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SEPTEMBER 2026 - ISSUE 125

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Hello and Welcome to my one hundred & twenty fifth edition of L25 Woolton Times publication for September 2026 - Established over 24 years!

Hope you are all well and at the time of writing my intro and we are now experiencing more comfortable weather temperature than of late. So now it's much cooler and we can get back in our gardens.

I would like to welcome all our new advertisers to this edition of L25 edition for September 2026. My best wishes go out to both my new advertisers and to my loyal advertisers who have been with me some since I started my magazines back in 1992.

We have had a great deal of things going on since we last spoke - keeping the magazine up to date were we felt it needed a bit of updating.

Check out my refurbished website www.margaretspublishing.co.uk - its looks great and easy for you all to use. Lots going on in the area to let you know - Woolton Cinema's refurbishment program now started and is showing 51 films up to Christmas - take a look at their website.
We have a brand new Podiatry clinic opened - SOLE BALANCE in First business complex @Hunts Cross.

We are talking about dare I mention it Christmas with a huge event for the Woolton Switch-On to include our very own Christmas market to as well as all the usual events on Saturday 28th November 2026
Please take a look at our new advertisers within this edition and support them as much as you can – they need your help to remain on the high street.

I'll close now - take good care of yourselves - keeping safe and healthy and enjoy the end of our summer months 2026.

Regards,
Margaret



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Woolton in Bloom



I like to think that I live in the best place in Merseyside but now I know. Woolton Village won the best village in a poll of readers of the Liverpool Echo.

Naturally I was pleased to see that Woolton in Bloom was mentioned for our floral displays and we owe that to the wonderful volunteers especially this year when it has been extremely difficult to keep plants alive in the heat.

For twenty five years volunteers have kept the village blooming, winning lots of awards and finally reaching the exclusive competition which is Champion of Champions. Many of you will remember our Lambanana. 'Petal' which stood by Browns newsagent. Well she was sold, at a charity auction to raise money for the Lord Mayor's Charity but we do still have our own baby petal who has been in the village in many guises. She has been a Queen, Mother Christmas and now she is simply Silver to recognise our Silver Anniversary.

I often say 'where did those years go'. I find it hard to accept that I have been involved since the beginning. I still enjoy it and appreciate the dedication of the volunteers and supporters.

Having been voted Best Village makes it all worth working for.

Kerry Peacock, Horticulture Manager.
Mobile: 07969881270
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More news from the Woolton Picture House…

Public consultation events have been taking place over the summer as well as film screenings and repair work with lots of supporters having their say. One of the board members of Woolton Cinema CIC has drawn up some first draft plans as a guide towards a more extensive refurbishment of the cinema, using the feedback from the meetings as inspiration. The plans are there for people to comment on, add to or takeaway from and can be seen at the website…

wooltoncinema.com

When it comes to films, the cinema has been busy over summer and there are more on sale with a 2000s film weekend at the end of September, a Halloween Weekend in October and a 2010s Weekend at the end of November. What about Christmas? Don't worry, there are plenty of films to choose from which will run from 12-24 December and they are on sale now!

To book and to find out more about what is happening at the Picture House go to wooltoncinema.com



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MARIE CURIE

I attended a meeting at the House of Lords with Cllr Mike Storey and the CEO of Marie Curie, Matthew Reed, concerning the closure of the Marie Curie End-of-Life ward.

Subsequently, Mike and I met with the Liverpool Hospice Pressure Group.

This group has launched a new website, www.lhpg.org, to support residents who are concerned about the future of specialist inpatient hospice provision in our city.

Residents are encouraged to register their interest on the website. A local meeting will be organised based on the level of engagement.

For more information or to get involved, visit www.lhpg.org or email liverpoolhpg@gmail.com.

THANK YOU



Reports have indicated that the UK has lost nearly half of its natural biodiversity. Hence the importance of gardens not only for wildlife, but they can also help manage the risk of flooding by absorbing rainwater and easing pressure on drains. For this reason Sophie and I have started to deliver 'Thank You' letters to residents who have maintained their front and/ or back gardens. The first resident to receive a Thank You was Brian Ashley from Rosefield Rd





PEACE NOT PUTIN



There are currently approximately 19 major/minor wars in the world. The total combined military casualties [killed and wounded] in the Russia-Ukraine war are estimated to have surpassed 2 million.

We all have the right to stand up for peace in anyway we can. For this reason I went to the Russian Embassy in London to demonstrate against the war in Ukraine.

LITTER PICKS/SKIPS & WINTER WARMER PACKS

Sophie and I have continued our litter picks throughout the ward, including the clearance of two alleyways. We are also booking skips for the area and ordering Winter Warmer packs.

- **Cllr Josie Mullen holds a surgery at the Farmer's Market in Woolton Village the 2nd Saturday in each month.**
- **Home visits can also be arranged**

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LOCAL**LIBDEM**VIEWS

Councillor Malcolm Kelly (Woolton Village Ward), malcolm.kelly@liverlibdems.org.uk



Dear Resident,

I wrote in my last article about the work that was underway to improve the traffic light junction at Menlove Avenue and Hillfoot Road. Since the work started I have had some residents contact me about the materials that are being used, which are not in keeping with a conservation area. I am meeting with managers from the highways team to discuss this and to ensure that materials that are being used are as much as possible in keeping with a conservation area.

At the beginning of the year I had contacted the council's Highways Department to ask them to re-paint the yellow box at the junction of Kings Drive and High Street, which had completely worn away and was causing problems with vehicles waiting in the junction to turn. Despite the council agreeing to do this, there was a delay because there had to be a road closure put in place to do the work. I continued to push for this work to be done and I am pleased that it has now been completed, which will make the junction much safer.

I was really pleased to read recently that the Woolton cinema has now got its own defibrillator for community use, which was supported by the Oliver King Foundation. This was fantastic news for Woolton Village and made me think how well the village is now served with these very important pieces of equipment. This means that there are now three defibrillators throughout the village, the original that has been located on the side of Ian's barber shop for many years, one on the side of St James's Church Hall on High Street, for which I funded the storage box and also funded a bleed kit at the same location, and now the new defibrillator at Woolton cinema. We can be assured that in the event of an emergency this equipment is easily available for use.

I have recently received complaints about speeding traffic down High Street and also down Allerton Road from the junction with the Tesco's entrance. I have contacted the Highways Department and asked them to carry out a speed and volume survey for both of these roads to establish whether any traffic calming is needed.

I also receive many complaints about parking throughout the village and have over the years continued to ask for Parking Services to carry out enforcement action in the area. Unfortunately, this can be quite limited because the current council concentrates its parking enforcement resources on the city centre and match day parking. I have arranged to meet with Parking Services in the village to have a look at the parking problems, but the issue that we have is that the council can only deal with parking on restricted areas such as double yellow lines and not in areas where there are no restriction but dangerous parking takes place. I am therefore going to ask for some joint work to be carried out by Parking Services and the police to deal with some of the wider parking issues. The Liberal Democrat's in Liverpool have long argued to introduce parking enforcement teams to areas such as Woolton Village so that parking can be better controlled in the area.

At September's farmers market we continued to have the same problem with cars parking overnight in the area making it difficult for market stalls to be set up. When the owners return the following day to collect their cars they are unable to move them because a full road closure is in place and it would be an offence for them to do so, and during some of the previous farmers markets these vehicles have been ticketed. I would again remind any motorists who normally park their vehicles in this part of Allerton Road on the Friday before the farmers market to make sure that their cars are removed before the Saturday morning. Parking Services will continue to monitor this.

I have already started work with organising the Christmas light switch on for Woolton Village at the end of November. I am delighted to announce that the owners of the new bar in the village 'The Village Cat' have agreed to sponsor this year's event by funding the tree and the lights. I am so delighted that they have agreed to do this and on behalf of everyone in Woolton Village I would like to thank them for supporting the event. I can also say that as well as the usual appearance from Santa I have also arranged for a special guest to come along and help to switch on the lights. There will be more about this as we approach the event itself.

Woolton Village continues to host a Farmers Market on the second Saturday of the month with the next two markets taking place on Saturday 10th October 2026 and Saturday 14th November 2026. Please come along and support our market.

I continue to hold a weekly Advice Surgery (via Zoom) every Tuesday from 7.00 p.m. (by appointment only). Please get in touch if you would like to arrange to speak with me and I will send a link, or if you prefer to meet in person at Woolton Youth Centre I will make arrangements. I also hold my popular advice surgery at the Farmers Market on the second Saturday of the month where you can come along and raise any issues with me, or you can get in touch via the e-mail below

Best wishes, Malcolm Kelly

Councillor Malcolm Kelly (Woolton Village Ward)
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SPRINGWOOD WARD

Springwood Councillor - Kimberley Berry

Dear Residents,



I hope you are all well and have enjoyed the last few weeks of summer, although not so much the rain! As always, I wanted to share a few updates about some of the work I've been doing in Springwood ward.

Following discussion with Council teams, I've been able to arrange for the semi-regular clearance of vegetation at the historic, Grade II listed Orangery at Allerton Towers, including cutting back brambles and overgrowth around the site.

There's a noticeable difference, although there's still more to do and this will be ongoing. The Council is also investing more in our parks and green spaces, including recruiting additional staff to give teams greater capacity to keep on top of work like this.





My thanks go to the residents who raise the site with me. I'll continue to keep an eye on the work and do all I can to make sure the Orangery continues to get the attention it deserves.

At the end of August, it was fantastic to see so many local residents coming out to enjoy the latest market at Allerton Hall. The weather certainly wasn't on our side, but it was brilliant to see people braving the showers to support the traders and enjoy what the market had to offer.

A huge thank you to everyone who came along, as well as the traders, the Council's Markets Team and the staff at Allerton Hall for helping make the event such a success. This is the 13th market I've organised at the site, and the continued support from local residents shows just how much these community events are valued. Hopefully, I'll be able to order some sunshine for the next one!

Finally, it was very sad to hear the news of Dolly Parton's passing, but her incredible legacy will live on through the lives she touched – including here in south Liverpool through her Imagination Library.

Dolly often spoke about her father and how, despite being one of the smartest people she knew, his inability to read and write had held him back in life. It was one reason she set up the library, which gives enrolled children free books from birth to five years old, helping foster a love of reading and giving them an important head start in their education.

Locally, I've championed the library, supporting more than 2,000 books reaching children across south Liverpool. The scheme can make a real difference to a child's reading, and I'm proud to have played a small role in one of Dolly's most successful charitable efforts.

If you're a Springwood ward resident and there's anything you'd like to discuss, or if I can help with an issue in your neighbourhood, please don't hesitate to get in touch using the contact details below.

Best wishes,

Kimberley

Councillor Kimberley Berry
Springwood ward

P.S. Don't forget - You can follow me on Facebook. I'm often publicising useful information and community events, along with some of the work that I do here in Springwood.

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The Create Workshop holds daily dress-making and pattern cutting sessions and courses. You can take part in a 'Sewing for Beginners' session to build your confidence with machinery and equipment or just dive straight into a garment making 6 week course - all levels of ability are welcome.

All you need is fabric and a pattern and we will teach you how to make beautiful, quality clothes. Alternatively and re-fashion your own wardrobe by vamping up your old garments.

We guarantee we will unleash creative skills you never knew you had!!

Adults:

There are pattern cutting and garment making courses available daytimes and evenings; catering for all levels of ability. Sewing for beginners sessions to build confidence and basic skills. Monthly crochet sessions provide the perfect opportunity to improve hand-eye coordination. We also host unique and seasonal classes including cupcake decorating, felting and flower arranging.

Children:

Children can join garment making course running every Friday eve and Saturday. They learn how to use patterns, cut out and sew, producing amazing, high quality garments.

Parties:

Fun and memorable children's/hen/baby shower parties are hosted in a beautiful environment. Choose from a selection of workshops and make use of the fabulous cafe.

Brownies, Guides & other social groups

Our local Brownies and Guides leaders always enjoy bringing in children for a fun packed session, taking home a quality product. We will be hosting Christmas stocking making, wreath making, cake decorating and lots of other festive activities!

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Include Me

"Include Me"… a local group, run by local people and based in Woolton, we are here for everyone who wants to be a part of a lovely group of people who meet for coffee, chat and various activities weekly including an occasional day out.

We started our group in September 2013 tackling Isolation and loneliness in our local community. During that time we have welcomed so many people of all ages and abilities who have become an integral part of our group.

We know that we are making a difference in people's lives as we have seen new friendships created. We have now moved to Strawberry Field, a lovely friendly and welcoming location in Woolton.

We would love to meet you or anyone you know who may be interested in our group.

So don't be shy, come along and be part of our "Include Me" group.

Our motto is "Working together, we can achieve so much more"

Every Wednesday 10.00am to 12.0pm at Strawberry Field, Beaconsfield Road, Woolton, L25 6EJ
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The Woolton Society

It has been a busy Summer for the society, with an outing in July & two heritage plaques installed during the past few weeks.

On 4th July a group of members were taken on a guided tour of Shakespeare North theatre in Prescot. This was a fascinating glimpse behind the scenes, seeing a rehearsal in progress and viewing all parts of the building with knowledgeable guides.



The Woolton Society has had a programme of installing heritage plaques since 2019, all commemorating people & places of note in the village. The plaque honouring Bob Paisley is number ten to be installed, and is on his former home in Bower Road. He was Liverpool FC's most successful manager, winning many trophies including three European Cups & six league titles. He was also a very unassuming person with his plaque reflecting this. It bears the inscription which is also on his gravestone in St Peter's church: "He remained an ordinary man amidst extraordinary achievements".

There was a ceremony organised by the society in August attended by former LFC players Ian Rush, Sammy Lee and John Aldridge, alongside members of the Paisley family the ceremony was recorded by Radio Merseyside.



Plaque number eleven was installed on number 1 Ashton Square in August. Ashton Square is off School Lane, and comprises a group of Grade 2 listed cottages built around 1780 to house workers on the Woolton Hall estate.

In September the society moved to Woolton Golf Club for the talk on the work of The Commonwealth War Graves Commission as work was taking place in our usual venue of St Mary's hall. This was a very well received talk which attracted a large audience.

In October we will be back in St Mary's hall, moving to an afternoon talk on Thursday 15th at 3pm. The talk will be on the wartime food, entitled The Hidden History of the British Restaurant.

The Annual General Meeting for members will be on Wednesday18th November at 7.30pm.

More details on all Woolton Society talks & events are in the newsletters sent to all members, as well as on the village notice board & the website www.wooltonsociety.org.uk

Membership of the society is available from as little as £4 a year, with subscriptions for 2026/27 due in September. Again, all details in the newsletter & on the website.

www.wooltonsociety.org.uk
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Jean Davies, Woolton Society chairman

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What's On at The Hub @ St Peter's?

October to December 2026 | The Simon-Peter Centre, Church Road, Woolton L25 5JF
We are open 9–1pm Monday to Friday for anyone to drop-in for a free cuppa, snack, chat, enquiry, signposting or prayer.

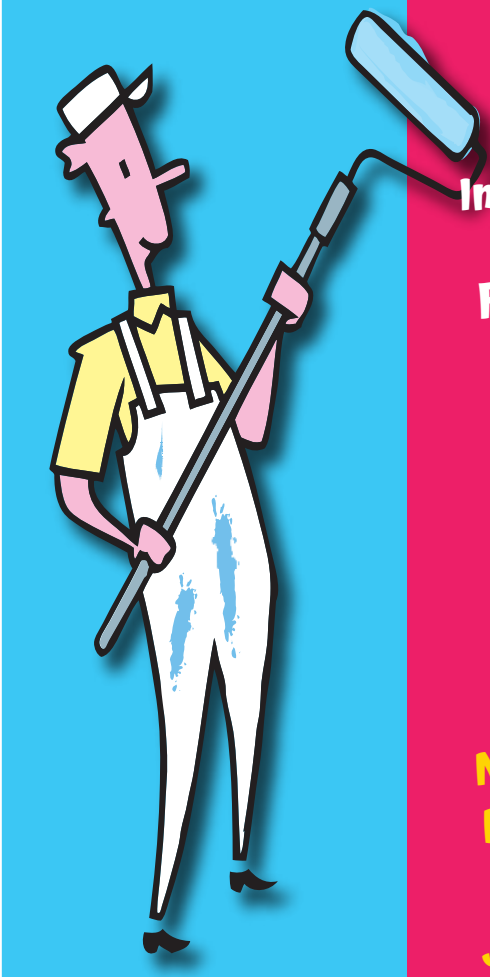
Mon	**Games Club** **10.30–12 noon** A weekly drop-in, with a cuppa and biscuits/cake. New visitors welcome. **Tea and Tales** **10.30–12noon** A weekly shared reading group, with refreshments. New visitors welcome.	**Craft Group** **10–12 noon** Meets fortnightly on 5th & 19th Oct, 2nd 16th & 30th Nov and 7th Dec. £4pp for resources. **Pins & Needles (Sewing)** **10–12 noon** Alternates with the Craft group above in school term time. THIS GROUP CURRENTLY FULL	**Minnows** **1.30–3pm** In the Church Hall Meets weekly **during school term time only** with toys, activities and refreshments for pre-school children including babies with their parents & carers. £2 per family.
Tue	**Knit & Natter** **10.30am–12.30pm** Meets weekly, with home-made cake and hot drinks. Experienced knitters and beginners welcome alike, regularly knitting for a range of charities & great causes. Meeting in the church centenary room on **27-10** only.	**Lyfe** **9–10.30am** Friendship, prayer & short biblical courses, **during school term time only,** for parents with refreshments. **Family Space** **27th October 10-12noon** Games, art/craft, sports, hospitality, toys, bingo, £2 donation per family.	**Art as Worship** **Monthly on 2nd Tuesday** **11.30–1pm** **13th Oct, 10th Nov, 8th Dec** Explore scripture with art, book a place: http://sokastudio.co.uk/artas worship
Wed	**Sing-a-long** **Monthly on the 1st Wednesday 10.30–12noon** Includes hot drinks & homemade cake. **Bingo** **Monthly on the 2nd Wednesday 10.30-12noon** Win prizes, make new friends, enjoy refreshments.	**Quiz Morning** **Monthly on the 3rd Wednesday 10.30–12noon** with refreshments. **Musical Jam** **Monthly on the 4th Wednesday 10.30-12.30pm** with refreshments. A drop-in for all musicians & singers. **NHS Social Prescribing** **Drop-in 1st & 3rd Wednesdays**	**Police Surgery** **3-weekly 10–11am** Speak to Grace, our local PCSO, and her colleagues about any concerns. Forthcoming dates: **30th Sept, 21st Oct, 11th Nov, 2nd Dec.**
Thu	**Tea/Coffee, cake and biscuits** **12noon onwards** Drinks, biscuits & small cakes in the Hub whenever there's no lunch.	**Lunch 12–1pm** All welcome for a delicious lunch including soup, sandwiches and desert for only £3pp, served to your table. This term's dates: **17th Sept, 1st 15th & 29th Oct, 19th Nov, 3rd Dec.**	**Minnows** **1.30–3pm** In the Church Hall Meets weekly **during school term time only** with toys, activities and refreshments for pre-school children including babies with their parents & carers. £2 per family.
Fri	**Table Tennis** **9.30–11.30am** Meets weekly with refreshments, all welcome.	**NHS Social Prescribing** **9.15–12noon** Appointments available weekly to book with Diane, call 07521 220 573.	**Hubbub** **11–12.30pm** A weekly discussion group about the Christian faith.

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St Francis Xavier's students celebrate a memorable results day


Callan Wade with Headteacher, Mr David Haye


Joseph Cusack

This year's results reflect positive outcomes across GCSE and BTEC qualifications, with Spanish and IT among the standout subjects following notable improvements on the previous year.

Overall, 55 per cent of students were awarded grades 9-4 in English and mathematics, while there was also an overall 64 per cent increase in high-end grades 9-7.

Year 11 students at St Francis Xavier's Catholic Academy (SFX), Woolton, returned to school today [Thursday, 20 August] to receive their GCSE and BTEC results, marking the end of their secondary education and the beginning of an exciting new chapter.

Throughout the morning, students caught up with teachers and reflected on the friendships, experiences and opportunities that had shaped their time at the school, before discussing their next steps with staff and senior leaders.

Founded in 1842, SFX has been at the heart of Catholic education in Liverpool for almost two centuries. Today, as part of St Joseph Catholic Multi Academy Trust, the academy continues to combine its proud history with high expectations, helping young people develop the knowledge, character and confidence to flourish.

This year's results reflect positive outcomes across GCSE and BTEC qualifications, with Spanish and IT among the standout subjects following notable improvements on the previous year.

Overall, 55 per cent of students were awarded grades 9-4 in English and mathematics, while there was also an overall 64 per cent increase in high-end grades 9-7.

Students studying BTEC qualifications also performed strongly, with 10 per cent achieving Distinction* or Distinction grades.

Many students will now continue their education at St Francis Xavier's Catholic Sixth Form, while others will progress to colleges, apprenticeships and training providers as they pursue a wide range of career aspirations.

Among those celebrating today was Callan Wade, who showed great determination with outcomes on average two grades higher than predictions. He secured a series of strong passes in art, business, biology, computer science, English language, English literature, mathematics, history, science, sports studies and religious education. Callan is going on to study IT, history and art at St Francis Xavier's Catholic Sixth Form.

Callan said: "I am really pleased that my hard work has paid off and I am now able to come back and study at SFX's sixth form."

Also celebrating today was Moazzam Ijaz, who achieved 12 strong passes, including eight grade 9s in biology, chemistry, further mathematics, German, mathematics, physics and Spanish, and will study mathematics and science at The Bluecoat.

Moazzam commented:

"I would like to thank all of the staff at SFX who challenged and supported me."

Joseph Cusack secured 10 strong passes, of which seven were grade 9s including art, chemistry, mathematics, further mathematics, geography, physics and Spanish. Joseph is now preparing to study mathematics, physics and chemistry at Cronton College.

Joseph commented: "I've had good support from all the staff this year, especially those who have given up extra time early in the morning for revision classes all year."

Mr David Hayes, headteacher of St Francis Xavier's Catholic Academy, said: "Today is a proud day for our Xaverians. Watching this year's Year 11 students reach this milestone has been incredibly rewarding, and today's results are a reflection of everything they have contributed to school life.

"For generations, SFX has been committed to providing an outstanding Catholic education that helps young people grow not only in knowledge, but also in faith, integrity, ambition and respect. As part of St Joseph Catholic Multi Academy Trust, we are proud to continue that tradition, and we know our students leave us well prepared for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

We congratulate the class of 2026 and wish them every success for the future."

Mr Michael Gun-Why, director of secondary education at St Joseph Catholic Multi Academy Trust, added: "The achievements of our Year 11 students are a wonderful moment for the whole SFX community and for us as a trust. Congratulations to students, families, and of course, our dedicated staff.

"St Joseph Catholic Multi Academy Trust has high aspirations for every young person across our family of academies, and today is about seeing those aspirations turn into opportunities. Whether students are moving on to sixth form, college, apprenticeships or another pathway, we are excited to see what they do next."

St Francis Xavier's Catholic Academy will open its doors to prospective students and their families at its open evening on Thursday, 24 September between 4pm and 7pm. The event will provide an opportunity to explore the academy, meet staff and students, and discover more about life at SFX and the opportunities available to those joining in September 2027.

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FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER 1.00PM
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Join us as we commemorate the birthday of John Lennon by taking part in this 3-hour tour that discovers his early years. Visit his childhood haunts, discover his childhood home, learn of his early friendships, visit where John met Paul and we tread in the footsteps and byways he walked as a child. Meet Yew Tree Car Park, Calderstones (This is a two and a half hour tour and involves a fair amount of walking) £2.50 per person

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WOOLTON GRANGE

Meet the Manager: Woolton Grange



At Woolton Grange, a welcoming care home within the We Care Group family, compassionate leadership and a genuine commitment to residents' wellbeing are at the heart of everything we do. Laura Madigan our Home Manager shares her journey into care and what makes Woolton Grange such a special place to live.

Having dedicated almost two decades to Woolton Grange, Laura knows the home, its residents, and its values better than most. Her career began at the age of 20 when she joined the team as a night carer. Through hard work, passion, and a commitment to delivering exceptional care, she progressed to Senior Carer, Deputy Manager, and ultimately became Registered Manager in 2018.



Woolton Grange has been a huge part of my life, & she explains that she has had the privilege of growing my career here while building lasting relationships with residents, families, and colleagues. Watching residents thrive and knowing you've made a difference to someone's day is incredibly rewarding. Her passion for care started long before her professional career. Inspired by her mothers work within the care sector and through volunteering in residential care homes during her school years, she quickly developed a deep appreciation for supporting older people. Those early experiences taught me the importance of kindness, patience, and treating every person as an individual. That's something that remains at the centre of my approach today.

When asked what makes Woolton Grange unique, the answer is immediate - The family atmosphere. As soon as you walk through the door, there's warmth that people notice straight away. We treat our residents as members of our extended family, ensuring they receive the love, respect, and personalised care they deserve. This commitment to person-centred care begins from day one. Every resident is supported according to their individual needs, preferences, and life experiences, helping them maintain independence, dignity, and a sense of belonging.

Moving into care can be a significant transition for both residents and their loved ones. Our role is to make that journey as smooth and reassuring as possible. We take time to get to know every resident and work closely with families to ensure they feel supported throughout.

Under Laura's leadership, Woolton Grange continues to provide a caring, homely environment where residents can enjoy comfort, companionship, and the highest standards of care.

I'm incredibly proud of our team and the culture wave built together. We strive every day to create a home where people feel safe, valued, and happy. That's what Woolton Grange is all about

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Birkenhead School Announces Free Transport for Liverpool Students

Travel to award-winning independent school made easy

Birkenhead School - named North West Independent Secondary School of the Year 2025 by The Sunday Times - has announced an exciting new initiative offering free transport for Liverpool-based students, making it easier than ever for families across the region to access its outstanding education.

Located just 15 minutes from Liverpool city centre,and with more families than ever from South Liverpool choosing Birkenhead School, the School is ensuring that families across the Mersey can easily access its exceptional education and wide-ranging opportunities.

Free transport on the School's bespoke bus services will be provided for all primary pupils for the duration of their primary education in Prep, ensuring a smooth and supportive start to their educational journey.

In addition, new entrants joining Birkenhead School into Seniors (Year 7 to Upper Sixth) will benefit from a year of free transport. Currently, the School operates two dedicated bus services serving South Liverpool, offering a convenient and safe daily journey for pupils.

With demand for places continuing to grow, this initiative further strengthens Birkenhead School's commitment to supporting Liverpool families and broadening access to its exceptional provision.

"More Liverpool families than ever are choosing Birkenhead School, drawn by our academic excellence, rich co-curricular offering, and strong community values," says Mr Paul Vicars, Headmaster. "By offering free transport, we're removing a barrier to joining our thriving School community. Average journey time for many of our existing students from South Liverpool is just over 30 minutes. We encourage families to come and join many of our existing families who use our bespoke Liverpool travel network each day. This initiative builds on our established provision and highlights our on-going commitment to accessibility and convenience."

This initiative complements the School's ethos of providing accessible, values-driven education, combining academic rigour with personal development and exceptional opportunities - now with even greater convenience for Liverpool families.

The School is oversubscribed for Seniors entry, so families are encouraged to join in Prep or to attend the Seniors Assessment Days for Year 5 pupils held in June.

For more information about Birkenhead School, admissions, and transport routes, please visit www.birkenheadschool.co.uk

THE SUNDAY TIMES SCHOOLS GUIDE 2025 INDEPENDENT SECONDARY SCHOOL OF THE YEAR NORTH WEST

LUXE MOBILE NAILS



Hello, I'm Rachel, the founder of Luxe Mobile Nails,

I'm passionate about creating beautiful, well-finished nails while making every client feel relaxed, pampered and confident. I believe that having your nails done should be more than just a treatment - it should be a little bit of luxury and time for yourself.

As a mum of two, I understand how busy life can be, which is why I love bringing a professional nail service directly to my clients' homes. There's no travelling to a salon, finding parking or rushing around afterwards - just a personalised appointment in the comfort and privacy of your own home.

I specialise in BIAB, hand gel, French manicures, nail art and toenail reconstruction, with a strong focus on detailed preparation and achieving a flawless, salon-quality finish. I use premium professional products and take pride in creating nails that look beautiful while being tailored to each individual client.

For me, Luxe Mobile Nails is about bringing a little luxury to your doorstep - professional nail care without having to leave home.

Ready for your pamper session? Call or text 07909 221 872 to find out more or secure your appointment.

See my advert on page 45

GRANT EDIT



Grant Edit was founded by sisters Lindsey and Laura, brought together by a shared belief that everyone deserves to feel confident in their skin.

Based at Doe Park, Woolton Golf Club, we've created a calm, private clinic where evidence-based skin health meets a warm, welcoming approach. Whether you're new to aesthetics or looking for expert guidance, our aim is simple: to help you achieve healthier skin with treatments tailored to you.

As a pharmacist-led clinic, clinical knowledge, safety and integrity sit at the heart of everything we do. We believe aesthetics should never be about chasing youth- it should be about helping you look and feel your best at every stage of life. From pregnancy and postpartum to perimenopause and beyond, we create personalised treatment plans that support your skin as it changes over time.

Quality is central to every decision we make. We carefully selected Skin Rocks because of Caroline Hirons and her commitment to evidence-based skincare. We chose SkinPen®, the original FDA-cleared microneedling device, because we believe our clients deserve treatments backed by robust clinical trials.

We're also completing nationally recognised Level 7 qualifications in Aesthetics, not simply to prepare for future regulation, but because we believe investing in the highest standards of education is part of providing the safest quality of care.

At Grant Edit, we're here to help you invest in your skin- with honesty and expertise.'

Please give us a call on 07386 362406 to discuss your skin health with Laura & Lindsey or email us on Grantedit@outlook.com

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MEET CONEXUS TUITION

Helping children feel confident in their learning



"Is my child where they should be?"

It's a question many parents find themselves asking as their children move through primary school Perhaps your child is doing well, but you've noticed that reading comprehension is becoming harder. Maybe maths suddenly seems much more difficult than it used to. Perhaps they're approaching Year 6 and you're wondering whether they're ready for SATs. Or maybe their teacher has mentioned an area they could work on, and you're not quite sure what you can do at home to help.And sometimes, it's not really about the work at all. You just want to know that your child is okay.

I'm Sam, a qualified primary teacher and founder of Conexus Tuition, a new local tuition business supporting children across Woolton, Gateacre and Childwall and the surrounding areas.

After years of working in primary education, I wanted to create something that recognised that children don't always need more work. Sometimes they need someone to explain something in a different way. Someone to give them time to think. Someone to ask the right question. Someone to help them realise, "I can actually do this." - That's at the heart of Conexus.

I offer support in KS2 reading, English, maths and science, alongside focused Year 6 SATs preparation. Sessions are deliberately kept to small groups of no more than six children, because I believe children benefit from learning alongside others while still receiving plenty of individual attention. There is something incredibly valuable about children being able to talk through their ideas, explain their thinking, hear different approaches and realise that making mistakes is simply part of learningI'm particularly pa. ssionate about reading. A child can be a fluent reader and still struggle to understand what they've read. As children move through KS2, they're increasingly expected to explain, infer, use vocabulary and find evidence in a text. Building these skills can make a real difference - not just to their reading, but across the whole curriculum.

Most importantly, I want Conexus to be a place where children feel comfortable, encouraged and capable.

You don't have to wait until your child is struggling before asking for support. Sometimes a little reassurance, a clearer explanation or a boost in confidence at the right time can make all the difference.

As Conexus launches this October, I'm really looking forward to becoming part of the local community and getting to know the children and families I'm lucky enough to work with.

Conexus Tuition

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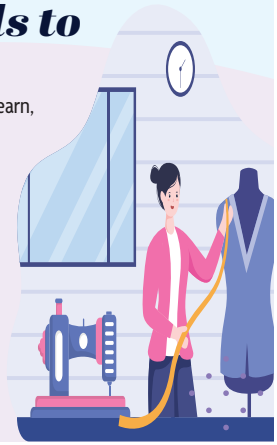
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For more details please contact Margaret on 0797 770 6211

CALDERSTONES SEWING BEES





Sorry to mention it Guys

...but now is the time to start thinking about your Christmas advertising!

Advert space in the November issues of L25 Woolton Times & South Liverpool Times is limited and always very sort-after so, don't leave it too late...

Contact Margaret now to discuss your requirements

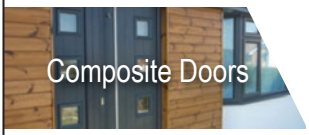
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Friends of Harthill & Calderstones Park

Friends of Harthill & Calderstones Park [FHCP] is a voluntary group established over forty years ago to provide assistance and support for projects aimed at conserving and enhancing Harthill and Calderstones Park.

THE FLOWERS OF HARTHILL & CALDERSTONES PARK, PART 2

As promised in our previous article, we would like now to introduce you to some more of the wild flowers growing in the Nature Reserve.



EVENING PRIMROSE

The large yellow blossoms open in the evening – hence the name and its country names of Dusk Beacon and Evening Star. The flowers attract evening-flying moths and its seeds are the source of Evening-Primrose Oil, used to treat skin disorders.



QUEEN ANNE'S LACE

This is the country name for both Cow Parsley and Wild Carrot. The white, lacy flowers of Cow Parsley edge country roads in early summer, whilst the flowers of Wild Carrot are seen in midsummer. It was said that, when Queen Anne, who lived in the late seventeenth century, travelled the countryside, the roadsides had been decorated in her honour. It was also said that the red flower in the centre of Wild Carrot flower heads represents a droplet of blood where Queen Anne pricked her finger making lace. Other country names include Fairy Lace, Grandpa's Pepper and Mother Die, the last name resulting from the belief that bringing Wild Carrot flowers into the house could have disastrous results.



VIPER'S BUGLOSS

The blue and purple flowers that spiral up the stems of this striking plant have red stamens protruding from them like tongues, making the flowers resemble adders' heads. The speckled stems suggested snake skin to the early herbalists and even the fruits are shaped like snakes' heads. Unsurprisingly, in ancient times Viper's Bugloss was used to treat snake bites.



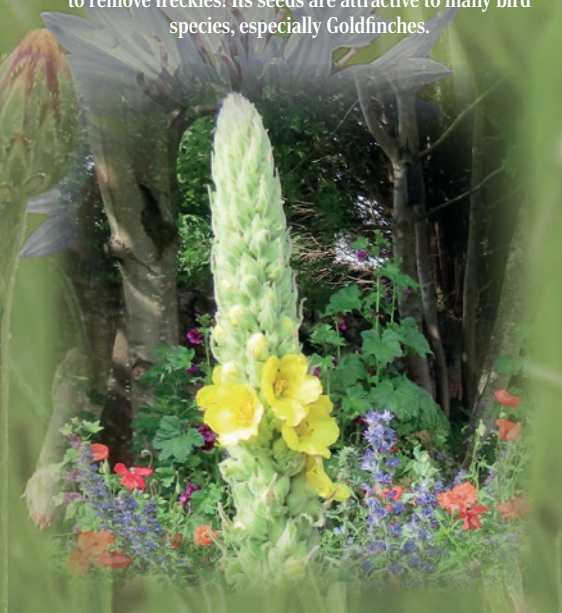
TEASEL

Teasel plants can grow up to 2.5m tall – indeed, we have some of this height in the Nature Reserve. Its spiny flower heads were used to 'tease out' tangled sheep's wool before it could be spun. The lower parts of the leaves form cups around the stems, where raindrops collect into puddles. This water was thought to have rejuvenating powers – and to remove freckles! Its seeds are attractive to many bird species, especially Goldfinches.

FIELD POPPY

This much-loved flower has many common names, including Corn Poppy and Flanders Poppy. Since the First World War, it has become an annual symbol of remembrance for fallen soldiers around Armistice Day, on 11th November. It grew in battlefields, churned up by shells, where hundreds of thousands of soldiers met their deaths, as remembered by the war poet, John McCrae:

In Flanders fields the poppies grow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly.



GREAT MULLEIN

The yellow flowers are held on spikes which can grow to a height of over 2m. The large leaves are covered with a soft, greyish wool, which gives the plant its country names of Donkey's Ears, Hare's Beard and also Our Lady's Candle. In modern times it has been called The Andrex Plant and has been used accordingly!

The use of wild plants in medicine over hundreds of years has resulted in more than 150 of them having names which end in the word 'wort', meaning a plant or herb. The first part of the name indicates the complaint against which the plant was thought to be most efficacious – Woundwort, Bladderwort, Feverwort, Sneezewort and many others. Wort plants were used by the Wise Woman/Man of the village, who, in days gone by, filled the role of today's doctor.

Another indication that a plant had medicinal properties is the inclusion in its Latin name of the word officinalis - for example, Pulmonaria officinalis [Lungwort] and Taraxacum officinale [Dandelion]. Officinalis means belonging to an officina, which was the storeroom or apothecary in a monastery where medicines were kept, the monks being renowned for treating the sick.

These are just a few more of the flowers of the Nature Reserve which create a spectacular, beautiful and traditional display throughout the summer. Although the flowering season is drawing to a close, there is always something interesting to see. We are open on Tuesdays from 10.00am to 3.00pm. Further information can be found on our Facebook page, Calderstones Park Forever.

FUTURE EVENTS ORGANISED BY THE F.H.C.P

Wednesday 30th September - TALK ON THE SUBJECT OF JAPANESE GARDENS by John Appleton, Northern Region Lead & member of the National Committee of the Japanese Garden Society, at Calderstones Mansion House 2pm,

Thursday 17th December - Friends' Christmas Celebration

For details of forthcoming events or about membership of the Friends, please contact nadine.taylor@live.com

SAVE WOOLTON BATHS

A community campaign to protect our past and build a sustainable future

For generations, Woolton Baths has been more than a swimming pool.

It has been a place where local children learned to swim, where schools brought generations of pupils, where families came together and where an important part of Woolton's history remained in everyday community use.

Now, the Save Woolton Baths campaign is working to ensure that story does not end.

Our objective is not simply to ask for the building to be reopened. We are developing a serious, evidence-led proposal to restore Woolton Baths and establish it as a sustainable, inclusive community facility capable of serving Woolton and the wider Liverpool community for generations to come.

MORE THAN SAVING A BUILDING

Woolton Baths is a Grade II listed building, and protecting its historic character is central to our plans. The campaign believes its heritage and its future can work together.

Our emerging vision retains swimming at the heart of Woolton Baths while exploring additional facilities and activities capable of making the building more financially sustainable and useful throughout the day.

That includes opportunities around community wellbeing and fitness, a community café and refreshment facilities, improved accessibility, community activities and partnerships with local schools, organisations and businesses.

We are also looking carefully at how modern technology and energy-efficiency improvements could reduce the substantial cost of operating a historic swimming facility without unnecessarily compromising its character.

This isn't about transforming Woolton Baths into something unrecognisable. It's about giving a historic building a viable future.

BUILDING THE EVIDENCE FIRST

One of the most important principles of the campaign is that we will not make promises that cannot yet be supported by evidence.

Detailed decisions about the building must follow proper access, surveys and professional assessment.

Once authorised access becomes available, areas requiring investigation include the building's structure and condition, mechanical and electrical systems, pool infrastructure, energy requirements, accessibility, heritage considerations and the work required to bring the facility back into safe operation.

The campaign is already developing the business, partnership and community evidence needed to support that process.

Rather than waiting until access is secured before starting work, we are building relationships now with organisations that could eventually contribute professional expertise, equipment, materials, services or other support.

BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS ARE GETTING INVOLVED

The response from organisations approached by the campaign has been extremely encouraging.

We have been speaking with businesses and professional organisations across construction, engineering, heritage, energy, fitness, catering, accessibility and other sectors about what role they may potentially play.

Some discussions concern professional advice. Others involve potential materials or equipment, preferential community project pricing, technical assistance or longer-term partnerships. Importantly, we are not expecting one company to fund the restoration.

The aim is to build a network of supporters, where individual contributions can collectively reduce the amount of funding required and bring valuable professional knowledge into the project. Every approach, response and offer is being formally recorded. We distinguish between an organisation that has simply been contacted, one that has expressed interest and one that has actually committed support.

For us, transparency matters.

ACCESSIBILITY MUST BE PART OF THE RESTORATION

A restored Woolton Baths should be a facility that as much of our community as possible can genuinely use.

The campaign is therefore already exploring specialist advice around accessibility. This includes identifying an appropriate accessible pool-entry solution, potentially involving a commercial pool hoist, as well as investigating how accessible movement between different levels of the historic building could be achieved.

Whether that ultimately involves a lift, platform lift, stair-lift or another solution cannot responsibly be decided until

proper surveys and measurements can take place.
What we can do now is ensure accessibility is considered from the beginning, rather than added as an afterthought.

WORKING WITH OUR SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY

The future of Woolton Baths also has the potential to extend well beyond public swimming sessions. We want to explore relationships with schools, community organisations and other local groups so that the building once again becomes an active community resource. Swimming and water confidence remain particularly important.

Having a community swimming facility available locally creates opportunities for children to learn an essential life skill, while an expanded programme could support fitness, wellbeing, older residents, families and people requiring adapted or supported activities.

The campaign wants the eventual operating model to reflect what the community actually needs.

A £125,000 FIRST FUNDING TARGET

The campaign has established an initial fundraising target of £125,000. These figure will be confirmed after we have the building structual report and chartered visual inspection.

It is important to explain what that figure represents.

This is a first-round funding target, not a claim that £125,000 will fund the complete restoration of Woolton Baths.

The full cost cannot responsibly be established until authorised access and detailed professional surveys allow the building's condition and requirements to be properly assessed.

Initial funding would help put the campaign in a stronger position to progress the work necessary to move from a community vision towards a deliverable restoration project.

Alongside fundraising, every credible contribution of professional time, equipment, materials or services has the potential to reduce eventual project costs.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

One of the major objectives is securing the appropriate agreement that would allow the community project to progress and the necessary professional investigations to begin.

The campaign's preferred approach is one in which the building remains protected while a sustainable community organisation takes responsibility for bringing it back into productive use.

Until access is formally authorised, we will continue doing everything that can responsibly be done outside the building: strengthening the business case, gathering community support, developing partnerships, investigating funding opportunities and preparing for the surveys and professional work that will follow.

THERE IS A LOT STILL TO DO.

But there is also a growing network of people and organisations demonstrating that Woolton Baths matters.

HOW WOOLTON CAN HELP

Community support is a vital part of demonstrating that there is a real future for Woolton Baths.

Residents can support the campaign, follow its progress, share it with friends and neighbours, register their support and, where they are able, contribute towards the first funding round.

We are also keen to hear from businesses, professionals and organisations that believe they could contribute expertise, materials, equipment or services.
And we particularly want to hear people's memories.

If you learned to swim at Woolton Baths, went there with school, worked there, competed there or simply remember it as part of growing up in Woolton, those stories form part of the building's history too.

Saving Woolton Baths is about preserving that history - but it is equally about deciding what happens next.

With the right planning, professional support and community backing, we believe this historic building has the potential to become an active, inclusive and sustainable community asset once again.

Woolton Baths has served generations of our community. Our campaign is working to give it the opportunity to serve generations more.

RESTORE THE PAST. PROTECT THE FUTURE.

Residents, businesses and organisations can follow the campaign, register their support and find further information through the Save Woolton Baths website and campaign social-media channels.

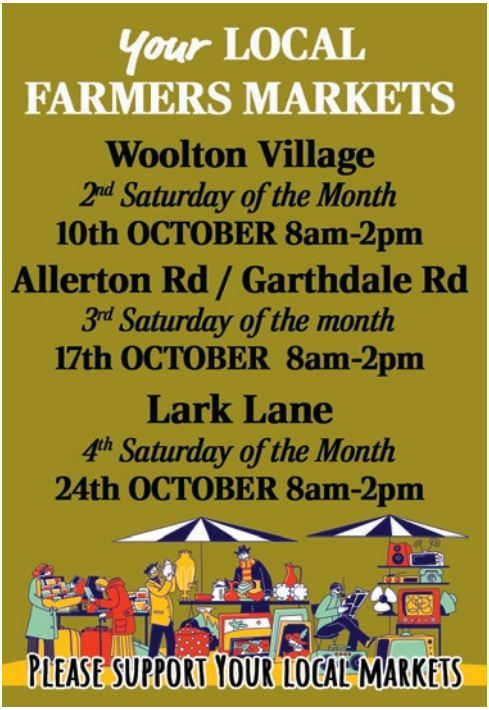




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The Gateacre Society

Guarding the Past
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **AGM Sunday 18th October at 2pm**
- **Welsh in Liverpool Sunday 15th November at 2pm**

Members and Visitors, all Welcome

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COUNCILLOR **MIRNA JUAREZ** & **RAFAELA BRAUNER**

Dear Residents, I hope you are well and enjoying our summer.



NEW GROUP: FRIENDS OF WOOLTON WOODS & CAMP HILL

We are pleased to report back that after advice from the Liverpool Parks Teams, we have successfully relaunched the Friends of Woolton Woods and Camp Hill, which has not been operational for a few years. After completing all the necessary paperwork and insurance, we have been given the go ahead to hold events in the park such as nature trails, wildlife species data gathering, tree walks, bat walks and litter picking. For further details of events and community gatherings head to our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/groups/559982807443974?locale=en_GB for information and notices. The first event took place in August when we were joined by the Liverpool City Parks team for a Free BioBlitz event for residents which included a bug hunt, birdwatching and plant identification. It was enjoyed both by adults and children and it was fantastic opportunity to get out in nature in our wonderful park. I do hope that you will be able to join us at the events we are planning.



SAVE WOOLTON BATHS CAMPAIGN

We are very excited and delighted to be supporting the Save Woolton Baths Campaign. When the building was abruptly shut back in 2010, losing access to this popular pool was a serious blow to our community's health and wellbeing. It is outrageous that this building has been shut for 16 years and left to rot. We can all see the state of disrepair it has fallen into and it is a real shame that it is becoming an eyesore. It is clear that this valuable historical asset must be saved and we are looking forward to working with Josh Murphy and his Community Trade Coalition on their exciting proposals to get the baths re-opened. Check out this wonderful campaign's website https://beacon-ai.co.uk/savewooltonbaths and show your support. Here is an image of what the baths could look like.

FREE FAMILY COMMUNITY GET TOGETHER

Summer is an expensive time for parents keeping children entertained during the holidays. That's why we used Local Neighbourhood Funding to lay on a free community event at St Hilda's Church Hall in Hunts Cross at the end of August. I want to congratulate and give a special thank you to Kathryn Bowman for organising the community get-together and to those local service providers who made the event special: Topaz Dance School for the brilliant dancing, Jemsie's Ice Cream for the lovely ice cream van service, Alison Castles for the great Bouncy Castle, Debbie Jane Creative Make Up for the face painting, Creative Corner Liverpool for the arts and crafts of rock painting and canvas colouring. And a big thank you as well to all the Liverpool Zero Waste Volunteers who were amazing. We do look forward to working in partnership with you all again soon. Events like these are so important in building community cohesion and stronger, safer neighbourhoods for us all to thrive.



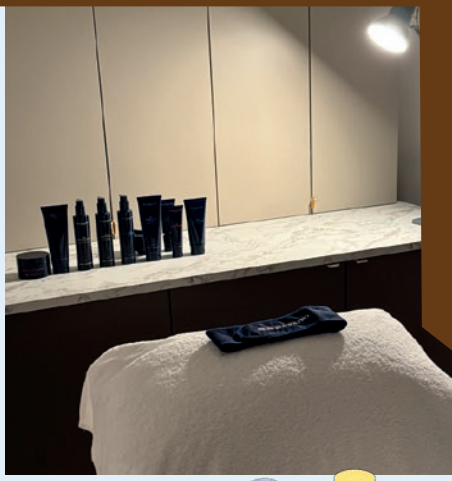
Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns that you wish to draw to my attention, or if you are isolated and need help.

Best wishes, Mirna & Rafaela

COUNCILLOR MIRNA JUAREZ
Email: mirna.juarez@liverpool.gov.uk
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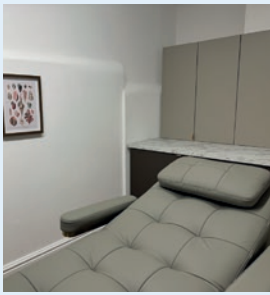
Meet Skin Rocks

Expertly founded by skincare authority Caroline Hirons, a globally respected therapist, known for her science-backed no-nonsense advice.
Home to award-winning clinically proven products that deliver results
Your go-to destination for trusted expert-led skincare knowledge.

About Us

Grant Edit is a pharmacist-led skincare clinic built on evidence, honesty and personalised care.
Every consultation is tailored to your skin, your concerns and your goals - because no two faces are the same
We believe in natural-looking results that prioritise long-term skin health.

Open Saturday, Sunday, Monday - plus, evenings appointments throughout the week.



GRANT EDIT

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MSB Woolton FC

The Next Generation of Woolton FC Players U17s – North West Youth Alliance



Like most teams, young and old, summer is a time for looking back at the season just gone and getting excited about the one coming.

After a proper full-on first campaign in the North West Youth Alliance we decided to take a complete break rather than dip into any summer leagues. The lads needed to recharge the batteries so they could come back ready for 2026/27.

Reflecting on that first year in the NWYA, it was a tough ask. We were playing a year up against well-established, well-funded academy sides - Bury, Chester, Altrincham and AFC Fylde among them. We were already at an age and physical disadvantage, then you add clubs like Fylde who are managed by a former Premier League player and whose lads train five days a week. The standard was seriously high.

The penny dropped eventually. Once the boys understood that the tactical side of the game matters just as much as running around at this level, results started to improve. Finishing the season unbeaten against Altrincham home and away, picking up creditable draws with Chester and Bury, and doing the double over both Atherton LR and Winstanley was excellent to see. We also had a great cup run that only ended in controversial circumstances in the semi-finals at Gigg Lane, going down 1-2 to Bury.



Looking forward, we can't wait to get going again. Two convincing wins already in pre-season and three more friendlies still to come. The squad has changed a little – four players have moved on and two have come in – though we're still on the lookout for a striker!

I'm hopeful that two or three of the lads will start getting some exposure to the first team this season, whether that's training with the seniors, making the bench or just being around the place. We've got some proper players here and showing them we believe in them is important for keeping them at the club. The other side of that coin is they have to perform when the adult coaches are watching. Success for me will be seeing a few of these boys in and around the first-team setup as the season unfolds.



The new campaign kicks off this weekend. Bring it on.

We welcome players of all abilities, anyone interested in participating at any age group or level should initially either visit Camp Hill on a Saturday morning for mini-soccer. For all other age groups, please make contact via email ***enquiries@wooltonfc.org.uk*** *or visit our website:* **www.wooltonfc.org.uk**


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The **Friends of Gateacre** is a group of local volunteers dedicated to making our village a place for everyone. We volunteer to ensure the village remains a safe, beautiful and thriving space for the community.

What we do:

- **Conservation:** Planting flowers in barrels, watering and de-weeding. Planting new trees and much more!
- **Improvements:** Raising funds for events and local improvements.
- **Community:** Organising litter picks, social meetings and local events.
- **A voice:** Working with the council to have a say in how the area is managed.





To get involved e-mail kris.brown@liverpool.gov.uk

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ABOUT US

Here at Beechley Stables RDA we are committed to delivering riding lessons and equine therapies to those in our community with disabilities. We deliver a measurable impact in life enhancing areas such as physical ability, communication, relationship building and confidence.

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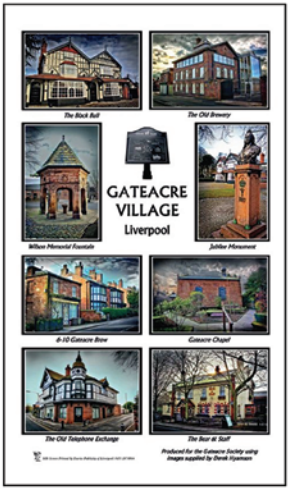
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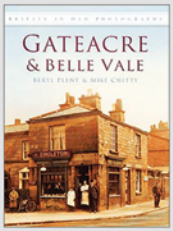
Gateacre is a SPECIAL place

Will you HELP us to KEEP it that way?

You can SHOW YOUR SUPPORT for what we do by joining the Society, or TAKE AN ACTIVE PART in our discussions and help with the running of the Society by joining our Committee

These are some of the things we discuss:

Local planning applications - Conservation Area policy - Traffic issues - Listed Buildings - Green spaces - Trees - Litter and leaves - Rights of Way - Pedestrian access - Pavements and potholes - Bus routes and facilities - Street 'clutter' - Local History



Our book of old Gateacre & Belle Vale photographs and our tea towel of Gateacre Village landmarks are on sale at our public talks, which take place in Gateacre Chapel, Gateacre Brow L25 3PB

The Gateacre Society

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A Strong Voice in Tough Times



Labour Government making a difference in people's lives

Just before Parliament broke up for summer recess Andy Burnham became Prime Minister and already we are seeing a clear sense of direction from the new Labour Government. At its heart is something very simple: a Labour Government should make a difference to people's everyday lives in places like Woolton.

The cost of living remains a real concern for families across Liverpool Garston. Food, energy and other household bills have risen substantially in recent years and we are taking practical steps to help. That is why one of Andy Burnham's first decisions as Prime Minister was to remove VAT from domestic electricity bills from 1 October, saving the typical household around £45 a year on their energy bills.

The £2 bus fare cap championed by Liverpool City Council is being rolled out across the country, because affordable and reliable public transport matters enormously in communities like ours. It connects people to jobs, schools, hospitals, shops and family and friends and we're saving people money on every journey.

Woolton has a vibrant social scene and Labour is also providing additional support for pubs, social clubs and live music venues, with a 20 per cent reduction in business rates planned from April next year. These aren't simply businesses, they are often an important part of the communities they serve and have struggled over the last few years.

We're also introducing new technical education routes from the age of 14, allowing young people to combine core academic subjects with high-quality technical education, work experience and links with employers. That will make a huge difference to young people in Woolton.

But one of the biggest changes is about where decisions are made. The Government is now proposing a major extension of devolution, including allowing mayors to retain a share of income tax and business rates revenues. This will give local areas greater control over housing, transport, skills and employment support. That matters to Liverpool and to areas like Woolton. Giving our city region greater control over its own future means decisions can be made closer to the people affected by them.

We are also keeping our promises to build more affordable and council housing, return the NHS to a service we can all rely on, make our streets safer and give our young people real opportunities. That's all while putting money back in people's pockets and fixing the cost of living crisis. That's the difference Labour make in Government.

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WOW - Women of Woolton WI - SEPTEMBER 2026

WOW (Women of Woolton) Women's Institute is part of the National Federation of Women's Institutes. Our monthly meetings cover crafts, campaigns and issues of the day as well as providing a forum for an active and friendly social life.

We are so happy to have our Monthly Members meeting at Woolton Golf Club which has a beautiful function suite & accommodates our 100 members comfortably.
We have had some great speakers so far this year with a full program planned for 2026/2027
Our February to October meetings are held in the evenings 7pm – 9pm and afternoons in November and December 1pm- 3pm.
Our July Members meeting was entertained by Hilary Mckinskey whose talk was titled Back stage at the Ballet- it was a tremendous talk as Hilary was the top designer for the Northern Ballet for over 8 years meeting royalty and Rudolf Nureyev. August we had Janet Backstrom who has set up a food recycling business in Liverpool and spoke on Radio Merseyside recently about how it all works. Janet presented a very enjoyable and informative talk about the current food recycling business.
We have lots planned for our members this Autumn rounding up with a visit to Sudley House, a trip to Dunham Massey and a Christmas market to Macclesfield. WOW! How busy Women of Woolton are.
We continue with small controlled groups at the Simpson ground covering various crafts during the year. Our timetable of events include reading, walking, quizzes, board games, art and our very popular Supper & Breakfast Clubs going from Strength to strength visiting many restaurants within Woolton Village & surrounding area throughout the year. Our latest being August breakfast club at ODA – we certainly get about – very popular and most enjoyable time was had by all.
Our new membership from March 2026 is currently full even with renewal of memberships we still have a waiting list of 25 ladies waiting to join- but you can still come as a visitor by pre arrangement.

Margaret Davies
WOW WI PR Committee Member
Woolton
margdavies_uk@yahoo.co.uk
mobile: 0797 770 6211

OTHER LOCAL WI'S:

CHILDWALL WI
Pam Tinnion

HALEWOOD WI
jenningham1952@yahoo.co.uk
contact the Federation direct
01722459020

KNOTTY ASH WI
Marj Sands
marjsands@hotmail.com
contact the Federation direct
01722459020



The Friends of Reynolds Park

Please visit the park on Reynolds Day, Saturday 26th September from 10am

We will be celebrating the 97th anniversary of the gifting of the park to the people of Liverpool by Sir James Reynolds.

There will be a litter pick, tombola, and an opportunity to support our work for the good of the park by becoming a member of the Friends of Reynolds Park. The Woolton Society pamphlet, A History of Reynolds Park, will be available.

Our next meeting, in the Woolton Tesco cafe, will be held on Wednesday 11th November at 7pm. We would be delighted to see you there.

www.friendsofreynoldspark.co.uk | facebook.com/ Friendsofreynoldspark
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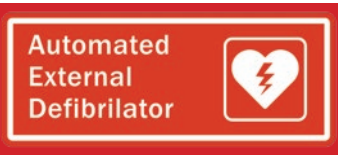
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Defibrillator Locations in Woolton & Gateacre



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So having access to an AED and knowing how to use one is critical if you don't already know how to use an AED then guidance will be given by the 999 call –handler and also on the device itself.
There are also free courses available to learn how to use an AED and provide lifesaving interventions.

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COBDEN VAULTS	89 Quarry Street, L25 6HA	24 hrs
GRANGE LANE PHARMACY	183 Grange Lane, L25 5JY	24 hrs
ST JAMES CHURCH HALL	Church Road South	24 hrs
THE BLACK BULL PUB	9 Gateacre Brow, L25 3PA	24 hrs
Woolton Cinema	Mason Street L25 5JH	24 hrs

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"CHANGE THE LOCKS ON THE PENNY LANE COMMUNITY CENTRE"

URGES LOCAL COUNCILLOR RICHARD KEMP

Penny Lane ward councillor, Richard Kemp, has criticised the council, AMS the administrators for the former organisation which ran the community centre, and property agents acting for the administrators for delay and obfuscation in getting open the former centre reopened after more than nine months.

The development trust closed for business at the beginning of December 2025 when it ran into financial difficulties and had to call in administrators. The administrators believe that the lease has value which it could use to pay the outstanding debts of the trust. However, the site, which has a peppercorn lease, has no commercial value, as it can only be granted to charities or other not-for-profit bodies which help the community of Penny Lane and the wider Liverpool 18 area.

Despite the obvious lack of market value of this building the administrators have appointed an agent to try and dispose of the building as profitably as possible. The agents and the council were supposed to be approving a marketing document some three months ago to put out to the many organisations and charities which work within the local community. However, no such document has yet to be approved or circulated and a whole summer has been lost in which the building and its grounds could have been open to meet local need during this long sweltering summer.

Cllr Kemp explains, "I know that there are at least a dozen local organisations that are champing at the bit to take over this property and provide much needed community services and, perhaps, make a profit from tourist visitors to provide further services for the community. In fact, we had two local companies which are rooted in the community who were prepared to take over the building during the summer alongside local organisations to keep the building in use and to generate profits for subsequent use by the community.

However, every time I ask, I am told no progress has been made. The council cites a series of legal difficulties while trying to get the administrators and agents to act. I now believe this has dragged on for so long that the council must take decisive action: change the locks and begin marketing the building so it fulfils the purpose intended when the council granted the lease 15 years ago – to provide a much-needed local facility.

The main fault lies with the actions of AMS, the Manchester based accountancy practice which is acting in the liquidation. But I do not believe that the council has been robust enough in dealing with this company to ensure that a council owned asset is available for the purpose for which it was intended in serving the local community.

The time has come for action, and I want the council to change the locks on the building that we own on behalf of the people, issue details of the building and its potential use to the local community and get it open again as soon as possible."

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Tackling Grot-Spots



I've been on the hunt for 'grot-spots' in the area, as part of keeping pride of place in the community. I'm working with the council to remove fly-tipping at the back of the shops on Grange Lane, and requesting a fresh clean underneath the bridges underneath the loopline from pigeon-poop.

Hundreds sign petition



Nearly 300 people have signed my petition to fix the traffic lights in Gateacre Village. As such, the council is now looking to investigate and fix the problem. A big thanks to local residents.

Proposed changes to your tip run



The Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority (MRWA) the organisation which manages your waste here is asking households and residents across Merseyside to have their say on proposed changes to Household Waste Recycling Centres or the tips. For residents in Gateacre and Woolton, this will likely impact your visits to Huyton or Otterspool. The consultation seeks views on four potential changes:

1. Access only to Merseyside residents
2. Fair use limits for number of visits per year
3. A booking system for all visits to help manage demand and reduce queues
4. Requirement to separate recyclable and non-recyclable waste before it is brought to HWRCs to increase recycling

My strong view is that these proposals could lead to a lot residents being left out and could increase fly-tipping across the city.

Have your say by scanning the QR Code above using your phone.

ADVICE SURGERIES: Every 2nd Saturday @Woolton Farmers Market or by Appointment only @Woolton Youth Centre (Tuesday evenings - Email to book)

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