

MALDENS AND COOMBE HERITAGE SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 27th FEBRUARY 2013

AT NEW MALDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Members stood for a minutes silence to remember Malcolm Lloyd who had died in hospital. Mary then paid tribute to Malcolm and said that the cremation would be at Putney Vale followed by a celebration of Malcolm's life held at the Baptist Church.

Mary greeted all members (30). There were five new members, Ray Broadfield, Liz and Don Bavington, and Mr and Mrs Mike Coleman

There were apologies for absence: from Chris Coke, Martin Maggs, and Jim Reilly.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Mary thanked the church for the use of their room, and for their catering facilities.

It had been suggested that we should issue suggestion slips so that any member who had an idea that they wanted to be explored further could do so by completing the slip anonymously if desired. We have had four returns.

Amy Graham from the Kingston archives and heritage centre then spoke about her project concerning the 213 bus route. Amy is doing a full time masters course at Kingston University as well as working four days a week at Kingston Museum. She envisaged that the project would take about six months and was not just about the physical route the bus took, but also about the development of the route since it first started. Everything including the bus types (single/double deckers) (conductors/one man), bus shelters. She had already produced a photographic record of all the bus stops on the route of which there were 57 names. She was interested in the local history of New Malden High Street which she would compare and contrast with Central Road in Worcester Park. Also the history of the businesses along the route such as Tudor Williams, Frederick Paine. Other sites such as the public houses, open spaces (parks), recycling sites were also of interest. Everything concerned with the heritage and history that was relevant to those on the streets that the bus passed through.

As yet there was no fixed outcome for the project, although there were a number of options, such as an exhibition in a local building or a heritage bus (old 213) which particularly appealed to members. She was also interested in people's reminiscences concerning the bus. Jen commented on bus stop romances, and Mary had bad memories of the bus as one had run over her dog many years ago. I know that Amy was particularly grateful for the feedback she received after the meeting, including one member who has a wonderful collection of bus ephemera he was willing to share.

We had come a close third in the donation of Waitrose tokens and Mary had been contacted by the company to be told we should receive the amount of £192 shortly.

We had had a further 600 leaflets printed yesterday and it was suggested that members might like to take some to distribute. Areas where they could be displayed were the Triangle, Kingston Vale, and Old Malden. Graeme offered to take some to the church at Old Malden and the Plough area, and Chris had volunteered to hand out leaflets at New Malden station.

Mary stated that the market on the square was now to be a monthly event. We had booked the community table for April 6th for 9am -2pm at a cost of £20. We would be requiring a trestle table and a gazebo which had to be fire proof, plus a banner with our society's name plus struts to support it. Graeme offered to help with the art work for the design. We would be displaying old photographs of the area, and would need volunteers to set up the stall and man it.

Julian spoke about the recollections project and said he had had few returns of the forms he had issued at the last meeting. He still had people to visit including Tom Kelley who had a vast amount of information.

Robin talked about the formation of a Junior Section if the Society. Aimed at the secondary schools in the area: (Coombe Girls and Boys, Holy Cross, Richard Challenor and Marymount). He would be writing to the respective head teachers to gauge the amount of support for the idea.

After a general discussion about local history, the meeting closed with the date of the next meeting set for 27th March 2013.