



The Wavertree Society

Caring for Wavertree - Past, Present and Future

NEWSLETTER 260

Founded 1977
Registered
Charity
No.1004259

MAY
2026

Wavertree Garden Suburb Memorabilia Afternoon

Sunday 31st May 2026, 2 - 4pm drop-in
The WGS Institute, 149 Thingwall Road, L17 7JX
All welcome – Entrance free



A chance to meet old friends
or to make new ones.
Meet your neighbours.
Catch up on news.
Look at old photographs and
historic documents.
Find out about the history of
the Wavertree Garden Suburb.



Please bring along any old photos or items you have relating to the suburb.
If you are still in touch with former neighbours or friends who have moved away, please let them know as well. The last memorabilia afternoon we had in 2000 was a great success.

NETWORK RAIL TREE WORKS – A CHAINSAW MASSACRE!

In early April The Society was contacted by concerned members and others about the extensive works being carried out by Network Rail on the embankment that runs along the east side of The Mystery park.

The Society had been told that already been made aware by Network Rail that some works were going ahead and we were not concerned.

Network Rail said:

“The project will involve keeping immediate trackside areas clear of vegetation and removing or reducing any trees on railway land that are within striking distance of the track and therefore posing a hazard to passing trains.”

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Chair: **Robert Zatz** (0151 733 5878)
Vice Chair & Planning Secretary: **John Wood** (07703 531991)
Hon. Secretary: **Richard Macdonald**. (richardmacdonald@hotmail.com)
Hon. Treasurer: **Colin Pyle** (0151 722 1565)
Membership Sec. & Sales Officer: **Sheilagh Birch**, 338 Wavertree Nook Road, L15 7LJ (0151 722 6265) smbirch@blueyonder.co.uk
Local History Secretary: **Adrian Seviour**
If you are interested in a committee position, please contact us.
Email: wavsoc2023@gmail.com

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.

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It is now clear that the extent of the works went far beyond what Network Rail suggested in their communication, with many dozens of mature trees falling victim to the chainsaw.

Whilst we understand the need for maintenance and judicious pruning, we are disappointed at the extent of the work – especially as we had previously been told that tree-works should not take place after March due to the nesting season for birds and other wildlife.

We have written to Network Rail to express our concerns and point out that lack of regular low-level pruning has resulted in this damaging situation for the park's appearance, harming its natural habitat and public enjoyment. However, as the work has now been done, we are not hopeful of any meaningful response.

LOVE THE MYSTERY – A NEW GROUP

We have previously updated our members on the works being carried out by United Utilities to install a new storm-water tank in the park. Although the works will bring disruption for a time, we are pleased to report that one positive developed has already come out of it.

A group of locals have formed 'Love The Mystery' with the aim of working with United Utilities and Liverpool City Council to help shape how funding linked to the project is used.

We are pleased this group have emerged and have taken up the reins of previous 'Friends of the Mystery' groups which have become inactive.

The 'Love the Mystery' group have already started the planting of wildflowers and other groundworks to improve parts of the park.

In addition, they have also provided a comprehensive wish-list of asks from UU and LCC. We fully support their work!

Charity Family FUN DAY
WAVERTREE CRICKET CLUB
MONDAY 25TH MAY 2026
11:00AM - 5:00PM

JOIN US FOR A SPECTACULAR FAMILY FUN DAY!

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ EXCITING GAMES & ACTIVITIES
- ✓ INFLATABLE FUN
- ✓ BBQ FOOD & REFRESHMENTS
- ✓ LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
- ✓ CAR BOOTSALE & STALLS

FOR MORE INFORMATION: CONTACT CRAIG ON 07751 865144
WWW.WCCFUNDRAISE.CO.UK L15 4HU

@WAVERTREECRICKETCLUB @WAVERTREECC @WAVERTREECC @WAVERTREECC

WAVERTREE GARDEN SUBURB NEWS

A GIFT FROM AN OLD NEIGHBOUR

A previous resident of the Garden Suburb, Pat Moffat, who now lives in Dover, has kindly donated the cost of one of the new trees to the Garden Suburb in Bloom group. Pat lived at 275 Thingwall Road from 1935 till 1971 and has many fond memories of her time there. As the group have already funded a tree outside number 275, Pat's donation will be put towards another tree – maybe one of the ones identified for the next phase of planting.

UPDATE ON PLANTING

Until now, the focus has been replacing trees on Thingwall Road but losses caused by age and disease have also affected Nook Rise and Southway. With that in mind, a group of residents met with Keith from the Council's tree department to discuss whether replacement trees could be planted in those roads. He identified some problems with narrow verges and existing tree stumps which would have to be removed but thought we would be able to plant 6 trees in the next phase. Julie Fadden, our Councillor has promised to see what she can do to fund some of these. Watch this space!

WANT TO HELP? The group meets on Sunday mornings between 10am and 12pm at the Institute Garden. New members are always welcome - no experience is needed.

The next Open Day and Plant Sale will be on Saturday 25th July.

A SPECIAL ARTICLE FROM OUR FRIENDS AT LOVE WAVERTREE

The Difference We Make

Why we volunteer for Love Wavertree – can you too?

With rising costs, global uncertainty and everyday frustrations, life can feel overwhelming. But there are ways to make things better—and together we can.

Love Wavertree CIC was founded in 2019 to challenge negative perceptions of the area after it was described as a declining high street. Since then, it has grown into a thriving community initiative. In 2020, it took over the charity shop at 203 Picton Road, now known as the ReLoved Shop.

Run by dedicated volunteers, the shop is more than a place to find a bargain. It's a welcoming space for conversation, connection and support.

Volunteer Yves values the chance to break from routine and meet people he'd never otherwise encounter.

Director Graham highlights the impact of small actions—like helping someone afford a school uniform.

For Bethan, volunteering is about shared responsibility and feeling part of the community.



Beyond the shop, Love Wavertree has organised Car Free Days, numerous litter picks, Christmas events, film screenings, literary activities and more—bringing opportunities to the area that might not otherwise exist. All of this is powered by volunteers, and more help is always needed. Even an hour every couple of weeks can make a real difference.

Volunteer Lorraine supports events such as pre-loved fashion shows and prom dress initiatives with local schools. This year, eleven students found dresses they could afford. "Seeing young people feel confident and included, regardless of cost, is incredibly moving," she says. Her aim, she explains, is simple: to remove barriers, create opportunities, and help people feel included.

If you'd like to give your time—or donate items such as pre-loved prom dresses—visit the shop or email lovewavertree@gmail.com.

WAVERTREE SOCIETY 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

2027 marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of The Wavertree Society.

We are planning anniversary celebrations including a reflection back on what The Wavertree Society – with your support – have achieved over the past 50 years.

We would like to invite members to submit their suggestions to the Society for events or activities that we could use to celebrate Wavertree and the Society's work.

We are exploring a funding bid to the National Lottery Heritage or Community Fund to see if we can secure some funding to help support our activities.

One idea already suggested is a campaign to lobby the Council to fix the clock-tower (see below).

TIME TO FIX THE PICTON CLOCK

One of the most frequent types of email we receive is asking the question: 'When will the Picton Clock be fixed?'

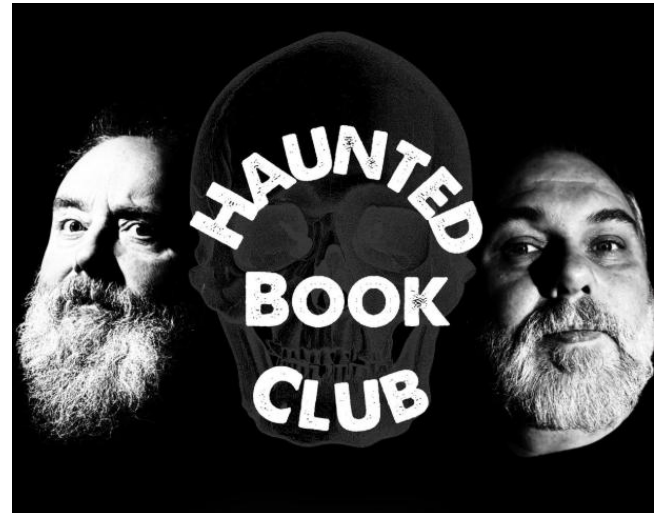
Since at least 2021 the clock has been broken and we have not been slack in trying to encourage the Council to do something about it.

We have been told that one of the issues is that the internal staircase to fix the clock mechanism is unsafe and cannot be used. Whilst we accept that fact, we do not see why an alternative solution, such as a ladder, cannot be used.

Given the lack of action by the Council, we now think the time is right to start a publicity campaign, calling on the people of Wavertree to make their voice heard - watch this space.

www.thewavertreesociety.uk
Facebook.com/wavsoc X@wavsoc Email:
wavsoc2023@gmail.com

HAUNTED BOOK CLUB COMES TO THE LOCK-UP



Something a bit different is coming to the Lock-Up this summer.

Childwall-based horror author John Reppion and Lancashire storyteller Gav Cross are bringing their Haunted Book Club podcast live to The Wavertree Lock-Up.

The Haunted Book Club is a perfectly contained evening for the lovers of the spooky tale. The format: a story, the deeper details and then the conversation.

For more details:

<https://www.moorereppion.com/join-the-haunted-book-club/>

Do you want to JOIN the Society?

Our annual subscription is £5 per household or £10 per company or organisation.

You can pay:

Online (PayPal): www.thewavertreesociety.uk

Cash/Cheque: Made payable to The Wavertree Society to The Membership Secretary, 338 Wavertree Nook Road, Liverpool, L15 7LJ.

Bank transfer:

Name of Account - **The Wavertree Society**

Sort Code – **20-50-82**, Account No – **30941344**

If you pay by bank transfer, please indicate who the payment is from and for how many years and if you wish to make a voluntary extra donation, please indicate as such too. You can advise us by email or letter of your contact details so that we can send you emails and keep in touch with you.

Are you a PAID-UP Member?

If your address label indicates the date (e.g. **30/09/26**) on which your current subscription expires. You can renew, if you wish, for up to 3 years at a time.