

RECEIVED 21 APR 2010



# PENKETH & GREAT SANKEY HERITAGE GROUP

Secretary: Mr P Rutherford, 19 Porlock Close, Penketh, Warrington, Cheshire. WA5 2QE  
Tel: 01925 722801 e-mail tigbob.bud@virgin.net



Supported by  
Stronger Together  
Neighbourhoods in  
Warrington

In Association with  
Penketh High School



Our ref:

Your ref:

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

Dear Sirs

When Penketh High School is rebuilt in the next four to five years the plan includes moving Great Sankey Primary School into the new building which means the present building will become vacant. Does Great Sankey Parish Council have any plans for the future use of the building?

Although it is 126 years old, it apparently does not have listed status, so if there is an intention to keep the building as a valuable community amenity, and a piece of Great Sankey social history, some urgency needs to be applied before irrevocable decisions are made at Borough Council level, the worst scenario being its demolition.

I refer you to a very similar situation when Penketh Junior School in Stocks Lane was closed. Contrary to popular belief, it also did not have listed status and it was only through strenuous effort from the local community that it survived to become The Oaks Centre and Little Acorns Nursery, both valuable assets to the area.

I am Secretary of the Penketh and Great Sankey Heritage Group and we would be interested in having a base in the building if it were to be retained.

For your information I enclose a description of who we are and what we do, and we would be pleased to meet with you to discuss the matter further at your convenience.

Yours respectfully

P. Rutherford  
Secretary





# PENKETH & GREAT SANKEY HERITAGE GROUP

## WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Penketh and Great Sankey Heritage Group was originally set up in accordance with a government initiative to promote inter-generational dialogue and encourage schools to engage with their local communities. In September 2005 Penketh High School opened its Local Heritage Centre, its aim being to involve pupils with their community and encourage interaction between younger and older generations, and our group has evolved from that.



Run by a team of volunteers, our concern initially was only the village of Penketh, but we have since decided to broaden our field of interest to include Great Sankey and the surrounding districts, and have recruited some new members with specialised knowledge of those areas.

Our aim is to provide an educational facility for the benefit of all local schools, and the wider general public, where artefacts, documents and images can be stored and displayed, and where older members of the community can meet and pass on their lifetime skills and experiences to youngsters. The overall objective is improved community relations, and better understanding and tolerance amongst widely different age groups.

We have produced a local history DVD, "Penketh Past to Present", that has proved very popular, and we are currently working on a follow-up for Great Sankey. We also produced a calendar for 2010 and Christmas cards featuring local scenes past and present.



We have given talks to local groups and clubs and had displays at a number of locations and events. We have also taken part in school history projects



We have been given a grant by Stronger Together Neighbourhoods in Warrington and intend applying for Lottery Heritage assistance.

Currently we are being hosted by Penketh High School who have given, and continue to give, invaluable support, and our ambition is to have our own premises that can be staffed by volunteers and opened to the general public on a regular basis whilst remaining a readily accessible educational facility for all local schools.