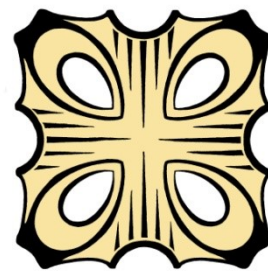


# THE WOOLTON SOCIETY

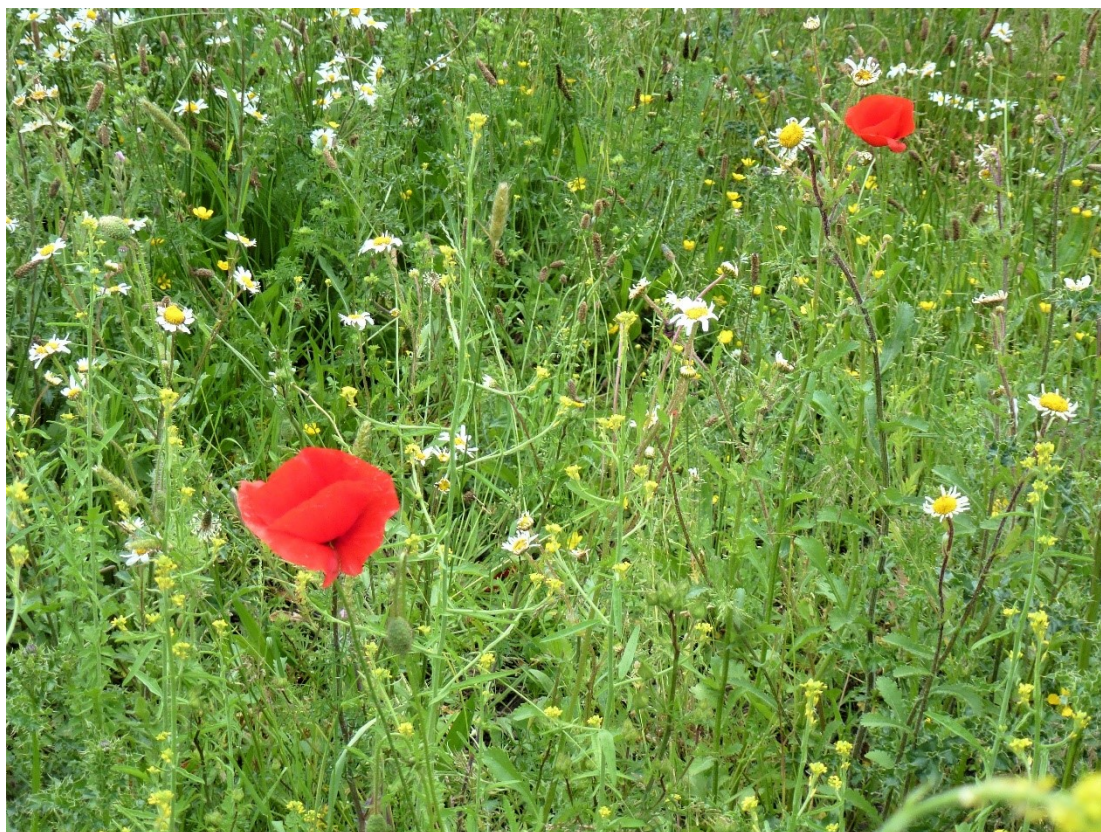
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**ISSUE NO 355 June/July 2020**

THE WOOLTON SOCIETY - SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR NEARLY 48 YEARS



## NEWSLETTER



*Wildflower meadow, Reynolds Park*

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# Society News

## Gordon Nickson

We were saddened to hear of the death of Gordon Nickson, aged 90, in April. Gordon had been manager of Barclay's Bank in the village, & a very efficient treasurer of the Woolton Society in the 1980s & 1990s. He retired to the Wirral, but always remained a keen member of the society. He was a hard working member of the committee, a friend to many, & will be sadly missed.

## The Woolton Society's programme of events for 2020

Like the rest of the world the Woolton Society is in limbo at the moment, with the programme of talks & events suspended for the foreseeable future. So far members have missed the talk planned for March on the historic Duke Street area of the city, as well as April's talk on the history of the red telephone box. The much anticipated talk in May was planned to be on the Dam Busters raid of 1943, while June should have seen the annual quiz night contest. A day out had been planned for July.

It is hoped that the programme will be resumed at some point, & that the talks which have been cancelled will be rescheduled in the programme for 2021. The parish secretary at St Mary's will contact the society as soon as the archdiocese gives permission to reopen the hall, which in turn is dependent on government safety guidelines. It is fortunate that St Mary's hall is a good size, & that we now have access to the built in speaker system. This links with the Loop system for those with hearing aids, & will ensure that everyone in the hall will hear the speaker even if the seating is widely spaced.

The Autumn programme is printed here optimistically, so that it can be pencilled in members' calendars. Confirmation or cancellation will be by email & on the notice board in the village.

## Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September: Chris Tigwell: The Rainhill Trials

The Rainhill Trials were held in 1829 to test locomotive power for the Liverpool to Manchester railway which was then under construction. Five locomotives were entered, but Stephenson's Rocket was the only one to complete the trials & so was declared the winner. This was a pivotal moment in the history of transport.

Mr Tigwell appeared recently on the BBC2 programme Monkman & Seagull's Genius Adventure, explaining the importance of the trials to the intrepid duo from University Challenge.

This talk will begin at 7.30pm.

## Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October: Stephen Guy: Forgotten Liverpool, aristocracy & merchants.

The West Derby Society's Stephen Guy, a well-known local historian, will be speaking on the people who made Liverpool the second city of Empire in the nineteenth century.

This is an afternoon talk, starting at 3pm. Under normal circumstances complimentary refreshments would be provided, but it is unlikely that we shall be able provide the service on this occasion.

## Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November: the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Woolton Society.

It is hoped that as many members as possible will be able to attend. The agenda & minutes of the 47<sup>th</sup> AGM will be in issue 356 of the newsletter, out in September or October.

**No talks will be held in December 2020 or January 2021.  
Details of the programme for 2021 will be in newsletter 357.**

## Award from the Woolton Educational & Recreational Charity

In February the society applied to the Woolton Educational & Recreational Charity for a grant. The WERC is a trust set up to award funds to local organisations to help them in their work. In 2012 the society was awarded funds to allow the reprinting of the *History of Much Woolton*, & in 2016 an award enabled the production of *Woolton Stone & Liverpool Cathedral*. The awards are for specific

endeavours, so the society applied for help in continuing the plaques project begun last year. In April we were notified that an award of £484.80 has been granted, & this has now been received. The society is very appreciative of the help from the WERC, which will allow us to install several more plaques.

### **Plaques Project**

The society began the project to place commemorative plaques on places of interest in 2019, & three have been installed since then. The first was on 38 Linkstor Road, where Edgar Menzies, a pioneer of the police two-way radio system lived & broadcast. The second & third plaques are on listed buildings, the former library on Allerton Road & the Mechanics' Institute on St Mary's Street. Reports on the project can be found in newsletters 351, 352 & 353.

It is hoped that a plaque to Dr Carl Warner will be the next to be commissioned, to be placed on Woolton House Medical Centre where he lived & worked for many years. Dr Warner was a revered family doctor, who set up practice in Woolton before the war, doing his rounds in a pony & trap. Although a Quaker & a pacifist he enlisted in the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1939, & was awarded the Military Cross in 1942 for treating wounded soldiers under fire at the battle of El Alamein. He returned to Woolton after the war, & continued his practice at Woolton House, until his retirement in the 1980s. He was a founder member of the Woolton Society, chairman from 1986 until 1990 & later the first president. He died in 2002, aged 92.

A plaque is also planned for the former convent in Woolton Street, but as this & Woolton House are listed buildings this may well take some time. Committee member Dr Janet Hollinshead has written a pamphlet on the nuns of Woolton, which will be available after the lockdown.

### **News from the website**

During lockdown many members, local residents & those from further afield have contacted the society's website to make enquiries about local history & environmental matters.

Former Hunts Cross resident Stephen Yorke contacted the website with memories of the Woolton Show, & of growing up near Camp Hill in the 1950s. He left for university in 1965, & would be pleased to hear of any memories or photographs of the show, held annually at Camp Hill until the 1990s.

Carolyn Satterthwaite lived in Hillside, a grand house sited between Acrefield Road & Out Lane with her grandparents in the 1960s. Hillside was demolished in the 60s, & Carolyn is searching for photographs of it.

Former proprietor of Brown's newsagent, Tommy Tewkesbury has been looking through his copies of the Woolton Fete programme. The fete was held in Reynolds Park for many years, organised by Councillor Tony McVeigh, a striking figure who dressed in top hat & tails. Tommy is missing programmes from 1981, 1983, 1988, 1989, 1990 & 1995, & would like to hear from anyone who could help to complete his collection.

Also interested in the fete is local resident Ron Brown, who writes the High Rise newsletter for residents of the Vale Road tower blocks. Ron is researching the history of Bear Brand, the nylon stockings factory which once occupied the site of Tesco's supermarket. He would very much like to see copies of Top Hat, which was the in-house magazine of Bear Brand, as well as Woolton Fete programmes. Ron is missing the programmes from 1981, 1983, 1989, 1990 & 1995.

All of the above can be reached via the Woolton Society website. Any messages, memories or photographs will be forwarded to the enquirers.

## ***Environment, Planning News & Applications***

### ***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. The progress of each application can be checked online using the Planning Explorer at:***

The bulk of recent planning applications in the Woolton L25 area have been for domestic tree works & single storey extensions. Others of interest are:

**20H/0797 at 114 Kings Drive**

Application to erect a two storey extension to the side, with a single storey extension to the side & rear.

**20F/0771 at the Aldi food store on Gateacre Park Drive**

Application to install a new refrigeration plant to the rear of the property.

**20F/0995 17 Woolton Street (The former Lloyd's pharmacy)**

Application to retain replacement shop front.

**20H/0300 at 5 Aldbourne Close**

Application to erect a two storey extension at side, single storey extension to rear & dormer extension to rear.

**20H/1207 at Tree Tops, Glenrose Road**

Application to carry out alterations to link house & granny flat, install a platform with lift & ramp.

**20H/1250 at 1 Mount Park**

Application to erect a two storey extension to side & rear, with a porch to the front.

Woolton Golf Club has recently undertaken some repairs to the sandstone perimeter wall on School Lane. The repairs, which use a metal railing along the top of the wall do not appear to meet conservation standards, or indeed match the remainder of the perimeter wall as it borders Speke Road. The golf club does not lie within the conservation area, & so the officials did not need to apply for permission to carry out the repairs. It is unfortunate that so little thought has been put into the appearance of the wall, especially as so much of it is in view as traffic enters & leaves the village.

## *Woolton News*

**Woolton in Bloom**

The open gardens event planned for July 12<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled, but will be held in 2021, it is hoped. Summer planting is being carried out, with volunteer gardeners clearing the planters throughout the village to make way for the new blooms. The watering will again be undertaken by Home Bargains. See the Woolton in Bloom website for the latest news & pictures:

[www.wooltoninbloom.wix.com/wooltoninbloom](http://www.wooltoninbloom.wix.com/wooltoninbloom)

**Friends of Reynolds Park**

Sadly, the walled garden in the park has been closed, as social distancing is not possible with the narrow paths. The gardeners have been diverted to other council departments in order to maintain essential services, & so only grass mowing & tree work is continuing in the parks.

FORP hopes to have its next meeting on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September**, venue to be confirmed, please see the notice board. Reynolds Day is planned for **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September**, which will be a very special anniversary marking 90 years since Sir James Reynolds covenanted the land to the people of Liverpool. Again, please see the park notice board for details of the event nearer to the date.