

MAUREEN WALSH

Maureen Walsh was born in Everton, Liverpool, in 1941. She was educated in the city, and took tap-dancing and ballet lessons, reaching Grade 5 in the Royal School of Ballet examinations. Her father was a musician, and Maureen learnt to play the piano accordion.

After school, she aimed for a career as a dancer, and at the age of 15 undertook her first professional engagement in pantomime at Liverpool's Royal Court Theatre. Summer seasons in chorus lines followed, but in parallel, Maureen was developing office skills and working for a number of local Merseyside companies. After a period as a receptionist at BBC Radio Merseyside, she went on to work in News and Sport, ultimately as a reporter. She went on to enjoy a career in broadcasting spanning almost 30 years, including many years when she hosted her own Sunday morning programme of requests and interviews. In this capacity she compiled tapes of messages and requests which were sent to British troops during the Iraq War in 2003.



Maureen has contributed her time and expertise to numerous Merseyside charities, helping them with fundraising and raising awareness. These include:

- The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (the Children's Society)
- The Linda McCartney Unit at the Royal Liverpool Hospital
- The Macmillan Appeal
- The Whitechapel Centre for the Homeless
- The Royal British Legion
- The Reader Group, which encourages the development of literacy skills in the community.

She served on the committees of charities led by two of Liverpool's Lord Mayors, and of the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Appeal. In 2005 she became a member of S.I. Liverpool, and was elected President in 2009-10.

Now living in active retirement in Cheshire, Maureen helps provide a local pensioners' group with afternoon tea, and knits baby clothes and hats for hospital maternity units. During the Covid-19 pandemic she has been busy knitting head bands for nursing staff to facilitate the wearing of face masks.