

Friern Barnet *Newsletter*

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FARES PLEASE!

On Sunday 5 August, at 3.10pm a stage-coach arrived at The Griffin on its 137km journey from Market Harborough to Smithfield. The coach was retracing the old route down the Great North Road and it was supported by a team of horse boxes that enabled changes of horses to be made along the way. In days gone by, each inn would have had its own horses ready

and waiting for the coach's arrival and we were told by the coachman that horses were routinely changed in around 90 seconds! The journey from Leicestershire to London would have involved 27 changes, which would account for the journey time of approximately 10 hours (today it takes around 1 hour 40 mins). The replica stage-coach achieved a more leisurely pace, having set out at 10pm on Friday 3 August.



*Two passengers and a crew of five arrive at The Griffin.
The coach could seat four inside and 10 on the roof.*

THE SIKH TEMPLE

by Colin Barratt

In the centre of New Southgate, on what remains of the once busy High Road, a tall steeple still rises above the surrounding estates, obviously part of a church building, which, to the casual passer by, might still be taken for one. However, this former Methodist Church building, which opened in 1899, was closed in the mid 1970s and sold to the Sikhs to be transformed into a temple and community centre.

As a former member of this church, I arranged for the Committee to be given a tour of the premises, so that we could discover how it had been adapted, and also learn something of the Sikh customs and religion.

On arrival we were welcomed, and, after removing our shoes, those without head covering were given a scarf to wear. We were taken into the worship area (Gudwara), which had no seating, just carpet covered with protective sheeting, and little decoration. Our visit coincided with the start of a festival, which is always preceded by the complete reading of the holy book of hymns and poems (Guru Granth Sahib). This was in progress, continuing non-stop with a rota of readers for about 48 hours. We sat as our guide quietly explained the practises, and we were given a sweet paste (Karah Parshad) to eat, which is distributed to all at the end of Sikh services.

The front of the former church, where the pulpit and communion table had once been, was still used as the focal point of worship. This consisted of the holy book placed on a quilt and cushion, under a canopy, and fronted by a box for voluntary donations.

I had brought with me a number of photos I took inside of the church before it closed, to help us compare it with the present arrangement. As with many Methodist churches of that period, it had been built with a balcony at the back, for extra seating capacity. This had been converted to an extra room decades ago, and it was interesting to see that this was almost unchanged from how I had remembered it.

Sadly, the building had been left empty for several years before the Sikhs took it over in 1978, and in this time it suffered from vandalism and arson. Many of the windows had been broken, including a beautiful stained glass one behind the pulpit. Fortunately, I have a photo of this.

We were taken into the main hall, so that we could talk to our host, Mr Sital Singh Maan, more easily. The hall had been substantially rebuilt, due to a major fire when the building remained derelict. A huge kitchen (langar) had been added to the hall, as the preparation and sharing of food is an important part of Sikh life. We were able to ask about Sikhism and its history and practices, which we have recorded on tape.

We were given a tour of the various smaller rooms, and an impressive brand new hall, which had once been part of the adjacent engineering works; all maintenance and building work is funded and done by the members themselves. We were then invited to stay for a meal of traditional Sikh food, which completed an interesting visit to a different culture in our district; one which does not keep itself shut away, but actively tries to develop links with, and support for, the local community.

BACK TO THE FIFTIES

At 8.20pm on Friday 22 September, 1955 the very first commercial appeared on British television screens. It featured a tube of Gibbs SR toothpaste encased in block of ice, with the slogan "tingling fresh SR". Alas, some local firms were producing slightly less exciting ads around this time, as you can see below and on the next page. Incidentally, note the "as advertised on T.V." line in the 1958 ad from George Grose; this was a common phrase at the time and was supposed to reassure readers of the quality and standing of the product. It is also worth pointing out the name of John Slater in the film *The Devil's Pass*; John started his acting career at The Intimate Theatre in Palmers Green. And in those days, you would see a B picture as well as the main feature for your 1/9d!

FINCHLEY ODEON
HILLSIDE 1698

This Fri. and Sat. — Last two days
DESIRE UNDER THE ELMS (X)

MON., 19th MAY 6 DAYS
Doors Open 4.40
Thursday and Saturday 1.00
CLARK GABLE — DORIS DAY

TEACHER'S PET
VistaVision (U)
co-starring
Gig Young Mamie Van Doren
5.00 8.45 (also 1.30 Thurs. & Sat.)

HAL MARCH

HEAR ME GOOD
VistaVision (U)
7.10 (also 3.30 Thurs. & Sat.)

FINCHLEY GAUMONT
HILLSIDE 3377

This Fri. and Sat. — Last two days
NO TIME TO DIE

SUN., 18th MAY 7 DAYS
Doors Open 1.30 Sunday 4.15
LAUREN BACALL
ROBERT STACK

The Gift of Love
Eastman Colour (U) CinemaScope
2.15 5.10 9.00 Sun. 5.45 8.45

Showdown at Boot Hill
Regalscope (U)
CHARLES BRONSON
ROBERT HUTTON CAROLE MATTHEWS
4.05 7.30 Sun. 4.30 7.30

FINCHLEY NEW BOHEMIA
FINCHLEY 2300

SUN., 18th MAY 7 DAYS
Doors Open 1.35 Sunday 4.15
MARIO LANZA

Seven Hills of Rome
Technirama (U) Technicolor
co-starring
Renato Rascel Marisa Allasio
Peggie Castle
2.50 5.50 8.30 Sun. 5.30 8.30

THE DEVIL'S PASS
starring (U)
JOHN SLATER
1.45 4.40 7.40 Sun. 4.30 7.10

This Fri. and Sat. — Last two days
THE YOUNG INVADERS

GEORGE GROSE
LIMITED
LAMBRETTA SCOOTERS

... as advertised on T.V.

**FULL RANGE IN STOCK NOW
FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY**

LD. 125c.c.	£149.17.6
LDB. 150c.c.	£164.15.2
LDA. Self Str. 150c.c.	£189.10.0
T.V. 175 c.c.	£209.17.6



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PINKHAM WAY & 45/47 FRIERN BARNET RD.
NEW SOUTHGATE, N.11

Telephone: ENTerprise 5821 Private Ex.

Too many carpets?

Yes, we must plead guilty to having confused some customers by showing them too great a variety!

The range of patterns now available is so immense that almost any requirement can be met from the samples we hold. Beyond these we can, and often do, produce special samples when our customers want something really unusual.

To secure the utmost help from our salesmen please come armed with the approximate size of the room you want covered. We can probably show you a carpet woven wide enough to do it without a seam. We will, of course, send to take a plan and give you an estimate including the latest "Smoothedge" tackless finish.

Our carpet department worthily upholds our slogan—"you cannot do better; why go further?"

HARRIS

Furniture and Furnishings

LEONARD HARRIS LTD

8-12 Woodhouse Road, North Finchley, N.12

Phone HILLSIDE 2277 (3 lines)

JOHN DALE LTD.

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INSPECTORS—female

Interesting and progressive work. Good conditions and pay.

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Junior Secretary

for Production Manager

Clerk Typist

for Export Department

Copy Typist

for Production Control Dept.

APPLY—PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

Brunswick Park Road, New Southgate, N.11

Telephone: ENTerprise 1272

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Plumbers Brasswork, Tubes and Fittings, Rain
Water Goods, Ironmongery, Tools, Sanitary
Fittings, Sand, Cement and Ballast, Fire Bricks.

TILED SURROUNDS from £7 - 7 - 0

213 WOODHOUSE ROAD, N.12

4 and 5 HALLIWICK COURT PARADE
WOODHOUSE ROAD, N.12

Tel: ENT 3366

Your Finest Local Guide
for Reliable Footwear.

Golden Boot Stores

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(15 years Manager for Messrs. Lilley & Skinner, Ltd.)

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always in stock at popular prices.

. . . Agents for all best brands. . .

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Department
for
Repairs.



Ladies'
Hosiery
a
Speciality.

Look for this sign and pay us
a visit when in our district.

11, GRAND PARADE,
FRIERN BARNET

(Phone: Finchley 2653).

ALSO AT

114, HIGH ROAD,
NEW SOUTHGATE

(Phone: Palmers Green 1251.)

"FRIERN PARK" LATEST

Following the opening of "Friern Park", Barnet Council wrote to residents living near the former Hospital with a list of possible names for the park.

The following names had been suggested by Friern Village Residents Association, Princess Park Manor Residents Association, Holly Park School and the Council themselves:

Colney Hatch Park, Friern Village Gardens, Friern Village Park, Holly Bush Park, Holly Green, Princess Gardens, Princess Park Gardens, and Sparrows Acres.

As can be seen, the only name that truly reflects the history of the site is Colney Hatch Park.

The Council have also erected a sign outside the gates which says: "The first phase of the Park is now open to the public. To help in naming the park please telephone 020 8358 4435 for details." If you have any ideas, give them a call.

NORTH CIRCULAR ROAD

In the last issue we ran a photograph of the gasholder at New Southgate and promised to let you know if this was going to be demolished to make way for a widened North Circular Road. In July, Ken Livingstone, the Mayor of London, announced that he was not going to allow any further widening of the North Circular, preferring instead to consider other methods of relieving traffic congestion. The aim is to encourage increased use of public transport, although anyone who uses the North Circular will know that a considerable proportion of the traffic consists of heavy lorries and other commercial vehicles. During periods of intense congestion, some of these vehicles take a detour through Friern Barnet and it looks as though we are faced

with this increased traffic for the foreseeable future.



Lorries on the NCR

This is the second time that road improvements between Pinkham Way and Green Lanes have been rejected. In 1985, the Department of Transport, as it then was, produced three different plans, costing £62.3m, £69.3m and £71.6m. An exhibition was held at Arnos School and the public were invited to give their views, all to no avail. Interestingly, the reasons then given for the planned improvements were: to reduce delays and relieve traffic congestion, improve the local environment, to help local school-children, pedestrians and cyclists and to improve safety. Of course, all of these still apply today!

SHOPS SURVEY

by David Berguer

Ollie Natelson started to record the shops in his patch of Friern Barnet several years ago and this even included details of the street furniture (lamp posts, manhole covers, trees, road signs etc) outside each property. In recent weeks Ollie, Mary Taylor Janet Liversidge and myself have been tramping the streets armed with a clipboard and we now have an up to date record of all the shops in Friern Barnet Road, Woodhouse Road, Colney Hatch Lane, High Road Whetstone, Oakleigh Road North and Oakleigh Road South. We have still to do High Road North Finchley and some of the smaller roads and then our survey will be complete for this year. Having established this benchmark, we will then update the information every year.

But this is only part of the operation - we have also been delving into the past, using sources such as Kelly's Directory and the Southgate Directory so that eventually we will have a complete history of each shop. We have gone back as far as 1950 and we also have data for 1960, 1970 and 1980 as well, so we have a snapshot picture every 10 years. We hope to be able to fill in the gaps and then go back into the first half of the last century and then back as far as the 1890s. One problem we will face however is that, as areas were developed, so extensive renumbering of properties took place. Despite this, we will still be able to see the changes in the patterns of retailing. For example, in 1950 there were 12 fruit & veg shops in the area (in those days they were called either greengrocers or fruiterers); today there is only one. There used to be 8 butchers but

today you will find only 2. There used to be 25 grocers in the area: nowadays none are to be found anywhere.

Of course nowadays we have new kinds of shops that would have been inconceivable 50 years ago - mobile phones, instant print, video hire, hamburgers and exotic ethnic restaurants to name but a few.

But facts and figures are all very well; people's memories are what really bring the past to life. What was it like to shop at a drapers? What did a dairy sell? Why were there separate confectioners, tobacconists and newsagents shops? If you can answer these questions, we would like to hear from you. We started this process at our "Shopping As It Used To Be" Meeting when we had many reminiscences from you and several of you have returned the green Report Forms. Please keep those memories coming and please let us know of any changes to local shops so that we can record them before they disappear. Just to illustrate how things are changing, on the following page are some of the things that we have recorded recently in the Friern Barnet area.

It is not inconceivable that in a hundred years time there will be no shops as we know them. After all why would anyone bother to go out in the rain to buy a tin of beans when it can be ordered on the internet and delivered to their door? It's starting to happen already at Tesco's, who already have the largest internet shopping web-site in the world. If and when this happens, imagine how valuable our work will have been in giving a picture of what things were like in the old days.

CLOSED FOR BUSINESS



20 Friem Barnet Road



26 Friem Barnet Road



7 Halliwick Court

GONE TO POTTERS BAR



PRESTON TRAVEL GOES



1294 High Road Whetstone

MARKET MOVED



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

by David Berguer

Ollie Natelson has a copy of the Southgate Directory for 1950/51, which fortunately includes most of the roads in Friern Barnet and New Southgate, and which lists the name of the head of household for each property. The publishers of the directory claimed that their representatives had tried to talk to someone at every house to elicit this information and, where this was not possible, they had used the names on the electoral register. Although the idea of someone visiting every house in Southgate and Friern Barnet seems a little far fetched, it is worth remembering that this was 1950, when more women would have been at home during the day and when people were not suspicious of a stranger calling at their house. Nowadays, of course, the task would be an almost impossible one.

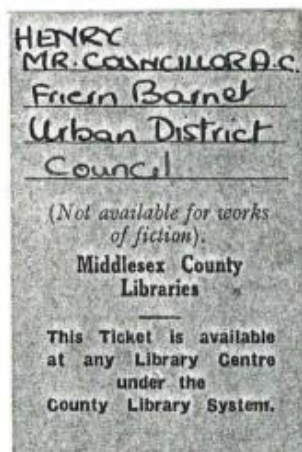
Whilst I was idling my way through the book, it gradually dawned on me that a lot of Christian names were from another era. There were no Shanes, Waynes or Elvises and definitely no Sharons or Traceys, because the head of household would have had to have been born in the late 1890s through to the early 1930s. I decided to sample the names from 20 streets in Friern Barnet (about 10% of the total), which resulted in 1400 men's names and 338 women's names. The 20 most popular names are shown below:

	<i>Number of people</i>		<i>Number of people</i>
William	125	Florence	16
John	87	Ethel	14
Frederick	66	Elizabeth	12
George	65	Mary	11
Charles	65	Dorothy	9
Henry	61	Annie	8
Arthur	53	Edith	8
Edward	52	Alice	7
Albert	47	Ellen	7
Ernest	46	Gladys	7
James	45	Jessie	7
Thomas	39	Lillian	7
Herbert	35	Catherine	6
Frank	32	Margaret	6
Alfred	29	Rosa/Rose	6
Robert	28	Beatrice	5
Walter	27	Gertrude	5
Harold	26	Doris	4
Leonard	23	Minnie	4
Leslie	20	May	4
	971		153

As you can see, king's names were very popular amongst the men (11 out of the 20) and some of the women's names are very dated indeed (how many of today's parents would name their daughter Gertude or Florence?)

CURIO CORNER

Friern Barnet Library was officially opened on Friday 23 March 1934 at 5.30pm. It was designed by the Middlesex County Architect W T Curtis and it cost £3782 to build. The Carnegie Trust donated £1140 towards the cost. The very first library ticket was issued to Councillor A C Henry who had performed the opening ceremony.



WARTIME STORY

by John Donovan

As you all know, from time to time we interview certain members of the public (and of the Society) and record their memories of the Friern Barnet of yesteryear. One particularly fascinating story, that of Mr Mathias Sande (the late husband of one of our members), came from much farther afield.

In 1941 Mathias was living in Dyrstadgrend, in German-occupied Norway. Under Nazi rule, it was an offence to listen to the news from England, but he and his friends used to smuggle a radio (hidden in a basket) into the woods and listen to the news there. The idea of *escaping* to England, there to continue the fight

against the Nazis, was strong in their minds, but great secrecy had to be maintained since one could not always trust one's neighbours. Mathias and his friends, however, were determined to escape.

Their first requirement was, naturally, a boat, and it was fortunate that the father of Sverre Loftnes (one of Mathias' contacts) had a fishing boat called "*Farman*". He agreed to let the five friends have the boat for Kr 850, but it was some time before they were finally all aboard. At 5am on 27 August 1941 they set sail for England; the final number of escapees was ten, although no more than five could be allowed up on deck at any one time without arousing the suspicion of the Germans. They ate cooked meals on board (Mathias acted as 'chef') and pretended to be on a fishing trip when passing near German-occupied areas. The weather was no problem, but during the first few hours they did pass several mines, a whale and a shark while, at one point, a British plane passed overhead.

At 9pm a British destroyer and a submarine came alongside the "*Farman*" and asked if there were any English-speakers aboard. Sverre and Kolbein were taken aboard the destroyer, questioned, and asked if they had food. They were given 170 cigarettes and a bottle of Jamaica rum, and told to put their watches back one hour to British time. They were told what course to set, and to beware of mines but since it was dark by then, and there was a thick fog, they had to take their chances! They had been told to stop (in the middle of the North Sea) at 4am and await the arrival of the destroyer, and at 7am it finally

appeared through the fog. They were directed to a lighthouse near Lerwick (Scotland), which they reached two hours later, and were lead into harbour. The friends were given a warm welcome, and one of the first to meet them was "Shetland" Larsen who tried to meet all the boats which had escaped from Norway. Part of the meal they were given was white bread, and Mathias recalled that their own, awful black bread was soon dropped into the harbour!

Their journey didn't end at Lerwick, however because, after being interrogated, they were sent to Peterhead, then Aberdeen, where the "Farman" had to be left behind. They were taken to a hotel under escort, then from Aberdeen to London by train (under guard) where they were questioned at The Patriotic School "about all things possible, and even impossible!" Ironically, one of the men who questioned Mathias and his friends later proved to be a German spy! The friends were soon released from the School, and Mathias went on to join the Royal Norwegian Air Force.

On a visit to Norway in 1989, Mrs Sande spoke to an elderly gentleman who remembered Mathias and his friends leaving. Once the escape had been discovered, he said, the Germans had questioned all those living in and around Leirgulen, but *they* said nothing except that, as far as they knew, the group had gone fishing.

Mathias' experience was paralleled by many another escape from Norway but, even after fifty years, one can imagine the fear and danger: just think of trying to sail a small boat from Norway to Scotland under

conditions of war!

We are grateful to Iris Sande for kindly supplying this information about her late husband.

TALKS ON HISTORY

We have been asked by several local day centres to give short talks on local history to their members, many of whom will doubtless have interesting memories of the past. Hopefully we will then be able to make tape recordings of these for our archives.

We have now purchased a professional transcribing machine with the grant that we received from Barnet Council last year. Pat Cleland, who is an ace audio typist, has kindly volunteered to type the oral history transcripts, and is busy getting down on paper some of the many tape recordings with local residents that Ollie Natelson has accumulated over the past ten years.

BARNET MUSEUM

For those of you who are interested in the history of the wider Barnet area, may we recommend a visit to Barnet Museum, which is situated in Wood Street, almost opposite Barnet Church, and only a 70p bus ride away from Friern Barnet.

The museum contains many artefacts, ranging from Victorian bonnets to Second World War bombs. There are also examples of early domestic appliances, including an Easiwork (remember those wonderful self contained kitchen work units?)

Entrance to the Museum is free and it is open Tuesdays - Thursdays from 2.30 - 4.30pm and on Saturdays

from 10.00 -12.30am and again from 2.00 - 4.00pm.

Talking of domestic appliances, the Science Museum is currently holding an exhibition to commemorate the centenary of the vacuum cleaner. Exhibits include the earliest examples, including one the size of a milk float that took six men to operate, as well as the latest version that is totally automatic and hoovers your carpet while you put your feet up and watch the television!

LINE PATH MYSTERY

The line path that runs from New Southgate Station to Friern Barnet Road has been the subject of some publicity in the local press recently, due to a spate of muggings late in the evening. The following notice was attached to a boarded up doorway:

GATE FAQ

Q. Why has this gate been opened/closed/opened/closed within 8 days?

A. This gate was unblocked on 20th June 2001 by the Metropolitan Police as an obvious solution to the increasing number of muggings on the narrowest section of the Line Path.

Q. Why did the London Borough of Barnet engineers board it up on 21st June 2001?

A. One local resident complained it was the work of vandals, and following pressure from one ward councillor, decided to reclose it.

Q. Why did the Police re-open it on 22nd June 2001?

A. They felt increased safety on the street is in the public interest.

Q. Why did EBB engineers close it a second time today (28th June 2001)?

A. They claim the gate is unsafe because the step into the Line Path from Regal Drive is too high and someone may get injured. With such lopsided logic, one can speculate that someone in authority is taking a cut of muggers proceeds and is losing out whilst this gate is open.

If you feel very strongly about this loss of amenity and safety, write to your local borough councillors, who are:

Cllr. Beverley Pearce
Cllr. Barry Rawlings
Cllr. Paul Rogers
C/O The Members Room,
Hendon Town Hall,
The Boroughs,
London NW4 4BG

Clearly an irate local resident was less than impressed with the actions of Barnet Council!

NEW SOUTHGATE CEMETERY

In June the owners of New Southgate Cemetery announced that they were proposing to level graves in sections AJ - AH and remove the memorial stones contained therein. We were concerned that details of those buried there would be lost forever and we offered to conduct a survey to record the relevant details. We subsequently received assurances from Trevor Davies, the Project Manager, that before proceeding with the removal of memorials, each grave space will be photographed and the full inscription, where legible, recorded. The records will be kept at the Cemetery office and a copy will be filed with the Registrar General.

The plan is to remove the memorials from both purchased and unpurchased graves, level the surface and lay out new graves by placing grave liners on top of the existing surface and infill between them, thus raising the ground level. Memorials from purchased graves will then be replaced. The area will then be landscaped and provision will be made to display the removed memorials.

We had assumed that these graves would be ancient but, when we checked, we discovered that some of them were as recent as the 1970s whilst others only went back to the 1940s. Apparently this practice of burying over the already buried is not that uncommon, as space is at a premium in most cemeteries.

Nevertheless, we wonder how a

long lost relative may feel on discovering that their relation's grave has disappeared forever.

FRIERN BARNET'S FIRST SCHOOL

by John Heathfield

it was probably the local vicar who started it! At the time, he was Rev Abel London, Vicar of St James' Friern Barnet, and Curate of St Andrew's, Totteridge.

He personally wrote the minutes of the meeting, and it is worth reproducing his words, with their individual use of capital letters: "At a meeting of the GENTLEMEN of FRIERN BARNET, held in the vestry room on 28 July 1809, there were present:-

John Holdsworthy, Esquire,
Churchwarden, in the chair,
Reverend Abel London
Thomas Smith Esquire
William Hewson

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED that there should be a Charity School established for the EDUCATION of a LIMITED NUMBER of the children of the poor living in the parish and and the following regulations for the support and management of the same were agreed - THAT

the children be brought up in the PRINCIPLES OF THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH and taught their religious and moral duties.

the girls be instructed in Reading and Needlework and the boys in Reading.

the school mistress be appointed annually.

the age for girls to be 6 to 13 and for boys 6 to 9.

the children be clothed."

The school opened on 19 August

1809 in the upstairs large room in the Campe Alms Houses in Friern Barnet Lane. The first teacher was Mrs Earp, widow of a former Parish Clerk, who was to be paid £10 a year. After four months she was given an extra £2 a year for teaching Arithmetic to the more able pupils.

The following children made history by being the first pupils at the school
Girls: Mary Sharp; Mary Jarvis, daughter of William and Susannah; Mary Higgins; Elizabeth Bath, daughter of Elizabeth Bath, widow; Elizabeth and Sarah Taylor, daughters of William Taylor; Sarah Earp; daughter of Mrs Earp, teacher and widow; Elizabeth Higgins and Ann Waters.

Boys: William, son of Peter Naden; William Jarvis; William Thrale; William Warren; James Taylor; James Bull; Joseph Smith; John Swan; John Fisher and Samuel Robson.

Most of the money raised was spent on the upkeep of the building and on clothes. In 1810, for example, out of a total of £60, only £1 2s 6d was spent on books and only 5s 0d on writing materials, but £11 8s 0d on repointing brickwork and £3 11s 9d on boys' shoes.

On 1 May 1854 a fine new building was opened in the field immediately south of the Alms Houses, and the children moved there. This eventually became St James' Church School. The children were taught their Catechism by rote, unfortunately by an incompetent teacher. In 1884 the visiting inspector mixed up the order of the questions, with the following results:

"Who gave you the name you received at your baptism?" GOD.

"What did your godfathers and godmothers promise and vow for you respecting the pomps and vanities of the world?" ALL THE SINFUL LUSTS OF THE FLESH.
"I asked what they promised and vowed you would forgo?" ALL THE ARTICLES OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH.
"What do you mean by the articles of the Christian Faith?" SILENCE.
"Can you tell me any of the truths of the Gospel?" SILENCE.
"Oh! Come on now!" (Eventually)
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

The inspector wrote: "The children have a vacant mind, the teacher is verging on idiocy." The teacher concerned was not dismissed for incompetence until 1896.

NEXT YEAR'S PROGRAMME

Janet Liversidge, our Programme Secretary, is planning next year's programme of events and she says she has lined up some exciting topics for our Meetings. The plan is to have themed Meetings alternating with those where we all share our memories and everyone gets a chance to talk if they want to. Janet will reveal all in our last Newsletter of the year, which will be published in time for Christmas. Speaking of which, don't forget our Christmas Party on **Friday 7 December**. There will be a charge of £3 as before, and we *guarantee* you will all have a wonderful time!

Next year our Meetings will be held on the *fourth* Tuesday of each month. This gives our members who also belong to HADAS a chance to come along and join in the fun.

Enclosed with this Newsletter you

will find a form asking for your views on outings. Several societies offer these, but they do take a lot of organising, so we would like your opinions before we go ahead and prepare a programme of trips.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Don't forget our next Meeting on **Tuesday 9 October** when John Heathfield will be talking about Wartime in his own inimitable style. This will also be an ideal opportunity for you to tell us what *you* did in the War. If you have any relics (pieces of shrapnel, gas masks etc.) please bring them along.

On **Tuesday 13 November** Ollie will be telling us more about Friern Hospital and showing us some slides that he didn't have time to include in last year's talk.

Ollie will also be hosting two more of his famous conducted walks. On **Sunday 23 September** he will be taking us along High Road North Finchley and then along Torrington Park, with its fascinating mixture of architectural styles. We will meet at 2pm at the corner of Dale Grove and Ballards Lane.

On **Sunday 21 October** we will be meeting at 2.00pm outside New Southgate Station (the entrance in Station Road) and then walk round the Friern Hospital site and learn some more about the history of this famous building.

There will be a charge of £1 per head for these walks.

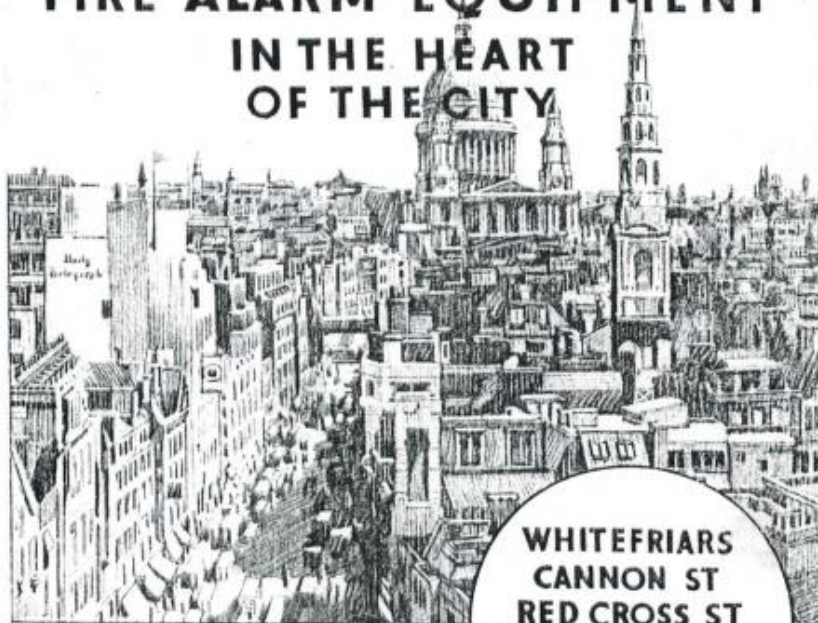
Final Reminder:
Don't forget the Christmas Party! See you there!

STANDARD MEMORY

For those of you who ever worked at STC (and that includes our President, John Donovan), here is an advertisement that ran in fire magazines during the War to bring back all those happy memories!

Standard

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*Financially assisted
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