ALICE WHEELDON – CITIZEN OF DERBY! MAY DAY WALK AND BIKE RIDE TO CELEBRATE ALICE WHEELDON’S BLUE PLAQUE

May Day walk and bike ride to celebrate the life of Alice Wheeldon (1866-1919), the Derby anti-war campaigner anniversary of the dedication of the blue plaque to Alice Wheeldon on 1st May, 2013 when she was formally acknowledged for the first time as a valued citizen of Derby; Councillor Alison Martin and Chloë Mason, great grand-daughter of Alice Wheeldon, will be speaking. The walk will start at the War Memorial in Market Square at 5pm and end at the former home and shop of Alice Wheeldon, in Pear Tree Road at 6.30pm for the ceremony.

The bike ride will start at main gates of Nottingham Road cemetery at 5pm (4.30pm for those wishing to visit Alice's grave) and end in Pear Tree Road at 6.30pm

In 2013, Derby City Council formally acknowledged Alice as a valued citizen of the City by installing a blue plaque on 12 Pear Tree Road, Normanton where she lived with her family and ran a business as a wardrobe dealer. To celebrate May Day and the first anniversary of the plaque, there will be a WALK and a BIKE RIDE to Alice's former home in Pear Tree Road on Thursday, 1st May, both starting at 5pm. The WALK will last about hour-and-half to allow for members of Derby People's History Group to tell her story. It will start from the War Memorial outside the Guildhall, taking in the places in Derby that were important in Alice Wheeldon's campaign and trial, including safe houses for Conscientious Objectors and lodgings for the infamous MI5 agent, Alex Gordon. Gordon was discredited at the time, not called as a witness to avoid him being cross-examined, and shipped off to South Africa by the government. The BIKE RIDE will also take around 90 minutes, and be approximately five miles at a gentle pace, starting from the main gates of Nottingham Road cemetery at 5pm. Please arrive at 4.30pm to allow time for those wishing to visit Alice’s grave. A trained Cycle Derby ride leader will guide cyclists along on cycle paths and quiet roads through Chaddesden, Alvaston Park and the Arboretum to Normanton, visiting significant Derby places in the Alice story via some of the hidden treasures of our city. Alice’s great grand-daughter, Chloë, is from Australia, a keen cyclist, and hopes to ride with the group. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The walk and cycle ride will both end at the former home of Alice Wheeldon in Pear Tree Road for the formal celebration at 6.30pm. For further information/details of the route, please contact: WALK: Viv Ring on 0755 727 1015; BIKE RIDE: Pete Greenfield on 07749 109554. or email: derbypeoplesh@yahoo.co.uk