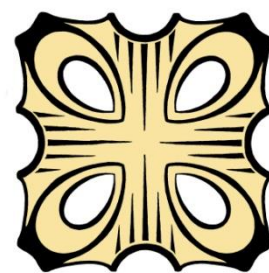


THE WOOLTON SOCIETY

www.wooltonociety.org.uk
Instagram: @thewooltonociety

ISSUE NO 372 Autumn 2024

THE WOOLTON SOCIETY: SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR OVER 50 YEARS



NEWSLETTER

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the fifty first Annual General Meeting of the Woolton Society will be held on Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7.30pm at St Mary's parish hall on Church Road, Woolton Village, L25 5JF

Agenda

1. Notice convening the meeting
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the 50th AGM held on 15th November 2023
4. Chairman's remarks
5. Treasurer's report
6. Secretary's report
7. Environment secretary's report
8. Membership secretary's report
9. Election of officers
10. Election of the executive committee.
11. Any other business.

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Minutes of the 50th Annual General Meeting of the Woolton Society held at St Mary's Church Hall, Woolton on Wednesday 15th November 2023 at 7.30 pm.

Attendance:

Committee members: Jean Davies in the chair, Paul Wilkie (vice chairman/hon. secretary), Charles Davies (hon. treasurer), Jean Bates, Bob Collins, Jeni French, Janet Hudson, Janet Hollinshead, Rob Kirby.

Members: Anne Brayford, Janet Collins, Mike Cullen, Diane Graney, , David Graney, Steve Cropper, Cath Cropper, Val Farmer, Mike Farmer, Christine Vane, Sandy McMillan, Ann McMillan, Jeanette Kirby, Maureen Smith, Paul Smith, Gwen McGowan, Stephen Ralph, Gary McIntosh, Alec Wakley.

The chairman welcomed all present and referred them to the meeting documents published in advance in the society's newsletter no. 364, together with the statement of accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 distributed at the meeting.

1. Notice convening the meeting. This was read by the chairman.

2. Apologies for absence. Apologies were noted from Anne Wilkie, Marie Passey, Wendy Flynn, Colette Harris, Linda West, Colin West, Linda Parsons, Henry Stott, Monica Lowe, Barbara Doherty, Tom Doherty, Ian Brown, Jenny Brown, Sheila & John Laverick, Pamela & Carl Baker, Roger Owen, Viv & Alan Hicks, Beryl Pinnington, Bill Heyes, Malcolm Kelly, Roger Owen, Jim Calloway, Kathleen & Alan Atchinson, Sue Warn

3. Minutes of the 49th Annual General Meeting held on 16th November 2022 and distributed in advance to all members were proposed as read by Jean Davies and accepted as a true record, on a show of hands.

4. Chairman's Remarks.

The chairman remarked on some of the areas the society had been involved in, and thanked members of the committee for their efforts, with special thanks to treasurer, sec/deputy chairman, membership & environment secs who all keep the show on the road. She also welcomed Jenni French as newest recruit in charge of social media.

She invited other officers of the committee to give a report for their areas of responsibility.

i) The hon treasurer Charles Davies presented the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2023 and commented on some items. The accounts were accepted on a show of hands.

ii) The hon. secretary, Paul Wilkie reported that the executive committee met 5 times during the year, no additional members were co-opted, and there was one resignation, Alan Grant. In the same period there have been 4 issues of the society's newsletter, ably edited by our chairman Jean Davies. Thanks are due to all involved in production and distribution of the newsletter. The society has continued to take a stall on Woolton market which provides a valuable mechanism for communicating with members as well a medium for sales of society publications and merchandise to raise funds and spread knowledge of the area.

(iii) The environment secretary, Janet Hudson, gave the following report

Over the course of the year The Woolton Society's committee has been considering how to spend some of the money in the savings account to benefit members and improve the environment of Woolton.

You will recall that we have been putting plaques on a variety of interesting buildings around the village and recently our eighth plaque was installed in Woolton Street on the former convent. Janet Hollinshead gave an interesting talk about this property last month and about the Benedictine nuns who lived there for a few years from 1795 and has written a pamphlet about it, which is actually being reprinted as it was so popular. We have plans for more plaques in the future.

The society has donated 1000 daffodils bulbs to enhance the village. We have liaised with Woolton in Bloom and they suggested a specific variety to suit the area. These daffodils were delivered to Kerry Peacock in September and

have now been planted on the dual carriageway of High Street. Thanks go to Woolton in Bloom who kindly agreed to plant them for us.

The committee felt that St Mary's Hall would benefit from new blinds. These were installed in June and we have received a message of thanks from Father Tim at St Mary's. Many groups hire this hall so the blinds will be a benefit to other local groups who may use them too.

The Woolton Society is making a contribution towards the mini-Christmas trees, which decorate our village during the festive season which will either be seen on the old Barclays site or next door on Lake House.

The Hardware Cafe was converted into a nail bar earlier this year, the unit started off being painted a bright, pink colour, which is not an appropriate colour for a conservation area. It has now been changed to a much more suitable colour. The house next to the Vets Surgery on Quarry Street also had a striking pink front door, which has also been repainted to a much more appropriate colour for a conservation area.

Strawberry Fields was granted planning permission to construct a bandstand, which apparently is one of the most technologically advanced bandstands in the world. The design is based on the drum featured on The Beatles' iconic album cover, Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. This structure can be used for a variety of activities. Planning permission was also granted to construct a 16 ft tall statue in these grounds, named the Ukrainian Peace Monument. This will be a temporary feature in Liverpool as it will move to the Ukraine as a permanent monument when it is safe to do so. The grounds in Strawberry Fields are becoming established now, with story boards making this a lovely facility, which is now popular with locals and visitors alike.

You may not be aware that the ward of Woolton is now divided into two wards, that of Woolton Village and Much Woolton and Hunts Cross. Cllr Kris Brown is no longer as involved as he was in Woolton matters as he is now the councillor for the ward of Gateacre. Mirna Juarez and Dave Aizlewood are the councillors for the Much Woolton and Hunts Cross ward. Malcolm Kelly continues to be the councillor for Woolton Village. He wanted to attend the AGM to give updates but unfortunately was called to another meeting, instead providing a written set of notes shortly before the meeting, his comments are included in italics.

Woolton Hall is a Grade 1 listed building which was the reason why The Woolton Society came into existence over fifty years ago to prevent the demolition of this building. The Woolton Society has fared much better during those years than Woolton Hall, which sadly continues to deteriorate. Over these many years this society's actions have involved writing and speaking to local councillors about our concerns, to Liverpool City Council officers, contacting Historic England, Save Britain's Heritage and writing to the owners. The owners have never replied. Councillor Kelly commented

Woolton Hall now sits in the newly formed Much Woolton & Hunts Cross Ward and the councillors for that area are Mirna Juarez and Dave Aizlewood, however as I have dealt with it for some time and been involved with meetings with the council and owners I am happy to continue working on this given that Woolton Village Ward is on the boundary. I had not had any update from the council regarding Woolton Hall since March of this year. I was previously aware of discussions that the owners were having with the council regarding a proposed planning application and at the time I asked Peter Hoey (principal planning officer) for an update on this.

Peter advised me that he had approached the architects acting for the owners to see what had happened to the planning proposals. The architects said that they had delivered their revised plans to the owners but understood there had been a bereavement in one of the owner's families, which delayed matters.

Peter subsequently wrote to Jim Murray (joint owner) who advised that the architects were arranging third-party surveys that were necessary for submission with the planning application. Mr. Murray also advised that Woolton Hall Ltd had been liaising with the architects on final tweaks to the plans to enable layouts of apartments I believe. I have asked Planning for an update on this to see if the application has progressed further.

I had the opportunity of meeting with the owners, the police and English Heritage alongside Peter Hoey earlier in the year and was able to raise my concerns with Mr. Murray about the building and the grounds. I have to say that there were a lot of excuses coming from him

and I was quite concerned about that with him. His architect who was also present could probably see my frustration and I had an opportunity to take him to one side and reiterate my concerns and those of the local community. I understand that a further meeting was held between the owners and Peter Hoey in May.

I e-mailed Peter for an update following your e-mail and he has replied just today. Peter has advised that the visit in May was well attended by the police and fire brigade who brought multiple colleagues with them, which he said was understandable considering the emergency services are required to attend a dangerous site in poor visibility, and they found the visit very useful. Peter also took a building control officer with him because of the concern about the risk to trespassers and emergency services, due to unstable ground and falls. Unfortunately, the building control officers did not feel they could lawfully intervene, although advice was provided and it has been made clear that Woolton Hall would be liable for any accidents that occur.

Since my email to Peter last week, he has received a response from Mr. Murray explaining that he has been unwell and while he is recovering, he is working part-time and has a backlog to clear, he has however agreed to meet again with him.

In the absence of an initial response from Mr. Murray, Peter had approached their architect directly, this is because he had still not received planning proposals for the site as previously promised. The architects informed him that their clients were unsettled by a pre-application inquiry for an adjacent site, but Peter is a little surprised how the owners of Woolton Hall would be aware of this because any pre-application enquiries are confidential. In any case Mr. Murray has offered to meet with Peter who is expecting this to happen early in December when Peter will be looking to get a timeline for submission of their planning application. I will of course follow this up with Peter.”

The Hall has been vacant since about 2003. I spoke to the company selling the Hall, Orme Associates, last week and was told that an evaluation was made recently on both the Hall for around £2,500,000, and Woolton Manor possible value around £4,000,000. A couple of years ago the Hall was on the market for 4 million and Woolton Manor the old nursing home for 6 million! The estate agent had no idea why he has been asked to do this. To quote the person I spoke to he thinks “the owners have sort of drifted off” and so these properties are no longer listed on their website! He says there is roughly 50,000 square metres of space in both properties but Woolton Manor would be a better building to develop, as it is not grade one listed and has over sixty rooms within the building. The ten flats proposed for Woolton Hall over fifteen years ago expired a long time ago, so again making it even less desirable a building to develop. There continues to be vandalism and arson in the grounds and within the Woolton Hall itself. This is sometimes mentioned on social media sites. There was a serious break-in on 13th Feb 2023 and a fire on 15th Feb 2023 requiring three fire engines to put out a fire which was burning in outhouses in front of the hall. Interesting that the fire occurred two days after the break in!! I have written throughout this last year to various council officers in planning, enforcement, heritage etc. with no success until recently about the continued deterioration of this building.

I have spoken at length about Woolton Hall with Cllr Kelly. He has included me into another set of emails to a variety of people, none of whom I know but one was to the Merseyside Police. Malcom reminded the principal planning officer of the email he had sent to the owners in Oct 2022 which included; “I must draw your attention to the Occupiers Liability Act 1984, which imposes a duty on occupiers to take reasonable care for the safety of trespassers in respect of any risk of their suffering injury by reason of any danger due to the state of the premises or to things done or omitted to be done on them.”

Cllr Kelly raised this because it maybe something that the police or fire & rescue service solicitors may be able to pursue with regard to the safety of their personnel, given that they are having to go onto this site?

Another ongoing issue is Knolle Park, a grade two listed manor house built in 1828, which later became St Gabriel's Convent and Knolle Park Children's Home. Knolle Park suffered a massive fire which seriously damaged the building on Oct 2022. It now looks in a very sorry state, with no roof on it in many places, as seen in the photos which were taken by drones flying over the site after the fire had been extinguished. I have written to the Cllrs Brown and Kelly asking if there has been an investigation into the fire and the damage caused to this property. This was followed up again by Cllr K Brown and myself in Nov 2022 writing to Lindsay Schofield of the Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service as to what were the investigation results of the fire and the destruction of much of the building. I received a response in January 2023 informing me that they had to check to see if it was even safe to develop this

building into apartments, which had been the plan many years ago. The email also said “unfortunately, no I do not know what the plans are for this building. I am aware that building control were looking into this and that a surveyor was due out some time ago. You may get more answers or information if you contact building control or planning at Liverpool City Council.”

There is work going on behind the railings and locked gates on this site and applications to build a couple houses within the grounds appear to have gone ahead. One application in April 2023 was to create a new house using some of the remnants of The Orangery within the grounds of this estate. There is a rumour that the land has been now divided into plots, which may explain why no-one appears to know what is going on.

The high sandstone wall of this property on Church Road near the small roundabout at Beaconsfield Road is still breached and has barriers around it but nothing has been done to repair it now for over six years. Letters have been written to the council starting in 2017 followed up in 2019, when people from the Highways Dept: visited this site, agreeing this situation was now critical from a public safety perspective and also from a heritage one. This wall is also now overgrown with ivy and brambles forcing pedestrians to almost walk into the road to get past. The Knolle Park site is now easily accessible through this breach in the wall and the sandstone blocks are themselves vulnerable as they are valuable and sandstone has been removed in other parts of Woolton. Another email concerning this has been sent to the City Council’s Building Control and Highways Dept: I finally got this response from the principal heritage officer a few weeks ago. “The wall around Knolle Park/St Gabriel’s on Church St, this site is one which is subject to difficulties at the moment. The Council is in the middle of a prosecution of the owners with regards to an enforcement notice. We have had great difficulty contacting them about various issues. I will contact our Building Control colleagues regarding the wall as it sounds as though it may qualify as an unsafe structure. I will request that they investigate”. I also received a response from the reactive maintenance team leader Highways and Transportation Dept: this year;

“I believe a letter was sent to the developer requesting them to take sufficient measures to secure and maintain the boundary wall structure, in addition to this to ensure the passageway is safe for highway users, removing overgrowing vegetation.”

I recently received a response from the neighbourhood steward/highway inspector which stated; “We have on more than one occasion attempted to inspire action, or at least gain a response from the responsible parties regarding this situation but to no avail. The site appears abandoned. According to developers on the Beaconsfield Road side, the large plot has been sold off to different parties. We have by way of land registry, attempted to contact the last registered keeper, but as mentioned earlier got no response.”

An end terrace property in Ashton Square, Woolton Village continues to be in a dreadful state, where a variety of building alterations have now been going on for over seven years. Despite the locals and myself writing to a variety of people little appears to be happening.

Update March 23 on 6 Ashton Square and how an owner appears to be ignoring planning permission constraints. I did have a response from planning compliance saying “I will advise how we can assist.” This was sent in February who also said he would the visit the site. I have written a number of times to ask if he has done this with no response.

Councillor Kelly commented

“again this is now located in the new Much Woolton & Hunts Cross Ward, but I have had dealings with the on-going work at this property. The last communication that I was copied into relating to this was in June and November last year when the advice from planning was that a retrospective planning application was imminent, but I am not aware of seeing one for this. I would have expected that if the owner of the property was not being compliant with advice offered by planning officers and after such a lengthy period of time, then formal notice should have been served. I have therefore e-mailed planning making further enquiries about this and will let you know as soon as I receive a reply.”

The Woolton Picture House remains closed despite receiving £24,000 by a GoFundMe Campaign and £37,809 from the government’s Culture Recovery Fund for Independent Cinemas in England, which was distributed in 2020. The fund's aim was to support "culturally-significant organisations" that were at risk of failure due to the effects of the

coronavirus pandemic. However, among the conditions of receipt of this funding the terms included that, "successful applicants may be asked to publicise the decision in an appropriate manner. You will be required to make clear on your website and via social media that you are being supported during this period by The Culture Recovery Fund for Independent Cinemas in England and what your future plans are."

The cinema claimed to have plans to reopen this year, it made no reference to the government fund, only to the money raised by the crowd funded campaign. Some work was being carried out this year to the outside of the building but that appears to have stopped. Certainly nothing of any substantial nature has been carried out, or information given to anyone. Attempts to send a message to the owners are met with an automated reply and emails sent do not receive a reply either. Cllr Brown told the Liverpool Echo newspaper that the issue of the cinema fills his inbox from constituents worried about whether it will reopen. He said that he has also made many attempts to contact the owner but has had no reply. Given the cultural recovery fund is a taxpayer fund, Cllr Brown thinks this now raises the need for further reassurance from the cinema that they intend to reopen soon. Further questions need to be answered in relation to the terms of the fund administered from the BFI; for example, why did the cinema not announce they were in receipt of the funds as was required from the BFI's own guidance? What has happened to the funds raised by the public to restore this cinema?

Councillor Kelly commented

*"**Woolton Cinema** this was always going to be a difficult situation with the fact that it is in private ownership. Personally I did not support the handing over of any money that had been raised in the early days to a privately run business after it had closed, particularly with no formal agreement being in place restricting how the money should be used and I had strongly suggested this to those responsible for raising those funds. Local people who contributed to the fund quite rightly had their own understanding of how the money should be spent, which should have been for the re-opening of the cinema, however the cinema owners had a very different understanding of what that money should have been used for and has already stated in a public statement that the money has been used to cover the costs of maintaining the building whilst it is closed.*

Unfortunately, because there was no legal agreement put in place in relation to how this money should have been spent and was willingly handed over to the owners, no law has been broken. Numerous letters have been sent to the owners, but they have not generated any direct response from them."

Woolton Swimming Pool opened in 1893 and closed abruptly in October 2010 when tests revealed the filter system had corroded.

Determined campaigns to save the baths have been launched over the years. Woolton Baths was open on a Heritage Open Day in 2014 and there was an exhibition of the future plans for the pool inside the building. Fundraising was organised to help with the cost of the necessary repairs etc. Since then, I am not aware of any progress to reopen it or work being done on it. The person whom I spoke to on that Heritage Day was also involved in the Woolton Village Residents Association and maybe is no longer involved with this project. Last month I wrote a letter which I put through their door having no email contact for them asking if they knew what was happening to this facility. As yet I have had no response to this request. There is a rumour that the WVRS no longer exists.

Councillor Kelly commented

*"In relation to **Woolton Baths** it is my understand that when they closed in October 2010 and following a brief campaign to save the pool by the 'Save Woolton Baths' campaign group that had been formed, the Residents Association approached the council and entered into a short-term lease agreement for twelve months in order to commence work to install a new filter and pump and show commitment to bringing the baths back into use. Despite the 'Save Woolton Baths' campaign group starting fundraising this was quickly taken over by the Residents Association who collected funds donated for this cause. It has always been a concern as to how much money was raised at that time and where it is now. I understand that the lease agreement between the council and the Residents Association was renewed on a year-on-year basis for the next following three or four years. After this I assumed that the lease agreement was not renewed (although I cannot be too sure about this), but the Residents Association seemed to continue with the occupation of the building which was advised to me by the council in July 2021. However, in more recent years the council directly entered into an agreement with a company HCA Entertainment who used the rear of the premises to film the television series 'Find it, Fix it, Flog it' presented by Simon O'Brien with the final request from that company to use the building being in July 2021. With a 6/7 month filming schedule, this would have taken it to approximately February 2022.*

The council informed me that they would be looking to take the building back into possession and once they had done this, they will look to market the property. The filming of the tv series finished last year, however I understand from Simon O'Brien that when the production company approached the council regarding a new schedule of filming, they were told that the rooms at the back of the building that they had previously used had now been condemned and could not be used. This could now mean that the baths will soon start to be marketed, but I will ask for further clarification of this.

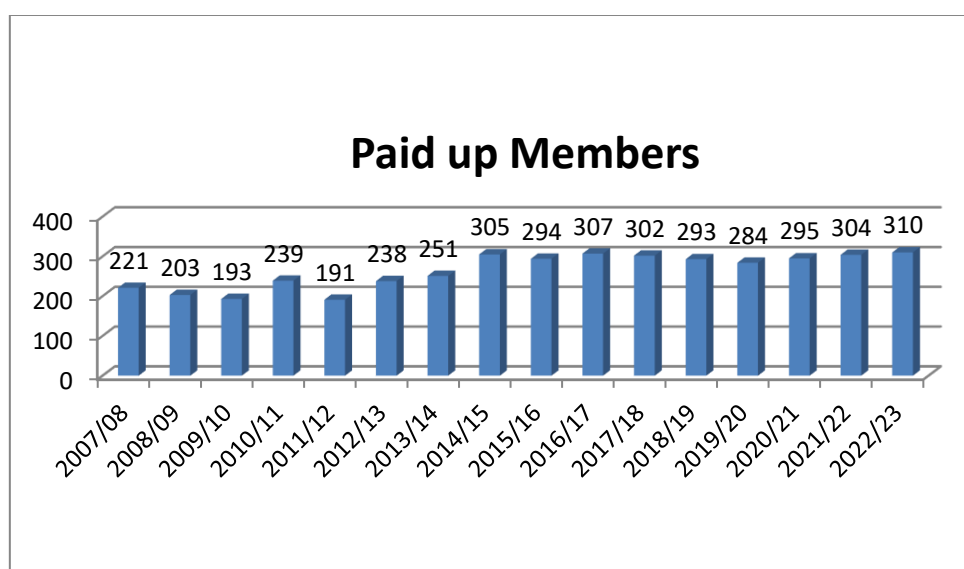
In terms of the Residents Association, I have been aware over the past couple of years that it has not been active and whilst I have not had confirmation, I have suspected that it may have ceased to operate, and this would be the case more so with the recent passing of the association's chairperson. If this is the case and money was being held within the association's bank account, this would be a concern. However, it is my understanding that the Residents Association had not been actively working on the restoration of the baths for a few years. Again, I will try and get an update of the council's position on this."

The land to the west of Woolton Manor east of Hillfoot Road, owned by Rushton Properties, is a green wedge of privately owned land. Planning application was made to build eighteen two storey detached houses, associated with hard and soft landscaping, some of the land to become a wildlife area, to erect a new shelter following the demolition of outbuildings, to repair the boundary walls and gates and create a new pedestrian access to Allerton Road. No building work has started on this site.

There continues to be issues in Woolton village in relation to parking, the state of the roads and litter. Antisocial behaviour has been raised on a number of social media sites this year. I have seen for myself the gathering of young teenagers quite late at night especially outside Village News shop. There have also been problems with antisocial behaviour in the walled gardens in Reynolds Park and on Camphill as these gardens are now left unlocked at night.

iv) The Membership Secretary Jean Bates reported that the final number of paid-up members for 2022/23 (310) is up by 6 compared to the end of 2021/22 (304). It is good to note that 310 members is the largest number of members recorded since at least 2007/08.

Membership Numbers	31/08/2022	31/08/2023
Paid	304	310
Pending Standing Order	0	3
Not Paid	24	40
Complimentary	14	14
Total	342	367



Members are reminded to keep the society up to date with their email addresses. If you have changed your email in the past year then please let the Membership Secretary know.

5. Election of new committee members.

There was one nomination for new committee members, Jenny French being proposed and seconded was duly elected.

6. Election of officers.

Chairman: The current chairman Jean Davies offered her resignation from the committee and was nominated for the position of chairman, and duly re- elected.

Paul Wilkie offered his resignation from the committee, but stated he was willing to continue as vice-chairman, and was nominated and duly re-elected to the post.

In the absence of nominations for the role of hon. secretary, Paul Wilkie volunteered to continue in this role, until a candidate could be found and was duly elected.

Hon. treasurer: Charles Davies offered his resignation from the committee, but stated he was willing to continue and was duly re-elected.

Membership secretary: The current incumbent, Jean Bates offered her resignation from the committee, but stated she was willing to continue and was duly re-elected.

Environment secretary: The current incumbent Janet Hudson offered her resignation from the committee, but stated she was willing to continue and was duly re-elected.

All the above were proposed, seconded and, there being no other nominations, were duly elected.

The resignations from the officers met the requirements of the constitution for resignations.

7. Any other business.

The chairman thanked SBA Accounting for the help they had provided to the society, St Mary's for the use of the hall, and everyone for their attendance and closed the formal part of the meeting at 8:25 pm, when the appropriate officers signed the society's accounts.

Members are asked to bring copies of the minutes if attending the AGM.

Society News

Website

There have been technical problems with the website over the summer months. These will be resolved shortly.

Coach tour to St George's church Everton on July 14th

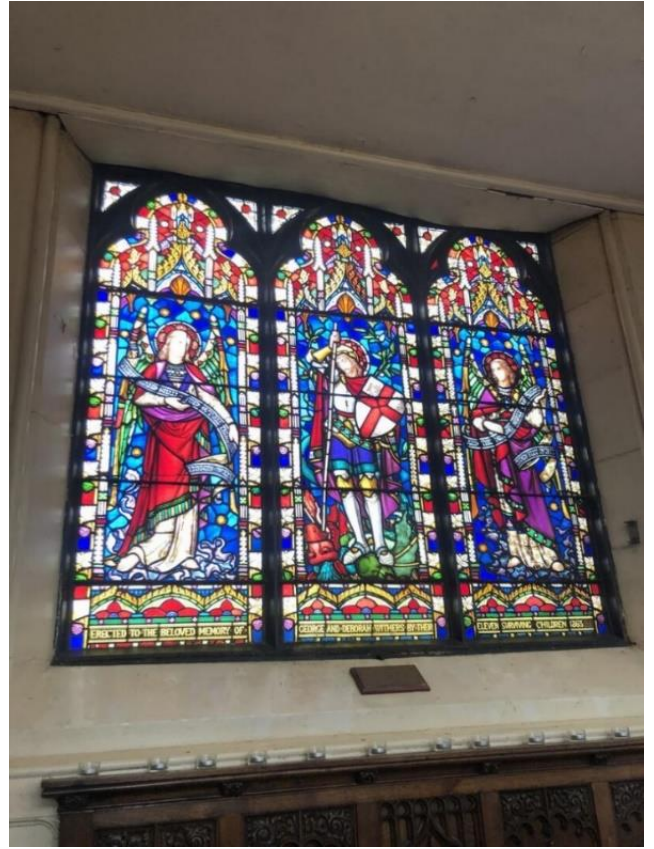
The annual coach tour in July was to St George's, one of the two cast iron churches in the city. Members heard a fascinating commentary from Blue Badge guide Marie Passey as we travelled through the city centre, stopping at Everton Park to take in the stupendous views across the river to the mountains of North Wales.

A warm welcome & refreshments awaited us at the church, with many WS members bringing donations to the food pantry. A commentary was given by Dr Janet Hollinshead, with time afterwards given to investigating the historic graveyard & admiring the stunning interior of the church.

The WS made a donation to St George's, which is one of the most deprived parishes in the country.



The interior of the cast iron church, showing the groundbreaking pre-fabricated structure.



The only window in the church to survive the blitz of 1941. It shows St George, the patron saint.

Talk of 18th September

The talk was cancelled at very short notice on the afternoon of the 18th, as the news came that our speaker had had an accident & was taken to hospital. Members were notified by email & social media, so that only a few arrived at the hall for the talk. Committee members were at hand to pass on the news, with all being understanding & sympathetic. Our best wishes were sent right away.

Mrs Kinnin contacted the WS after being discharged from hospital & is willing to reschedule her talk to a date in 2025. Details will be in issue 373, out in January.

Thursday 17th October at 3pm: Rock & Roll! Music in the movies

Gary Lunt of Reel Tours will be returning by popular demand, this time to speak on the impact of modern music on cinema audiences. Riots & unruly behaviour erupted after screenings of some rock & roll films in the 1950s. Such behaviour would be frowned upon at WS meetings, although some decorous jiving could well be tolerated.

As this is an afternoon talk, complimentary refreshments (no alcohol) will be available before the talk.

Wednesday 13^h November at 7.30pm: 51st Annual General Meeting

Members are invited to attend the 51st AGM of the society. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance at this event, & drinks will be provided after the business of the evening is concluded. We would ask all members to consider assisting the society by joining the committee. Having a thriving & active committee is essential if the society is to continue into its next half century. If interested please contact any committee member at talks, or at the market, or via the website: www.wooltonsociety.org.uk

The AGM will be held in St Mary's Hall, starting at 7.30pm.

Subscriptions

Subs became due on 1st September. They are very good value, starting from £4 per person, as the society has not increased its subscriptions for many years. We hope that all members will renew their subs promptly, with forms on pages 11 & 12.

If you pay by standing order, your membership will automatically renew, there is no need to fill in another form. Members who are not already paying by standing order are urged to think about doing so now as the closure of local banking services makes the paying-in of cash & cheques a lengthy business. The nearest branch of our bank, Barclays, is now on Lord Street in the city centre.

We now use a card reader which has cut down on the amount of cash taken, & is in use at all talks & on the market stall.

Please note the delivery of a paper copy of the newsletter costs an additional £8 to all subs.

Woolton News

Woolton Cinema

After a closure of over four years, the cinema owners surprised everyone in August with the news that they have submitted a planning application to the city council. The application proposes a *Mixed Arts/Events space*, facilitated by the replacement of the existing roof, plus other work to the façade & structure of the building. The reference is **24F/2003**, with comments made to the planning department. This could be excellent news if it goes ahead. More news as we have it.

Woolton in Bloom

The very popular calendar is now on sale, celebrating the open gardens day held on July 7th. It is priced at £5, including a card envelope if wanted. It is available at the market stall on the second Saturday of each month, & also at Brown's newsagent on Woolton Street.

The open gardens event raised over £4,500 for WIB, all of which will be spent on plants to keep our village blooming. The day of the event was unexpectedly dry & sunny, with visitors flocking to the gardens, with the Bishop's Lodge as the hub. The Women of Woolton WI ran a refreshment stall with the home-made cakes extremely popular. The WI made a generous donation to WIB at their next meeting.

Volunteers for WIB go out on Wednesday & Saturday mornings, from 10.00, led by horticultural manager Kerry Peacock. Meet at the lock-up, opposite the car park in the dual carriageway on High Street. For more information & pictures go to the WIB site on www.wooltoninbloom.wix.com/wooltoninbloom

Friends of Reynolds Park

Reynolds Day was celebrated on September 21st, with many visitors to the park. A litter pick took place, with the park looking even better than usual afterwards. On sale was Woolton Society pamphlet number 11, *A History of Reynolds Park*, written by FORP chairman Geoff Kendall, priced at £1.

The walled garden is still in a state of disrepair after the storm damage in January, with bricks strewn across the ground. The council is considering the situation, but a sum of £80,000 for repairs has been quoted. FORP has suggested alternative remedial work, such as a hedge or fence to replace the wall. The next FORP meeting will be the AGM on **Wednesday 20th November** at 7pm in Tesco's coffee shop. All are welcome to attend.

***Issue 373 of the newsletter will be published in January 2025.
It will contain details of the talks programme for the year.***



Society use only							
Membership	SA	SA+P	Type	How	Amount		
	JA	JA+P	New	Cash	Subs		
	SP/S	SP/S+P	Renew	Chq	Extra		
	JP/S	JP/S+P	Re-join	SO	Total		
				BP/DC	GA	Y	N
	Date			M Nos			

Subscriptions are due 1st September and rates for the period 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025 are as set out below. Please tick where appropriate.

SUBSCRIPTIONS - EMAIL NEWSLETTER			SUBSCRIPTIONS - POSTAL NEWSLETTER (Covers printing and postage costs)	
Adult (single)	£6.00	☐	Adult (single) + Postage	£14.00 ☐
Adult (joint)	£9.00	☐	Adult (joint) + Postage	£17.00 ☐
Pensioner/Student (single)	£4.00	☐	Pensioner/Student (single) + Postage	£12.00 ☐
Pensioner/Student (joint)	£6.00	☐	Pensioner/Student (joint) + Postage	£14.00 ☐

Method of payment:	☐ <i>by standing order – instructions overleaf</i>	☐ <i>by bank payment – instructions overleaf</i>
	☐ <i>by cheque payable to 'The Woolton Society'</i>	☐ <i>by cash/cheque at society meetings or Woolton Farmers' Market</i>

Please help the society earn extra money on top of your subscription by completing the Gift Aid form overleaf. Note - if you have completed a Gift Aid form previously, you do not need to do it again.

I am / we are: ☒ Renewing my / our subscription ☐ Joining as a single member / joint members

		Title	First Name	Surname
1 st Member				
2 nd Member				
Address:				
Date:			Postcode:	

Royal Mail delivery ☐ (Please make sure you have selected the correct subscription above to cover postage and printing costs)

By completing this form, you give permission for the Woolton Society to keep your details in order send you our newsletter, send you details of society meetings and notifications of local issues. Full details of the society's privacy policy are on our website in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation. The society never shares your details with other organisations or individuals.

Important: Even if you choose to receive your newsletter by Royal Mail, please could we have your email so that we can keep in touch with you concerning society events and any urgent issues such as the *Woolton Hall* campaign.

[illegible]

**Please include this form with your payment and send to:
The Membership Secretary, The Woolton Society, 11 Manor Way, Woolton, Liverpool L25 8QY
or hand in at one of our meetings or at the Woolton Society stall at the Farmers' Market.
*PTO for Gift Aid form and payment methods***



THE WOOLTON SOCIETY

METHODS OF PAYMENT VIA YOUR BANK

Details for setting up a standing order directly with your bank or making a bank transfer payment (BACS):

Bank details: Barclays Bank, 48B & 50 Lord Street, Liverpool L2 1TD

Payee name: The Woolton Society

Sort code: 20-50-82

Account number: 50868930

Reference: Please enter your **Woolton Society membership number** as the reference with your bank. ***This is very important to enable us to identify you from our bank statements.*** Your membership number can be found in emails from the Woolton Society or in any letters you have received from the society. **New members can email the membership secretary at membership@wooltonociety.org.uk or ring 0151 428 1501 to obtain a membership number.**

Standing order payments should be set up for a payment annually on 1st September each year until further notice. New members joining after 1st September can pay by BACS for the initial payment then standing order.

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Gift Aid Declaration

The Woolton Society - Registered charity no. 506224

Please treat all gifts/subscriptions of money that I have made to the Woolton Society in the past 6 years and all future gifts of money that I make from the date of this declaration as Gift Aid donations.

Donor's details: Title First name Surname

Home address

.....**Postcode**

Date **Signature**

The Woolton Society will be able to reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 you give on or after 6 April 2017.

Please notify the Treasurer of The Woolton Society if you: want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address or no longer pay tax on your income, pensions or/and capital gains.

Please note that you must pay an amount of Income Tax (this can be tax on pensions, incomes or savings) and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April one year to 5 April the next) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that the charity will reclaim on your gifts for that tax year

If you pay income tax at the higher rate, you should include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return if you want to receive the additional tax relief due to you.

*Please return the Gift Aid form to: The Membership Secretary, The Woolton Society,
11 Manor Way, Woolton, Liverpool L25 8QY or hand in at society meetings*