



The Wavertree Society

Caring for Wavertree - Past, Present and Future

NEWSLETTER 184

Founded 1977
Registered
Charity
No.1004259

July
2011

Our next meeting:

THE CUNARD YANKS

**'They sailed from Liverpool ...
and brought home the world'**

A talk and film show on Wednesday 13th July at
7.30pm in the Olive Mount Community Centre,
Edgewell Drive, Liverpool L15 8GG

The Cunard Yanks were the thousands of young men who staffed the transatlantic liners in the 1950s; for example as stewards, chefs, waiters, pantrymen and laundrymen. Four of them - Richie Barton, John Gilmour, Billy Harrison and John Hibbert - got together a few years ago to record their exploits at sea and on land during that momentous era, which saw the latest New York music, fashions and ideas imported into Liverpool. We shall be seeing the results, in the form of a film showing life on both sides of the Atlantic, and meeting some of the 'lads' themselves who will no doubt be happy to elaborate further on their adventures.



Admission
free of charge
ALL WELCOME
Donations invited

OTHER FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Many members have been asking about the Society's planned **DAY EXCURSION**. After much discussion we have decided to stay closer to home this year - and instead of a coach trip we are proposing a boat trip along the new stretch of canal past Liverpool's Pier Head and through the docks to the north. Another Newsletter will be issued when the arrangements have been finalised, but the trip is likely to take place on a weekday afternoon in late August.

Plans are also in hand for **HERITAGE OPEN DAY**. Five Wavertree attractions - St Barnabas Church, the Blue Coat School boardroom/chapel, Holy Trinity Church, the Congregational Church and the Lock-up - will all be open during the afternoon of Sunday 11th September. More details in our next Newsletter.

If you have any suggestions for **FUTURE SPEAKERS** who could be invited to talk to us, please contact any Committee member (see back page for addresses, etc.)

A NEW FUTURE FOR THE TOWN HALL

We were pleased to hear that, at the auction on 25th May, Wavertree Town Hall was purchased by a local company - T J Thomas Estates Group of Wavertree Road - who have a track record of restoring and adapting historic buildings in various parts of Liverpool. In fact they are the same people who own the Cock & Bottle pub next door to the Town Hall.

The new owners are currently considering the options for the future use of the building, with a view to submitting any necessary applications for listed building consent or planning permission. They are particularly keen to find a photograph of the rear of the building (including the old stables which became the Farriers Restaurant) as it existed prior to the 1970s.

Website:

www.wavertreesociety.org

Email:

info@wavertreesociety.org

Are you a PAID-UP Member?

Your **address label** indicates the date on which your current subscription expires.

Or do you want to JOIN the Society?

The annual subscription is **£3 (household)** or **£6 (company, etc.)**. Please send a cheque, payable to 'The Wavertree Society', to the Membership Secretary: Mrs Sheilagh Birch, 338 Wavertree Nook Road, Liverpool L15 7LJ.

HAPPY MEMORIES FROM NORTHWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL



From time to time we receive emailed reminiscences from former Wavertree residents. One of our recent correspondents has been Graham Hirst of Gloucestershire, who has also sent us a photograph (reproduced above) of the Northway School Chess Team of 1950/51. This is what he wrote:

I attended Northway Primary School between about 1945 and 1951. I lived at 60 Glendevon Road, Broadgreen with my mother and stepfather. (My father died in Burma/India during the war). My own 'blood' father's family lived in Abbeystead Road, where I believe Arthur Askey also lived at one time. Since 1961 I have lived in Gloucestershire.

I can remember well the days of:

Collecting our bottles of milk from the school air-raid shelters in the playground.

The old fashioned dentist across the road in front of the school & the pain he inflicted!!!

The barm cakes from the cake shop across the road.

The tramcars coming up through the "Rocket" at Queens Drive through to Liverpool and on occasion sitting next to Billy Liddell (Liverpool FC).

Saturday morning cinema at Old Swan.

Buying the first issue of the Eagle Comic at a little shop at the end of Glendevon Road on Queens Drive.

A most memorable trip to Cronton Collieries. I could only go because my pal Kenny had measles & was unable to go. Thanks Kenny!!

I remember well receiving the cane from Miss Sadorsky, having been reported by my reading partner (Ann Walpole?) for talking to a boy at the desk in front of mine. This was followed by a long walk home to my Grandma's house at the far end of Elms House Road, Old Swan.

In 1950/51 we had a great chess team at Northway Primary and became Liverpool Junior School Chess Champions. In the photograph, I am the one at the extreme right on the Back Row. Our teacher at that time was Mr Lyons (Front Row, extreme right hand side). I recall I drew one game at Dovedale Road School and won all my other games.

Since living in Gloucestershire, my daughter whilst at Rednock Comprehensive School, palled up with a girl whose mother came from Liverpool and also spent a short time at Northway Primary. This lady only lives about 150 yards from my home. It's a small world!!!

Best regards

Graham E Hirst

NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL

We are pleased to report that exactly 30 percent of our members now receive their Newsletters by email (in PDF format). This is very beneficial to us because it saves a considerable sum of money in postage each year. It also means that the members concerned get their Newsletters a couple of days earlier than those who rely on the post. If you wish to opt for email dispatch, please send a message - stating your name and postcode so we can find you in our records - to this special address:
membership@wavertreesociety.org

A PATRIOTIC BABY

One of our members - born in Rathbone Road but now living in Warrington - is Bob Woosey. Whilst searching through some of his late mother's treasures, he found a small metal presentation cup (pictured below) about 2.5 inches high and 2 inches in diameter, inscribed with the legend 'Wavertree Patriotic Baby Show - Xmas 1915' and the winner's name 'J. R. Woosey'.

Unfortunately Bob cannot find any record of a forebear with such initials - and we have never previously heard of such a Baby Show being held in Wavertree. Any information about this or similar events will be gratefully received; please contact our local history secretary, Mike Chitty.



PUB PHOTOS WANTED

We are hoping that our 2012 Calendar will feature a selection of Wavertree Village pubs, past and present. If you have any interesting old pictures which we could copy - especially of the Clock pub, the Barley Mow or the Sandown - please contact Mike Chitty (428 7801) as soon as possible.

THE WAVERTREE SOCIETY aims to IMPROVE local amenities and to PROTECT the local environment and architectural heritage, especially within the Wavertree Village and Wavertree Garden Suburb Conservation Areas.

Chair: Robert Zatz 65 Sandown Road, Liverpool L15 4JA (733 5878)
Joint Vice-Chairs: John Jackson 15 Valencia Road, L15 8LL
Susan Smith Flat 4, 11 Lance Lane, L15 6TS
Hon. Secretary: Brenda Hoatson 56 Meadway, L15 7LZ (722 3090)
Hon. Treasurer: Cyril Fell 286 Rathbone Road, L13 1BE
Mem. Sec & Sales Officer: Sheilagh Birch 338 Wavertree Nook Road, L15 7LJ (722 6265)
Local History Sec & Newsletter Ed.: Mike Chitty 16 Chartmount Way, L25 5LB (428 7801)