Conditions

Application No:	17F/0119	Case Officer/Team:	City South	20-February-2017
		Ward:	Woolton	
Proposal:	To erect new dwelling house following demolition of existing bungalow			
Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
Court Cottage off Church Road Street	Mr & Mrs Beckett	c/o 1a Rushton Place Woolton Village	B.Y.A. Ltd Architects	10 Alina House St. Vincent

Liverpool L25 6DD	Liverpool L25 7RL	Liverpool L3 5XW United Kingdom
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Application No:	17H/0608	Case Officer/Team:	City South	27-February-2017
		Ward:	Woolton	

Proposal: To raise height of bungalow in connection with its conversion to a two storey dwelling, Erect a two storey extension at side insert roof lights in front, rear and side roof planes

Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
Rosewood	Mr & Mrs N	Rosewood	NMW Design	16 Pilch Lane
East				
Courtenay Road	Bolton	Courtenay Road		Huyton
Liverpool		Liverpool		Liverpool
L25 4RL		L25 4RL		L36 4HZ

Application No:	17A/0617	Case Officer/Team:	City South	03-March-2017
		Ward:	Woolton	

Proposal: To display 2 internally illuminated fascia signs, 1 internally illuminated projecting sign and 1 internally illuminated menu box

Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
Former HSBC Bank	Crust	Iliad Group	The Planning	78 Rodney Street
				Liverpool
1 Woolton Street & 3	(Liverpool) Ltd	Muskers Building	Studio Ltd	L1 9AR
Allerton Road		1 Stanley Street		
Liverpool		Liverpool		
L25 7RB		L1 6AA		

Application No:	17F/0616	Case Officer/Team:	City South	27-March-2017
		Ward:	Woolton	

Proposal: To use former bank as a restaurant (Use Class A3) opening between 0700 and 23.30 hours Mon-Sat, and 0800 and 2300 hours on Sundays, with associated external dining area at the rear opening between 0700 and 22.30 hours Mon-Sat, and 0800 and 2200 hours on Sundays, use part of first floor as associated storage/staff welfare, erect extraction flue to rear, remove external staircase at rear, erect decorative screen at rear, erect single storey extension at rear, paint all walls dark grey and carry out other minor external alterations

Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
Former HSBC Bank	Crust	Iliad Group	The Planning	78 Rodney Street
				Liverpool
1 Woolton Street & 3	(Liverpool) Ltd	Muskers Building	Studio Ltd	L1 9AR
Allerton Road		1 Stanley Street		
Liverpool		Liverpool		
L25 7RB		L1 6AA		

Application No:	16F/3033	Case Officer/Team:	City South	23-March-2017
		Ward:	Woolton	

Proposal: To erect single storey extension at rear in connection with amalgamation of unit with existing adjacent restaurant

Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
37 Allerton Road	Mr Q Serce	Istanbul Restaurant	Devaplan Ltd	Unit 223 Queens Dock Centre
Liverpool		39b Allerton Road		Norfolk Street
L25 7RE		Liverpool		Liverpool
		L25		L1 0BG

APP01, Approve with Conditions

Woolton News

Bus Service

The 173 bus will be replaced in July by a re-routed 174 service. This will run on a loop from Halewood Road, Out Lane, Kings Drive, Woolton Village, Church Road, Woolton Hill Road, Gateacre Brow & Grange Lane, but will no longer reach Sefton Park.

Woolton in Bloom

There is concern about the amount of vandalism in the village recently, with WIB planters overturned & plants spilled. It should be remembered that all planting is done by volunteers, with no help from council funds, & that any vandalism reflects very badly on the village, & means more work for those who have to clear up.

On **Saturday 8th July**, several gardens featured in the WIB Open Gardens event in 2016 will be open for the National Gardens Scheme (the Yellow Book). These are:

71 Manor Road, 10 Acrefield Park, 16 Layton Close, The Marie Curie Hospice.

If you missed these last year, they are well worth a visit in July and you will be supporting good causes. Nationally, the NGS raised £3.5m. in 2016 helping to support the work of MacMillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Parkinsons UK and others. This year's event in Woolton will run from 12 noon to 5pm and combined admission is £4. Please note that all proceeds will go to the Yellow Book charities, & not to WIB.

For more details see the NGS website: www.ngs.org.uk and the Woolton in Bloom website: www.wooltoninbloom.wix.com/wooltoninbloom



BBC Radio 4 Gardeners' Question Time Anniversary Garden Party

This year marks the 70th anniversary of Gardeners' Question Time, which first broadcast in 1947. On **Saturday 16th September**, 10:00am - 6:00pm, the BBC Radio 4 programme Gardeners Question Time will be holding its annual garden party at the University of Liverpool Ness Botanic Gardens on the Wirral. As always, the party will feature gardening gurus, including Bob Flowerdew, Bunny Guinness, Anne Swithinbank, James Wong, Matthew Biggs, Pippa Greenwood, Roy Lancaster, and Gardeners' Question Time chairmen Eric Robson and Peter Gibbs.

The Summer Garden Party is a unique event - including two huge recordings of the BBC's flagship gardening radio programme. This is your chance to meet the GQT team face-to-face, watch demonstrations and take part in a whole range of activities across the Garden. It promises to be a fantastic day out! The ticket price is £10.50 (no concessions). The full programme, including how to take part in the recordings will be announced on the Ness gardens website shortly.

See www.nessgardens.org.uk or www.bbc.co.uk

It may be possible, subject to demand, to run a coach party from Woolton. Again, check the WIB website for news, or ask at the monthly farmers market stall.

Ticket to Read

Woolton's free community library is open at the Simon Peter Centre on Church Road on Mondays & Wednesdays from 1.30 to 4pm.

Many new books have been bought recently, & a quick choice section has been introduced for those in a hurry. Do call in to browse the shelves at this volunteer-run library, set up when Woolton's own library closed.

There will be a summer fund raising event in St Peter's church hall at 7.30pm on **Thursday 29th June**. Tickets available from TTR priced at £9 inclusive of a buffet.

Womens Institute

The WI meets on the first Tuesday of each month at The Quarry on Allerton Road, with a busy programme of speakers, walks, craft groups, bowls & golf sessions & a quiz night.

See the website for more details: www.wooltonwi.co.uk

A new WI has been set up in Woolton very recently as there was a long waiting list to join the original group. The new WI is named *The Woolton Wanderers* & they will meet on the third Monday of the month at the Simon Peter Centre.

St Peters Anniversary: 5th to 9th July

There is a full programme of events at St Peter's in July, to celebrate the 60th anniversary of when John Lennon met Paul McCartney after the Woolton Fete.

Wednesday 5th: open 10am to 3pm. Feature: a Beatles singalong.

Thursday 6th: open 10am to 3pm. Feature: live music.

Friday 7th: open 10am to 4pm. Feature: church tours.

Saturday 8th: open 10am to 4pm. Feature: The Prellies in concert.

Sunday 9th: open 12.30pm to 4pm. A service in St Peter's.

This is a brief taste of the events of the week, when many local societies, including the WS, will be taking part. For more details, go to the website: www.beatlesatstpeters.co.uk for ongoing news.

Friends of Reynolds Park

FORP is again working to increase the numbers and diversity of wild flowers in the meadow. They will be preparing the ground on the Saturday mornings of **May 6th** and **May 13th** between 9am and 12noon, & would welcome any one who can help even if just for half an hour. Please come with a spade and gloves. **Friday May 19th** is the planting day with some 500 new plants which have been grown from seed by pupils from SFX & Bishop Martin. All assistance from volunteers would be welcomed between 10am & 4pm.



The Shakespearian play *The Taming of the Shrew* will be presented in the Walled Garden at 2pm on **July 15th and 16th**. Tickets available at the gate. Prices have yet to be confirmed.

FORP is hoping to be selected in the Tesco *Bags of Help* scheme to provide funds to renew the Children's Play Area. If Reynolds Park is listed as a chosen project please vote with your tokens for FORP.

FORP meetings are held in the coffee shop at Tesco.

The next ones will be on **Wednesday 10th May**, & **Wednesday 12th July**, both at 7pm.

Woolton Community Life

WCL is appealing for volunteer befrienders in Woolton, Gateacre & Hunts Cross to visit the lonely & isolated in these areas. If you have an hour or two to spare to be a befriender please contact WCL on 07490 572 344 for more information.

Beanstalk Literacy Charity

This is a children's literacy charity, currently appealing for volunteers to help with reading. They work with Woolton C.P. & Bishop Martin schools, & volunteers will be matched to a school & provided with training & ongoing support.

For more details contact Lorna Towner on 722 4743 or on lorna.towner@beanstalkcharity.org.uk

(above – a contemporary cartoon showing Lord Woolton's influence in WW2 Britain)