

# WINCKLEY SQUARE TIMES

fifteen  
Winckley Square

Sochia, The Big Lunch, Paul Rushton: Preston Photographic Society

## Friends of Winckley Square

Thank you to those who joined in our June events. **Jazz in the Gardens** attracted hundreds of music lovers. Participating in **Preston's Jazz Festival** for the first time was a huge success. We will certainly be working with UCLan again to run other events – Winckley Square is a great location. The musicians were amazing and the acoustics created by the undulating landscape were wonderful.

Some of you braved the rain to come to **The Big Lunch**. I was impressed by families who would not be stopped picnicking by the rain and brought waterproof picnic blankets and large brollies! Even with fewer people it was a great success and the acts were great.

**The Mediaeval Day** was certainly a unique event. We supported Holly Hughes, a Master's student at UCLan who organised the event. A fabulous day was had by everyone.

## What Next?

It's the **Heritage Weekend** on 14th and 15th September so please come along to one of our Guided Walks. We are also participating in the **Preston Arts Festival** in October and will be offering some different walks going beyond Winckley Square as well as talks in two venues.

**Winckley Square Website** I am pleased to announce that our website is now live. I hope you enjoy it and if you have time please let me know what you think. If you come across errors or technical faults I would love to hear from you. It is a work in progress; we will continue to add to the site as more research is done by FoWS.

Enjoy browsing

<https://www.winckleysquarepreston.org/>

**Thank you** to the Barristers Chambers, 15 Winckley Square, for buying us a new gazebo. We used it for the first time at the Big Lunch.

*Patricia Harrison*

*Chair of Friends of Winckley Square*

Email: [patricia@winckley.org.uk](mailto:patricia@winckley.org.uk)

## Meet Sally Stone

I was born in a caravan in a remote Scottish Glen west of Inverness. After a peripatetic childhood I pursued a design education, worked for architects' practices in Manchester and am now a Reader in Architecture at Manchester School of Architecture. I have written a number of books on architecture, building re-use and interior design.

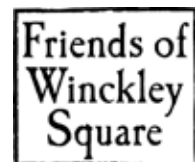


As a board member at arts organisation 'They Eat Culture', I was a co-founder of the Gate 81 group that organised events promoting the preservation of Preston Bus Station. I was delighted to receive the Heritage Heroes Award for this campaign in 2014. When the Harris Museum proposed dramatic changes to the front of the building, working with my students we created a set of alternative proposals showing how the building could be improved without damage to its architecture. I am pleased to say that this contributed towards the gallery seriously rethinking its proposals.

As a family we moved to Winckley Square in 2001 and for many years we were the only family living on the Square. The children have grown up in the Gardens where they have picnicked, played cricket and held birthday parties. Since the renovation of the Gardens in 2016 I am now able to rush out in my gown to harvest rosemary and sage from the herb garden to use in my cooking.


I watched with wonder and excitement the transformation of the gardens from a beautiful but neglected oasis in the city into a picturesque and vibrant sanctuary for everyone around. It has been lovely that more and more residents have moved into the Square, and definitely a delight and privilege for me and my family to be part of the vibrant Friends group and to be able to contribute towards their many and varied events.

Interested in volunteering to help at events, joining our **Research Group**, or being placed on our mailing list to receive newsletters and details of events please email [enquiries@winckley.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@winckley.org.uk)



 @WinckleySquare

 Friendsofwinckleysquaregardens

 We love seeing your photos of the Square; tag [#friendsofwinckleysquare](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofwinckleysquare) on Instagram.

# Did you know?

By Steve Harrison

Horrockes. Crewdson & Co.Ltd.- Preston Digital Archive



John Horrockes:  
Preston Digital Archive

## Horrockses Mills

The Horrockses family had many connections with Winckley Square. The Horrockses business however, did not stay in the family for long.

The founder, John Horrockses, died in 1804. In 1815 his son John Horrockses Jnr reached the age of 21 and sold his share in the business for £100,000 (today nearly £9 million). The name **'Horrockses'** lived on and

became world famous but the business gradually passed from family members. By 1828 Thomas Miller Snr was the largest shareholder.

In turn his son, Thomas Jnr, became the principal shareholder and had his mansion built at No 5 Winckley Square.



Miller Mansion,  
Winckley Square c 1955:  
Preston Digital Archive

## Master and Servant Act 1823

A law passed in 1823 had a major impact on many workers in the cotton industry. The Master and Servant Act was used to control workers. If a worker left employment prematurely or failed to follow instructions at work then the Master did not simply have the right to stop wages but could ask the magistrates to imprison the worker for three months. At the end of the sentence the Mill owner could require the worker to return to work and complete the contract. If the worker refused, the court could order a further three months. William Ainsworth, who lived in the Italian Villa (site of present Winckley House), used this Act. Some magistrates, including James German of Starkie House, asked Ainsworth to reconsider and try to sort the problem through dialogue. Ainsworth insisted on jail. In one dispute in 1859 a judge asked the worker whether he had read the mill rules posted in the factory.

*John Cowell, replied  
'I never read the rules.  
I can't read'. Marian Roberts  
was correct when she wrote that  
the rules Ainsworth applied in  
his Cotton Court mill were  
'nothing short of slavery'.*

## Whigs and Tories in Preston

The main political groups in the 18th and early 19th Century were Whigs and Tories. They didn't just have political differences. Two sedan chairs were kept locally.

One on the west side of the Square and another in Winckley St. Sedan chairs were used from the 17th Century in Preston to carry people to events including Balls and Church.

**'No Tory lady would have been seen in the Whig Sedan for anything'**

wrote Sir Charles Brown in his reminiscences. Similarly when Volunteer regiments were formed one was a Tory regiment and one a Whig. The Tory regiment was led by Nicholas Grimshaw whose home is now 4, Winckley Square. Even separate horse race meetings were supported by the two factions.

Thanks to Aidan Turner-Bishop of PHS.



Sedan Chair

## Infant mortality

In 15 of the last 20 years of the 19th Century Preston had the highest Infant (under 12 months) Mortality rate in England. In 1893, 268 infants out of 1,000 died before reaching the age of one.



Victorian Post-mortem  
photograph: Pininterest

Nigel Morgan's *Deadly Dwellings* 1993 highlight the inability of local politicians and officials to face up to the crisis. Nigel was clear that the root cause was disease carried by flies from the filthy and insanitary conditions that obtained. In particular, the stabling of horses in close proximity to dwellings was key. The owners of Winckley Square had their horses stabled away from the Square-amid the homes of the poor but they were not immune from the disease that spread through the town.

Today the figure for infant deaths under 12 months in the UK is 3.9% (for Lancashire it is 4.7% and 6.4% in Blackpool).





# WINCKLEY SQUARE Heritage Weekend

**Saturday 14th and Sunday  
15th September 2019**

Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture. Where better to celebrate it than in Preston's only Georgian square? Why not join us on a guided walk?

|                                                                                                                                                                   | Saturday                       | Sunday        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Hear the stories of the <b>Former Residents</b> - famous and infamous.<br><b>1 hour 15 minutes</b>                                                                | 11.00<br>11.45<br>1.00<br>3.00 | 12.30<br>2.30 |
| Learn the unsung stories of some of the <b>Extraordinary Women of Winckley Square</b> .<br><b>1 hour 15 minutes</b>                                               | 12.15<br>2.30                  | 11.00<br>2.00 |
| <b>Edith Rigby Trail</b> - journey beyond the Square to where she was born, married and (perhaps) committed one of her militant acts.<br><b>1 hour 45 minutes</b> | 2.00                           | 11.00<br>1.30 |
| <b>A Regency Promenade:</b> hear how the gardens and surrounding area changed over time.<br><b>1 hour 30 minutes</b>                                              | 11.00                          |               |
| <b>A Gander around the Gardens with the Gardener...</b> look at the planting with a nod to the heritage of the Gardens.<br><b>1 hour 15 minutes</b>               | 11.30                          | 11.30         |

All Walks  
start in the  
centre of the  
Gardens.

**FREE**

Donations are  
welcome to support  
our projects.

EVERYONE is welcome but you do need to book a place through Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk> OR contact [patricia@winckley.org.uk](mailto:patricia@winckley.org.uk)  
Tel: 01772 254395

Guided walks can be adapted to avoid steps. Contact Patricia.



Preston  
**ARTs**  
Festival

We are delighted to have been asked to participate in this year's **Arts Festival** which takes place every October. We are offering a programme of **Guided Walks, Talks** and a chance to see our **Women of Winckley Square Exhibition**.

## Walk: 'A Walk In The Park'

**Guide: Fiona Candy:** Friend of Winckley Square

A convivial amble from Winckley Square through Avenham Park with artist Fiona Candy who will explore a series of simple, creative ways to connect with the landscape, atmosphere and sensory qualities. We will work together to experience and experiment, using materials provided. Group size: 15 max. No previous experience of art workshops required. **Best suited to adults, not recommended for younger children. Cameras may be useful, but not essential.**

## Walk: From Fishergate to the Ribble; West Preston shaped by power and influence

**Guide: Steve Harrison:** Friend of Winckley Square

Churchgate and Fishergate; where Preston's rich and powerful families lived until factory building in the late C18th. Subsequently the west end of the town was shaped by local oligarchs. Private and public buildings were erected. Did the powerful create a world just for themselves or was philanthropy a key motive?

## Walk: Preston It's a Gas!

**Guide: Peter Wilkinson:** Friend of Winckley Square

Preston was the first town outside London to have a public gas supply. On this guided walk you will visit key locations around the city centre including the site of the first gas works, the obelisk where the opening ceremony took place in Feb 1816, the coal yards and some of the buildings first lit by gas.

## Walk: Edith Rigby Trail

**Guide: Judy Beeston:** Friend of Winckley Square

Follow the "Edith Rigby Trail" An opportunity to find out more about her childhood, her marriage, her time as a suffragette and her war work. A two hour walk includes a stop at the Olive Cafe, Lune Street Methodist Church.

## Talk: The Lot of a Woman in a Man's World

**Speaker: Susan Douglass:** Friend of Winckley Square

Virtually every aspect of English life between 1674 and 1913 was influenced by gender. Views about the particular strengths, weaknesses, and responsibilities shaped everyday lives.

**Directions: Chapel Street: main entrance and then on the left.**

## Talk: Three Women who shaped Preston

**Speaker: Patricia Harrison:** Friend of Winckley Square

Ellen Cross, Cornelia Connelly and Beatrice Todd had a significant impact on the lives of people who lived in Preston. Come and listen to their unsung stories.

## A performance: of 'An Evening with Edith Rigby'

**with Judy Beeston:** Friend of Winckley Square

Come and hear about Preston's most famous suffragette - Edith's time as a suffragette, her marriage and working with women's groups: Proceeds will go to the Fox Street Shelter.

## Exhibition: Extraordinary Women of Winckley Square

Some of the Friends of Winckley Square have researched many of the women who lived, worked or were associated with the Square. Learn about some of their untold stories which will fascinate, surprise and possibly shock you. The Exhibition will be exhibited in St. Wilfrid's Church for the duration of the Arts Festival.

## Viewing times:

**Mon-Friday 1.00-6.00 Sat. 1.00-5.00 Sun. 1.00-4.00**

**ALL WALKS AND TALKS ARE £4.00 The walks are limited to 20 places. You can just turn up but to be assured of a place you need to book through Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk> OR contact [patricia@winckley.org.uk](mailto:patricia@winckley.org.uk) Tel 01772 254395**

## Walk 1

Sat. 5th Oct  
2.00 - 4.00

## Walk 2

Sun. 13th Oct.  
10.00 - 12.00

**Meet:** Winckley Square, Centre of the Gardens

Tues 15th Oct.  
11.00 - 12.30

**Meet:** Winckley Square, Centre of the Gardens

Wed. 16th Oct.  
11.00 - 12.30

**Meet:** Winckley Square at the Robert Peel Statue

Sat. 19th Oct.  
10.00 - 12.00

**Meet:** Winckley Square, Centre of the Gardens

Mon. 7th Oct.  
2.30 - 3.15

St. Wilfrid's Parish Centre: Chapel Street

Mon. 14th Oct.  
7.00 - 8.15

St. Wilfrid's Parish Centre: Chapel Street

Wed. 16th Oct.  
7.00 - 8.00

Lune Street Methodist Church

Mon 30th Sept to Mon 21st Oct

St Wilfrid's Church, Chapel Street

**(Chapel Street: Church entrance, left to baptistry and confessional area.)**

**FREE  
ENTRANCE**

## Tony's Update!



The 'Rus in Urbe' ambition is clear to see. Grasses have been added and the 'countryside' feel further enhanced by the planting of 'wildflowers'

Changes to the Square in the refurbishment meant we had to learn afresh which plants would thrive in the different locations.



Roses: Duchesse de Montebello

I'm pleased with progress. We've moved some plants and introduced others.



Daisies with sweet amber: *Leucanthemum* spp and *Hypericum androsaemum*

**'right plant, right place'.**



Honeywort with wormwood: *Cerinthe major* 'Purpurascens' and *Artemisia* 'Powis Castle'

Photos Tony Lewis

We welcome volunteer gardeners. If you would like to help and get your hands dirty, then please get in touch with [t.lewis@preston.gov.uk](mailto:t.lewis@preston.gov.uk)

# Green Flag Award



The Green Flag Award® scheme recognises and rewards well managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world.

Winckley Square Gardens has retained the Green Flag Award and additionally the much coveted Green Heritage Site Accreditation for the management of the historic gardens.

**A BIG THANK YOU to PCC Parks Department** and in particular to Tony who tends the gardens with such care and attention.

## ROSS CULLEN EUROPEAN CHAMPION



In the last issue we featured Ross Cullen, FoWS. We are delighted to announce that Ross won the gold medal in the Junior Men Category at the BMX European Championships in Latvia in July.

