

THE WOOLTON SOCIETY

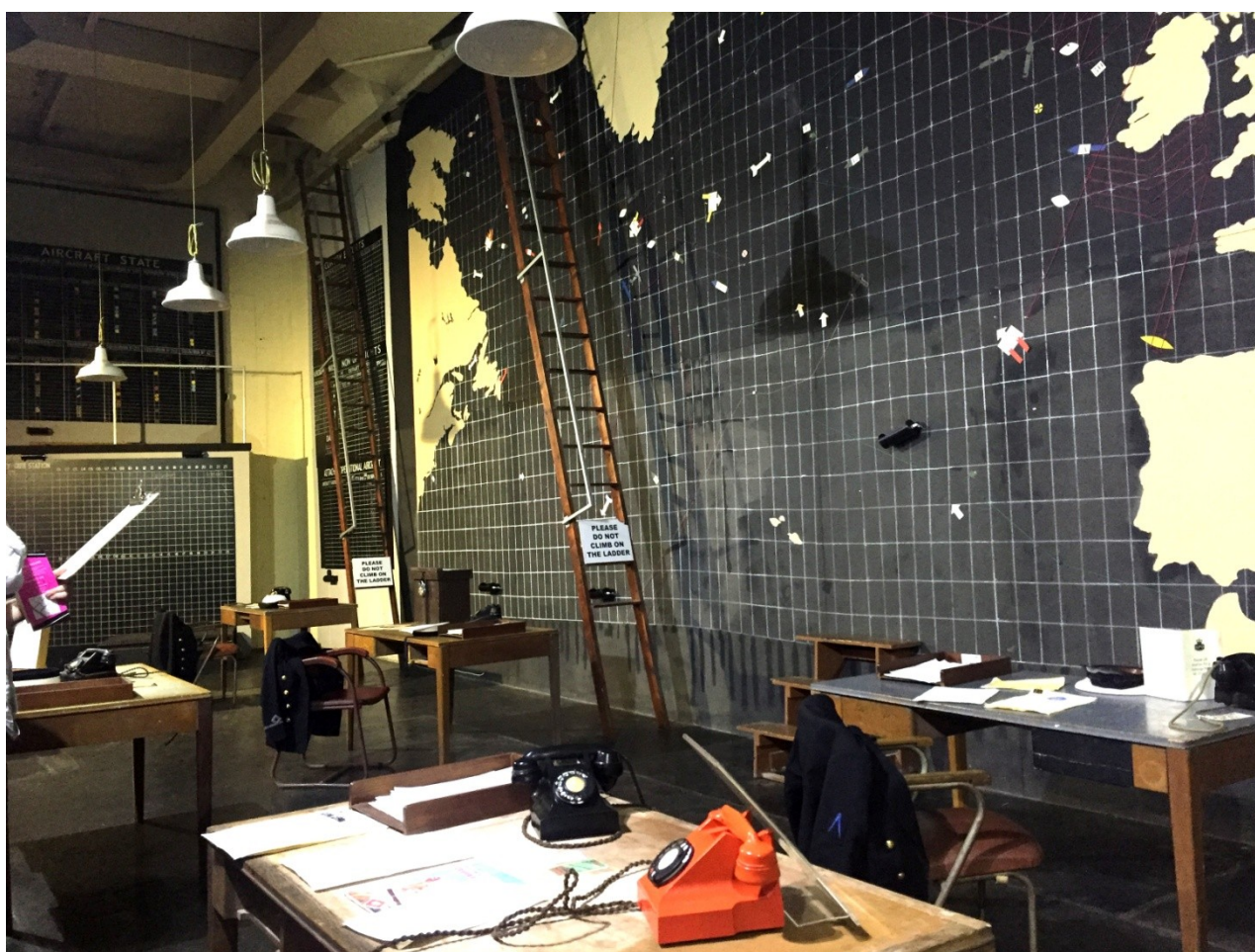
www.wooltonsociety.org.uk

ISSUE NO: 347 Summer 2018

THE WOOLTON SOCIETY - SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR OVER 45 YEARS



NEWSLETTER



Inside the main war room at Western Approaches HQ

Newsletter contents in full:

Society news: pages 2-4

Environment & planning news: pages 4-7

Woolton news: page 7-8

Society News

General Data Protection Regulation

As many members will be aware, the **General Data Protection Regulation** (GDPR) became law on 25th May this year. The GDPR is an update of data protection laws governing how organisations keep and process data on individuals. In brief, we keep our members' information electronically to facilitate the running of the society such as sending out newsletters, notices of meetings, subscription status, etc. This data is held securely and is only accessible by the officers of the society. We do not share your details with any other individuals or organisations. The Woolton Society's data protection policy can be found on our website at: <http://www.wooltonociety.org.uk/Data-Protection-Policy.pdf>

Recent talks & events

The last few months have been busy ones for the society, with many well attended events. On **18th April** Carole Codd regaled an appreciative audience with anecdotes of her time as a registrar of births marriages & deaths in Liverpool. This gave us a very entertaining evening, with Mrs Codd promising another store of recollections for a future talk.

On **8th May** the head of St Julie's school, Tim Alderman, led a guided tour of the new building, which is spacious & well designed. The chapel in particular is a beautiful place of serenity, which utilises stained glass from the chapel in the old school. Those on the tour were able to appreciate the stunning views of the neighbourhood to be seen from the top floor, including a hitherto unseen aspect of Woolton Hall. It was disheartening to see the dilapidated condition of the hall, exposed to view by the work on the new school. Thanks to Mr Alderman for taking time from his busy schedule to escort the group & answer questions.

16th May saw nine teams competing for our second annual quiz night, with three of last year's defending champions, Anne & Paul Wilkie & Donna Jackson, joined this year by Viv Hicks, scooping the challenge cup. Prizes were awarded to the winners & runners up as well as the coveted trophy. Another quiz night is planned for May or June 2019.

The talk on **20th June** was on Galkoff's & the secret life of Pembroke Place, & we were pleased to welcome many new faces who had attended to hear about the once thriving Jewish community around London Road. The talk was given by Poppy Learman & Liz Stewart from Liverpool Museum, & a visit to the site of Galkoff's & the court discovered behind it is planned for next year.

Sunday 15th July saw a members' visit to the Western Approaches Command war rooms, which was a follow up to a talk in February on the battle of the Atlantic. The group had a very informative guide in Dean, who was able to bring to life very vividly the vital work carried out in the war rooms, plotting shipping movements. The war time staff were mainly young women, usually Wrens, selected for their mathematical abilities, & all were bound to absolute secrecy about their work. One surviving Wren refuses to divulge any information about her war work at Western approaches as she feels still bound by the Official Secrets Act. The Royal Navy, Air Force and Marines worked together in the bunker to monitor convoys and "wolf packs" of submarines, which threatened to destroy Britain in the earliest stages of the war. Only after the war did Winston Churchill confess that it was the Atlantic that concerned him the most: *"The only thing that really frightened me during the war was the U-boat peril."*

The entry tickets enable the user to have a free return visit to the war rooms & every member of our tour intends to return to this fascinating centre. If you have not been since it re-opened, it is well worth a visit. See <http://www.liverpoolwarmuseum.co.uk/> for further details. Photographs of the visit are on the front & back pages of this issue.

An important announcement about the venue for future talks

Woolton Society talks are always popular & well attended & recently the audience size has been such that members have been advised to arrive early to ensure a seat. The society has asked for the use of the large room at the village club, but this has not been possible as it has been needed for screening football games or in use for functions. At the talks on Woolton's pubs in March, & the secret history of Galkoff's in June the room was seriously overcrowded, with chairs borrowed from the large room, & still many people having to stand.

The committee has now taken the decision to change our venue from the village club to St Mary's hall on Church Road. This will take effect from this Autumn, with the talk on Strawberry Field being held in St Mary's on Wednesday 19th September, & the AGM held there on Wednesday 21st November. The talk in October was already planned for St Mary's, on the afternoon of Thursday 18th.

The move has many advantages: St Mary's has its own adjacent car park, there is level access to the hall with no steps, there are disabled toilet facilities, & there are bus stops nearby on Church Road. We have the use of the kitchen, so refreshments could be available. Crucially, it is a much larger room, & audiences will not have to contend with the parking situation in the village centre.

This change will be advertised on all posters & notices. **Although the venue has been changed, all times & dates will remain the same.** The programme for 2019 will be published in issue 348 or 349 of the newsletter, with all talks booked at St Mary's.

The management at the village club have been thanked for supporting the Woolton Society for many years, & we are very appreciative of their efforts, & their generosity in allowing the use of the room.

Dates for your diary, September to November

Wednesday 19th September, 7.30pm at St Mary's Hall. Major Graham Longmore of the Salvation Army: The Strawberry Field Project. This project began with the demolition of the former children's home in January, & work has begun at the site to create a visitor centre & refreshment room with parking spaces available. It is hoped that the new centre will be open in the Summer of 2019.

Thursday 18th October, 3pm at St Mary's Hall. Dr Janet Hollinshead & Paul Wilkie: Woolton Convalescent Home. Now known as Woolton Manor, this striking building has a long & unusual history, & was used for many years as a nurse training school. Pamphlet number 5 on the history of the convalescent home will be available at the talk.

Wednesday 21st November, 7.30pm at St Mary's Hall. 46th Annual General Meeting. Refreshments will be available at an informal gathering after the official business has been concluded.

Fuller details of all events will be in newsletter 348, on the noticeboard beside the new Crust restaurant, on the website: www.wooltonsociety.org.uk & e-mail reminders sent to members. Issue 348 will be out in September or October; issue 349 will be available in early 201

Woolton Society publications

The society has published two books & four pamphlets, with more in production. The History of much Woolton, priced at £3, is the definitive work on the history of the village, written in 1975 by Janet Gnosspelius & John Lally, & reprinted in 2012. Woolton Stone & Liverpool cathedral was published in 2016, edited by Dr Janet Hollinshead & priced at £5.

Pamphlets 1, 2, & 3 on Woolton Hall, Lord Woolton, & Hillfoot House were written by Dr Hollinshead. Pamphlet 4 is a walk through Woolton, written by Jean Davies & illustrated by Charles Davies.

Works in progress are on Woolton Convalescent Home, to be published in October at the time of the talk on the same subject, & written by Dr Hollinshead & Paul Wilkie. A walk through Woolton part two will be available later in the year.

All pamphlets are priced at £1.

The books & pamphlets are on sale at all talks, as well as the regular farmers' markets in the village. Also on sale are aprons at £12 & tea towels at £4, together with signed copies of the book *The Old Inns, Taverns & Beer Houses of Woolton* written by society member Stuart Rimmer & priced at £13.99.

Environment, Planning News & Applications

Land adjacent to Woolton Manor

A twelve acre plot of land bounded by Camp Hill, Hillfoot Road, Woolton Manor & High Street has been owned by Rushton Properties for over twenty years. The owner has had several plans for it in this time, including a garden centre & a retirement care complex, all of which have come to nothing. Meanwhile the plot of land is becoming very overgrown, although the owner has employed a contractor to clear the scrub. There are many mature trees on the site, which is covered by a tree preservation order.

Rushton Properties' current plan is for a low density development of around a dozen houses on the site, built to a very high specification. The society understands that there is yet to be a formal planning application but we are concerned that this land is part of the Green Wedge and there are many fine, mature trees facing Hillfoot Road and High Street which add to the amenity of this area. In addition, there are concerns on the impact of any development on the setting of the adjacent grade 2 listed Woolton Manor. The society and the Woolton Village Residents' Association have been approached by the owner, & have expressed their concerns. We will keep members informed of further news concerning this high profile site.

Rushton Properties intend to hold a public consultation where the plans will be laid out for comment. Members will be notified of the time & place of this meeting so that their views can be made known.

Premises formerly used by Lloyds Chemist

A very recent planning application from Tuk Tuk Thai Street Food has been put in to convert the premises on Speke Road into a 32 seater Thai restaurant, with opening hours from 9 am to 11 pm. The current tenant of the flat over the premises has been resident there for 32 years, & has had the use of the garden. Her front door would be moved under the proposed plan, & a ventilation unit placed close to her window. The tenant has consulted the Woolton Society, which would oppose the application, & is currently seeking legal advice as to her tenancy agreement.

Public Inquiry into the right of way issue

As detailed in previous newsletters the public inquiry into the disputed right of way was adjourned in April & will be resumed on **Tuesday 14th August**, 10am at Woolton Golf Club on Speke Road. The adjournment is to give the Byron Court Management Company more time to locate the head lease. This is a crucial document which BCMC will need to prove their ownership of the land in question. The council's case, supported by the Woolton & Gateacre societies, is that BCMC are not the owners of the land & so had no authority to build the wall which blocks the footpath through the Glenacres development. If the inspector finds in favour of the city council then the wall will have to be demolished & the council will apply to have the footpath formally recognised as a public right of way.

Resurfacing of Church Road

Work began on Church Road in June & will continue until August. Sections of the road have been closed to facilitate the works, which are being carried out to a high standard including dropped kerbs, relocation of surface water drains, etc. Residents report that the workers have been cheerful & conscientious despite the heat, & that the peace & quiet in the evenings, with the road closed to traffic, has been wonderful. The Meer Stones at the corner of Church & Reservoir roads have been carefully worked around, & look fit to last for another few hundred years. The Meer Stones are Grade 2 listed, & date back to 1658 when the boundaries of Much Woolton & Little Woolton were first established.

Recent planning applications 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://liverpool.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/>

Application No: 18H/0428 **Case Officer/Team:** City South 09-February-2018

Proposal: To install 2no. new windows to front elevation

Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
42 Castle Street	Ms Mary	42 Castle Street		
Liverpool	Gibson	Liverpool		
L25 7SW		L25 7SW		

APP01, Approve with Conditions

Application No: 18F/0987 **Case Officer/Team:** City South 20-April-2018

Proposal: To install canvas blinds/awnings to front of existing bar/restaurant.

Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
49A Allerton Road	Loft Bar and Elif	49A Allerton Road	Bill Wadkin	10 Woodley
Road				
Liverpool	Bistro.	Liverpool	Consultancy	Maghull
L25 7RE		L25 7RE		Liverpool
				L31 5LD

Application No: 18F/1143 **Case Officer/Team:** City South 01-May-2018

Proposal: To install new shopfront

Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
45 Allerton Road	Catherine	45 Allerton Road	Awake	Awake
Architects Ltd				
Woolton	Higgins Law	Woolton	Architects Ltd.	44 Garston Old
Liverpool		Liverpool		Road
L25 7RE		L25 7RE		Grassendale
				Liverpool
				L19 9AF
				United Kingdom

APP01, Approve with Conditions

Application No: 17F/1864 **Case Officer/Team:** City South 20-April-2018

Proposal: To continue to use ground floor premises as a hot food takeaway (use class A5), relocate external extraction flue and vary opening hours to 11:00-23:00 Monday to Saturday and 11:00-22:30 hours on Sundays.

Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
47 Allerton Road	Mr Shafiqui	10 Swansea Close	ABA	11 Hazelmere
Liverpool	Hoque	Liverpool		House
L25 7RE		L19 2HF		Mossley Hill
Drive				
				Liverpool
				L17 0EU

APP01, Approve with Conditions

Application No: 18F/0810 **Case Officer/Team:** City South 20-April-2018

Proposal: To install 2no retractable awnings to front, new canopy over existing entrance and erect glazed planter screen in connection with creation of outdoor seating area to front proposed to be open between 1200 and 2300 hours Sunday-Thursday and 1200-0000 hours on Fridays and Saturdays. To erect single storey extension to rear and erect bin store to rear.

Location:	Applicant:	Agent (if any):	Agent Address
Loft	Loft Bar and Elif	DV8 Designs	Lovell House The
49A Allerton Road	Bistro	Ltd	Quadrant
Woolton			Birchwood Park
Liverpool			Warrington
L25 7RE			WA3 6FW
			United Kingdom

Application No: 18F/1203 **Case Officer/Team:** City South 25-April-2018
Proposal: To install new glazed entrance doors with glazed canopies to front and side, erect single storey extension to side, erect 1.5m weldmesh fence to High Street boundary and new paved area to Church Road South frontage

Location:	Applicant:	Agent (if any):	Agent Address
St James Methodist	Mr Steve	St James Methodist Church	Owen Ellis
Church Hall	Skyner	Hall	Architects
Church Road South		Church Road South	Honeycomb
Liverpool		Woolton	Edmund Street
L25 7RJ		Liverpool	Liverpool
		L25 7RJ	L3 9NG

Application No: 18H/1472 **Case Officer/Team:** City South 25-May-2018
Proposal: To carry out internal and external alterations to existing property including the erection of first and second floor extensions.

Location:	Applicant:	Agent (if any):	Agent Address
172 Quarry Street	Ms Clare	172 Quarry Street	43 Penny Lane
Liverpool	Robinson	Liverpool	Liverpool
L25 6DZ		L25 6DZ	L18 1DE

Application No: 18F/1422 **Case Officer/Team:** City South 06-June-2018
Proposal: To vary condition 2 attached to 16F/1724

Location:	Applicant:	Agent (if any):	Agent Address
Woolton Library	Rockmount Ltd	55 Vale Road	13 Seymour
Terrace			
Allerton Road		Liverpool	Seymour Street
Liverpool		Merseyside	Liverpool
L25 7RQ		L25 7RN	L3 5PE

Application No: 18L/1424 **Case Officer/Team:** City South 06June-2018
Proposal: To vary condition 2 attached to 16L/1725

Location:	Applicant:	Agent (if any):	Agent Address
Woolton Library	Rockmount Ltd	55 Vale Road	13 Seymour
Terrace			
Allerton Road		Liverpool	Seymour Street
Liverpool		Merseyside	Liverpool
L25 7RQ		L25 7RN	L3 5PE

Application No: 18TU/1497 **Case Officer/Team:** City South 07-June-2018
Proposal: Removal of Beech as works exempt under Reg. 14(1) (c) of The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012

Location:	Applicant:	Agent (if any):	Agent Address
Woolton Manor	Mr Chudary	Woolton Manor Nurses	
Nurses Home		Home	
High Street		High Street	
Liverpool		Liverpool	

Application No:	18H/0808	Case Officer/Team:	City South	05-April-2018
Proposal:	To install new and replacement windows to side and rear and new door			
Location:	Applicant:		Agent (if any):	Agent Address
102 Allerton Road	Claire Rainford	102 Allerton Road	MgMaStudio	Oriel Chambers
Liverpool		Liverpool	Ltd.	Suite 37
L25 7RQ		L25 7RQ		14 Water Street
				Liverpool
				L2 8TD

APP01, Approve with Conditions

Woolton News

Ticket to Read

The community library has now closed. This was a brave experiment which lasted for over five years, entirely run & staffed by volunteers with no help whatsoever from the city council. The last few days were very emotional with readers coming in to say goodbye, & to thank the helpers. Special thanks must go to Ron & June Travis who bore the brunt of the administration & work load. The books & fittings have now been dispersed, with many volumes going to Gateacre School's Big Little Library in Belle Vale shopping centre. Many children's books have been sent to Malawi via the Zikomo Trust which has links with St Peter's, & which has a great need for good quality English language books for use in their schools. Books have also gone to residents of the retirement complex at Reynolds Court, & to the Marie Curie hospice.

No book has been wasted, & all the volunteers agreed that the time spent at the library was worthwhile as it brought readers together. The reading group Tea & Tales set up at the library will continue.

Woolton in Bloom

The Woolton Open Gardens event was held on Sunday 8th July, & was very successful with hundreds of visitors & over £3000 raised for WiB funds. All the money raised will be used to buy plants, compost, etc. for the various plantings in the village. Two new gardens were open this time, on Quarry Street & Speke Road, along with five gardens which had been open previously, together with the walled garden at Reynolds Park & Bishops Lodge. Woolton looked its best, basking in sunshine, & many visitors made full use of the refreshments provided by the Women's Institute at Bishops Lodge. Entertainment at the lodge was provided by the Halewood community choir & the dance group Growing Older Disgracefully. The very popular WiB calendar will have the open gardens as its theme for 2019, & will be available later this year.

The next open gardens event will be in 2020, in the meantime a gardeners' question time event has been suggested for the Summer of 2019.

Planting in the village will continue with volunteers always needed. Anyone wishing to get involved with planting, weeding etc. should ask at the WiB stall at the Woolton farmers' market on the second Saturday of each month.

Friends of Reynolds Park

The Friends took part in the recent Woolton in Bloom open gardens event, with volunteers in the walled garden available to talk to visitors. Although Reynolds Park is a well-known local gem, it is surprising how many visitors to Woolton have never heard of it or seen the wonders of the walled garden. The wildflower meadow has been looking very splendid this year, although the heatwave has caused the flowers to fade prematurely. After many years there is a significant amount of yellow rattle established in the meadow. This is a semi-parasite of grass which will enable more wild flowers to flourish. Thanks to a grant from the local councillors, FORP will be able to install an additional feature in the play area very soon. As part of heritage weekend **Saturday 15th September** will be

marked as Reynolds Day. Visitors to the park will be invited to take part in a litter pick, & heritage trails will be available. There will also be opportunities for visitors to buy more English wild daffodil bulbs for FORP to add to the meadow. FORP meetings are held in the Woolton Tesco Coffee Shop, the next being on **Wednesday 12th September** and **Wednesday 14th November**, both at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

FORP can now be found online at:

www.friendsofreynoldspark.co.uk
www.twitter.com/reynoldsparkfrs

www.facebook.com/friendsofreynoldspark
www.instagram.com/reynoldsparkfrs

High Rise newsletter

The Woolton Society has been sent a copy of the High Rise newsletter which is aimed at the residents of the flats & neighbourhood around Vale Road. This is a very informative publication, with articles on the history of the high rise flats, the suffragettes, public transport in Woolton, local wildlife, news & a book review. All this is produced by Ron Brown who will send an e-mail copy on request; contact: sockratees3@yahoo.com

New businesses in the village

Although several businesses have been lost recently, some new ones are springing up in their place. The former flower shop at 42 Allerton Road has been transformed into a Scandinavian themed artisan coffee & gift shop **One percent forest**. The owners Hannah & Dean report brisk business for their tempting array of goods, & revealed that they are Woolton Society members. All other members are therefore urged to go along as soon as possible to support them. The premises at the corner of Allerton Road & Quarry Street, the former offices of Oakley Financial Services, are to be the new home of **Terry Tang designer cake shop**. This is relocating from Picton Road in Wavertree, & will be a much needed point of interest at the far end of the village. The opening date is to be 1st August. The HSBC building has now become **Crust**, a pizza & pasta restaurant, which already seems to be a very popular venue. The back yard beside the pedestrian crossing is now an attractive outside seating area, a great improvement on the dilapidated concrete wasteland used by the bank.

Old communications technology in the Royal Navy control room at Western Approaches HQ



Ask your children/grandchildren if they know what these are!