

Friern Barnet *Newsletter*

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NUDISTS! IN NORTH FINCHLEY!

by *Nick McKie*

'O wall, O wall, O sweet and lovely wall'

Pyramus

Imagine the mutterings: a nudist club in respectable Friern Park – and in 1934. Eighty years on there are local residents who remember tales of goings-on and of high walls put there to stop respectable folk peeping in.

Number 4 Cardrew Avenue is still as you it in the photograph below: the high wooden fence and building beyond have made way for 'Park Court' which, together with its neighbour 'Cardrew Court', on the other side of Cardrew Avenue, occupy the grounds of the old 'Cardrew House', built about 1900. What you see behind the fence in the photograph is the last vestige of the old house.



This photograph was taken in 1934 by Friern Barnet Urban District Council as a result of a complaint by the resident of number 4 Cardrew Avenue about the height of the fence adjoining the nudist colony (photo courtesy Barnet Local Studies & Archives)

So now the simple matter of identifying the occupants in 1934. From 1935 onwards *Kelly's Directory of Finchley & Friern Barnet* records the building as 92 Friern Park; previously the old building/s are known variously as 'Cardrew Lodge', 'Cardrew Cottage' and numbers '1,2 and 3 Cardrew House'. Then to Electoral Rolls: Edmond and his wife Denise Guizot Bedingfield lived there with at least three others from 1935 to 1938 but there is no sign of them thereafter. It is probable they parted company – in 1939 Edmond turns up with Ada in Barnet Way and Denise changes her name in March 1940 by Deed Poll to Forster, presumably to regularise her relationship with John Forster – they are found, now married, in West London in 1947. In her 1940 Deed Poll application Denise gives her address as 'Cardrew House', but we know that by now 92 Friern Park is a shadow of the original.

But what of the nudists? *British Naturism* records her as 'owning' the Lotus League, and operating in Finchley until 1939. Before moving there it was known as the League of Light. The Lotus League said of itself:

"Activities are now in full swing at the splendid new premises at North Finchley. Indoors members play Badminton and other games in the commodious sports room. There, also, the highly efficient and popular lady instructress gives classes in physical culture with musical accompaniment, twice weekly. Excellent refreshments (non-alcoholic) are available throughout each meeting, in the luxurious lounge. The accommodation includes: Billiard room, three bath rooms, separated heated dressing rooms, and a room where members may benefit by the health giving rays of the Ultra Violet Lamp in comfort, under the



Nudists watching a naked conjuror doing a card trick, taken by Saidman for the 'Daily Herald' on 1 May 1938. These members of the National Sun & Air Association are attending their Annual conference at Friern Park

personal supervision of one of the directors. Boxing instruction is given by a well-known ex-champion boxer. There is a dormitory for the use of gentlemen and another for ladies."

In 1935 the *Daily Mail* reported on the theft of a wallet containing a warrant card and £2. 10s 0d in notes from a Metropolitan Police officer 'attending a session at a nudist centre at Cardrew House.' The reporter learned that 'the club – as it is called – has a membership of 250, including several Harley Street specialists, retired Army and Navy officers, and college professors (all from Cambridge)'

The *Daily Mail* was also on hand in January 1940 to report Mrs Denyse Bedinfield (*sic*) being summoned for £38. 5s 0d non-payment of rates. We learn from her court statement that her 'nature colony' once had 500 to 600 members enjoying the facilities of her 20 room establishment, and that her income had been between £1000 and £2000 a year; now it was reduced to 30 shillings a week paid by her (non-nudist) tenant and £1 private income. We need to know that she is 'in her 30s and has jet black hair with a fringe round her forehead' as she tells our reporter:

"For eight years I've been carrying on this club but when the war came I lost all my members. The blackout and evacuation were part of the cause. Many, of course, joined the Army. I had to close down. It isn't the winter, for nudism can be practised indoors." Then, bravely, 'After the war my club will begin again.'

But the club did not begin again. She changed her name in March 1940, and probably left Cardrew House at the same time; we know that by 1947 she was with John in West London. So nudism and Friern Park ends there – but wait:

Nudists, North Finchley and 1938 fit the bill, but this is the National Sun and Air Association (NSAA), not our Lotus League. Cardrew House had its 20 rooms and a secluded garden so it must have made good sense for them to use it for their national conferences. One certain thing about them is that they knew how to get coverage in newspapers; you find articles in *Western Daily Press*, *Dundee Courier*, *Somerset County Herald*, *Nottingham Evening Post* and, improbably, the *Singapore Free Press*. Reports are clearly rewrites of one reporter's story, or based on an NSAA handout. To readers/viewers of some tabloids today the reasons are clear. A commentator wrote:

"The NSAA did little more than attract the interest of a group of courageous intellectuals and lower middle class professionals while titillating the readers of popular newspapers which spied upon and mocked the private gatherings of such enthusiasts."

But how do we know we are looking at the interior of number 92 ('Cardrew House') Friern Park? Pyramus to the rescue.....it's the wall! This from the *Western Daily Press* in September 1934 and duplicated in substance elsewhere:

"Nudists meet....in a London garden....claimed to be the first nudist conference ever held in this country....the women who mostly wore nothing but a happy smile were in the main young. A high wall surrounded the garden but an enterprising photographer had obtained a ladder. About four feet of it could be seen sticking up above the top of the wall with the photographer mounted on top, a camera ready poised....(he was invited inside)....conference had its own photographer and those who objected could turn their backs as 'it was very

difficult to recognise a back'. Among the nudists present were a Nonconformist minister....a Japanese....and a one-legged man. 'I am a typist and keen nudist' one pretty young member said, 'but it would be the sack for me if my employer saw my photograph in the Press.'

This from the *Somerset County Herald*:

"More than a hundred nudists gathered in sunshine at Friern Park for the annual conference.....clothed in wristwatches they passed a resolution....they want abolition of the custom whereby women bathers are obliged to wear brassieres as well as slippers and facilities at public bathing places for bathing in the nude....provision for new screened enclosure where total nudity can be permitted."

The *Singapore Free Press* in May 1937 reported that Denise Beningfield had claimed damages from Messrs Lawes and Son Ltd in the King's Bench Division for alleged misrepresentation over a land boundary at her Finchley house. The house had been bought for a nudist club and a fence had been erected against 'peeping toms': she intended to use the additional land for sun-bathing and a swimming pool. Sunbathing was the whole purpose of her club.

Only the really committed need read further – it's a brief background to naturism, largely gathered from the British Naturism website.

Charles Crawford, an English judge, is credited with founding the first recorded naturist club – in India in 1891. It had only three members and closed within a year. Interest revived in the early 1900s in Germany where a series of books was published extolling the virtue of fresh air, exercise and nakedness. It only caught on in Britain post WW1 when the English Gymnosophist Society (EGS) was founded; it later reformed as the New EGS and opened a site at Bricket Wood in Hertfordshire in 1927, a site since used by many different clubs. The Moonella Group is credited with being the first naturist club in Britain, operating from a country house in Wickford, Essex between 1924 and 1927. The nudist camp finally entered mainstream British culture with the opening of the Yew Tree Club in 1931 in Croydon (Croydon!).

As early as 1921 naturism was practised in the Welsh Harp in Hendon and following meetings at a local pub the National Sun and Air Association was formed; they ran a national advertising campaign and had a gymnasium in Westbourne Grove. Evidence of their presence was reported in the *Hendon and Finchley Times* in June 1930 – there was: 'Sun bathing war – riotous scenes on the banks of the Welsh Harp....indignation at the proceedings of sun bathers in a field near 'Sandy Cut', Cool Oak Lane.' By 1937 membership had exceeded 2000. Many clubs were formed in the same spirit and after a series of reincarnations the Central Council for British Naturism (now simply British Naturism) claimed membership of about 13,000 in 2007.

Finally, a small ad from the *West Briton & Cornwall Advertiser* of 9 July 1903:

"WANTED, good single-handed GARDENER. Married; no family; must know how to milk, be abstainer, and bear excellent character: only good worker need apply; 23s per week and house. – JOHN P GRYLLS, Cardrew, Friern Park, North Finchley, London N."

What would he have made of it all?

NEWHAVEN HOUSE

by John Selves

At number 272 Colney Hatch Lane is 'Kemble House' which has an interesting and varied history. Since 2006 it has been a residential care home for adults with High Functioning Autism and Asperger's Syndrome. Before the War it had been 'The Hermitage.' and was a home for young women. During the War part of it was used by the Bayer Chemical Company which provided healthcare, nutrition and high-tech material for the war effort. In 1948 part of the rear of the building was used for the manufacture of lampshades and in 1949 the laundry building was used by the British Engraving and Nameplate Manufacturing Co. Ltd.

In 1955 it started a new phase as 'Newhaven House', a Probation Hostel under the auspices of the Rainer Foundation and its role was to accommodate up to 20 girls on a year's probation. This was eleven years after the end of the War and many men did not return from the War and those that did often found difficulty in adjusting back to their families with often unfortunate consequences. The girls were from 15-18 years old and were from the north of England – it was felt that by being put into a place sufficiently far from their locality they would be away from the influences which had caused them to get into trouble and they would be supported by the Probation Service.

The chairman of the overall Management Committee was a Mrs Blakeney and at least one member of the Committee was a local resident, living on the opposite side of Colney Hatch Lane to the hostel. The warden of the hostel was Miss Joan Burrows who was formerly a member of the Women's Army Corps (WACS) and a caring and disciplined person who the girls could turn to for help and advice and in fact several of



Newhaven House photographed in 2000

them kept in touch with her until her death. Over a period of about 15 years 'Newhaven House' had a number of support staff to provide 24 hour cover and to care and support the residents and to run the household. The cook was for many years a great favourite with the girls and her speciality of chocolate éclairs, filled with cream, was a special treat!

The girls would often be employed locally and would return to the hostel in the evenings. They would occasionally have a weekend visit to their families before finally returning home after a year at 'Newhaven' as specified by the courts.

My involvement as a volunteer, from 1955 to 1970, was originally to be a link with Muswell Hill Baptist Church. The first aim was to help the residents to join the youth group and Sunday Services in the Church. This quickly became difficult as some girls were too disruptive in Services and, while there was considerable tolerance by Church members, it became impractical. It was decided that a Service appropriate for the residents would be held in the hostel Dining Room. Sunday evenings then became my responsibility and involved young people from the church. As this developed we also arranged for recreational activities on Friday evenings. One favourite activity was making moulded plaster figures and plaques and painting them. This provided a degree of satisfaction for the girls and they would make items to take home for members of their families. Various young people from the Church helped out at these events and often some of the girls would be invited to homes or taken out for a drive and a coffee.

The front lawn doubled as netball or rounders' court on summer evenings and in winter the record player was a favourite. The girls loved to have their photos taken and copies would be made for them to send home or give to their boyfriends. As can be imagined, the presence of these young girls in Friern Barnet attracted the local youths!

For many of the girls this was an important time in their lives but sadly some of them could not manage what the hostel offered them and found themselves in difficulties and had to be moved to other "institutions", but for many it was a turning point and they were able to turn their lives around and make a success of their time in 'Newhaven' and move on to successful employment.

Postscript by David Berguer

On 19 April 2003, when the house was being used as a home for mental health aftercare, a fire took place on the top floor at the rear of the property which destroyed 75% of the roof and 50% of the first floor. Eight fire engines attended the blaze, along with 40 firefighters and fortunately all 16 patients were rescued unharmed and transferred to the Town Hall at Hendon before being moved to new accommodation at Hemel Hempstead. In 2006 the house had been completely renovated and was renamed 'Kemble House.' By February 2008 a new three storey extension in the same architectural style had been added to what had been the car park to the south.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

The following appeared in the 10 July 1942 issue of *The Bucks Herald*:

"The hospital farms of the London County Council are playing a very important part in this country's food production. These farms have a total area of 60,000 acres and are under the direct control of the Council. Some idea of the intensity

of the farming that is practised may be gained from the produce of the farm at Friern Barnet Hospital. This is a 100 acre farm. It is carrying a milking herd of 50 head of T.T. Ayrshire cattle with an additional 20 heifer calves now being reared. About 400 pigs are bred and reared each year and are supplied to the hospital as pork at weights averaging 100lb. Swill from the hospital supplies the greater part of their food. The total area of grazing available amounts to about 30 acres, the remainder of the holding being arable, kitchen garden and ornamental grounds. The latter are all producing food stuffs either for human consumption or for cattle. In 1940-41 the production of human food in the farm of meat, poultry, vegetables and fruit, amounted to 448 tons, together with 18,210 gallons of milk, 3700 eggs and 19,000 lettuces. The average number of cows in milk during the period was 28. Animal food amounted to 158 tons made up of green food, hay and silage. The output of the farm goes far to meet the needs of the hospital and this means feeding nearly 3000 people."

WAR IN OUR TIME

On 28 September 1938 a handwritten and mimeographed letter was produced by St Paul's Junior Mixed School, New Southgate and was issued to parents:

"Dear Sir or Madam

The following is the official communication received from the Middlesex Education Committee:-

'The Education Committee has decided to close all its schools in the event of a state of national emergency being declared. The question of the re-opening of these schools will be considered at short intervals in the light of experience.

It should be understood that these instructions have been issued by the Education Committee entirely as a precautionary measure and not because it has come to the conclusion that an outbreak of hostilities is inevitable.'

Yours faithfully

R J Robertson

Headmaster

P.S. If any further communication is received the children will be immediately notified."

A couple of days later, on 30 September 1938, Neville Chamberlain issued his famous speech offering "Peace in our time." Almost twelve months later, on 3 September 1939, Britain declared war on Germany. So, did the Middlesex Education Committee know something that Chamberlain didn't?

REBUILDING OF ST JAMES'S CHURCH

From an unlikely source comes a description of the rebuilding of the Parish Church of St James the Great in Friern Barnet Lane. The 18 November 1853 issue of *Royal Cornwall Gazette* contained the following:

"The little village of Friern Barnet presented a most interesting scene on Thursday last, and one which will long be had in remembrance by all who had the good fortune to be present. The church, which was very small, with overhanging galleries and high square pews, had long been found utterly

inadequate to accommodate the parishioners more especially. The school was held in one of the almshouses, and there was no facility for receiving the children, or teaching those who might be assembled. To remedy both these very pressing wants has been the constant aim of the Rector, the Rev Robert Morris, Rural Dean, who became the incumbent in 1850. By great liberality on his own part, and that of his parishioners, especially Mr Miles and Mr Smith, aided by the assistance of many friends who appreciated his labours in St Giles parish, London, he succeeded in raising an amount which, with grants from the Church Building and National Societies, and the Privy Council, have enabled him, under the direction of Messrs Habershon, as architects, to enlarge his church in the very best taste, so that now it foremost of the most picturesque little churches in Middlesex; and further, to erect two admirable school-rooms, and at the same distance from it. Both church and schools were opened on Thursday, a sermon being preached by the Bishop of London, and a collection of £112 made at the offertory. The church will now seat 460 persons; it has been closed for little more than a year, and has cost £2980, of which about £500 has still to be raised. After the service, the Bishop, accompanied by his chaplain, and about twenty-four of the neighbouring clergy, among whom were the Rev T Ainger, J H Canston, H G Watkins, C Edmonstone and Dr Proctor, and many of the congregation, proceeded to the schools, where, after the singing of a hymn, and an address from the Bishop and Mr Morris, the children sat down to dinner of beef and pudding. His lordship, with the clergy and others, then proceeded to the mansion of Mr Miles, where they were most hospitably entertained, and where the Bishop expressed himself peculiarly gratified with all that he had seen, and passed a well merited eulogium on the Rector, congratulating him and his parishioners on the completion of a work so conclusive to the glory of God and the good of souls. The schoolrooms are calculated to receive 120 children."

NORTHMET

Our article in the last *Newsletter* on Northmet brought back a childhood memory to our member in Broxbourne, Pam Brown: "My maternal grandparents lived in The Avenue and overlooked the Northmet yard at the back. The noise, a loud buzzing, is what I remember. This was continuous day and night. When I stayed with my Nan I always found it very difficult to get to sleep."

CLOCK & WATCHMAKERS' ASYLUM

Some of you will remember the Clock & Watchmakers' Asylum that stood at the top of Waterfall Road, New Southgate until its demolition in the early 1960s to make way for a block of flats, 'The Homestead'. Nick McKie has come across several references in the press which give a history of its early years. From the *Morning Chronicle* of 2 June 1857:

"Yesterday the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the asylum, the want of which has been long felt, took place upon a most eligible piece of land beautifully situate at Colney Hatch, near the Great Northern Railway Station, Mr T S Duncombe, MP for Finsbury, officiating,

The asylum, which will be in the Tudor style of architecture, formed of red brick, decorated with stone dressings, is from a design by Mr Robert Palgrave, architect, and is intended to provide a home, with fuel and light, and an annual pension of £20 to the men, and £13 to the widows, for such as may be elected by the subscribers. It is proposed to build thirteen houses immediately, and



The Asylum in its heyday. Waterfall Road is on the right

subsequently to increase the number, and with this view an eligible piece of freehold land of two acres in extent, beautifully situate at Colney Hatch has been purchased, plans, building estimates &c, obtained and a large amount subscribed for the building purposes. The wealthy of the trade have healthily joined in, and identified themselves with the cause, and a large number of all engaged in the various branches, fully appreciating the advantages and sharing the same sentiments of benevolence and sympathy, have given it earnest support.

Shortly before two o'clock the procession was formed, and the honourable veteran member for Finsbury conducted to the 'stone', which bore the following inscription: "Clock and Watchmakers' Asylum. This stone was laid by T S Duncombe, Esq, M.P. for Finsbury, on 1st June 1857."

An elegant silver trowel, manufactured by G Adams (firm of Chawner and Co.) and bearing an appropriate inscription, was handed to Mr Dunscombe; the vase containing the coins &c placed in the depositum and the stone, with the usual formalities, placed in position amid the loud and enthusiastic plaudits of a large assemblage of ladies and gentlemen connected with the trade, as also a great number of the most influential inhabitants of Clerkenwell.

Mr Connell, on behalf of the Committee, addressing Mr Duncombe, observed that as the building they were about to erect was for the benefit of the working man, and as he (Mr Duncombe) had so long exerted himself for the benefit of the working classes, he had much pleasure in requesting him to lay the foundation stone.

Mr Duncombe, in a very eloquent address, expressed the honour and pleasure he felt at having been solicited to officiate in laying the stone of a building connected with a trade, so large a portion of whom resided in the borough he had so long had the honour to represent in Parliament and after giving a history

of the rise and progress of this and kindred institutions, concluded by wishing that every success might attend the institution.

A great portion of the assembly then proceeded to the large temporary ball room, erected in the beautiful grounds at the rear of the Railway Hotel, where the proprietors, Messrs Watts and Selby served up an excellent dejeuner. The subscriptions announced amounted to a considerable sum, in addition to £2000 already contributed. Amongst the principal were Mr V Knight, chairman, £21, in addition to a previous donation of 100 guineas; Sir J Tyler, Kt £21; Mr Cox, M.P. £21; Mr G L Worth £5; Mr Porthouse £10, in addition to previous 50 guineas; Mr Connell 2 guineas; the Rev Mr Maguire 2 guineas annually; the architect (Mr Palgrave), 5 guineas &c."

The following year, the 24 April 1858 issue of *Illustrated London News* had this to say about the newly opened almshouses:

"The watch and clock makers of London have done honour to themselves by adding one more to the many benevolent institutions which adorn the suburbs of this great metropolis, in which the aged and infirm can pass their closing days, with the proud gratification that instead being dependent upon State charity, they rely on the freely-accorded assistance of their fellow-workmen, or, correctly speaking, on a joint stock to which the recipients have themselves contributed. These voluntary efforts among our artisans and others to provide for sickness and age are among the most gratifying signs of our time, and we are glad the metropolitan watch and clock makers have shown themselves alive to the importance of co-operating to help themselves by adding this asylum to their existing charities. Nor is the un-sectarian nature of this institution its least charm. The asylum is intended to provide a retreat for the decayed and deserving aged men or widows of the trade, irrespective of all questions of country or religious opinion. The Christian and the Hebrew, the workmen of London or any other town in the United Kingdom, or even of America, may become occupants of this healthy and quiet abode, and side by side pass their declining days.

The cost of the asylum has been – land £700; building £2500; grounds, &c £100, including drainage, &c. The houses are now quite fit for occupation, and only wait the accumulation of the necessary funds for the maintenance of the inmates. The surrounding ground is duly levelled, and the paths are gravelled; but the fencing is only temporary, a more ornamental kind being in operation.

The building is situated on an eminence at the junction of the East Barnet and Southgate roads. The front, which has a southern aspect, faces the latter road, which is shaded by some fine old trees. The scenery, looking northwards, is varied and beautiful; and in the distance the view is closed by the hills at East Barnet, crowned with woods and studded with magnificent mansions. Whichever way the eye turns, it is delighted with beautiful objects; and one cannot imagine a more charming retreat for persons in their old age, when, worn out by the struggles of life, they sigh for repose.

The asylum consists at present of thirteen houses, in the Tudor style, and a board-room and clock tower in connection with the central houses. The committee have secured ample building ground, and it is in contemplation at a future period to add to the present edifice two wings. Each house contains a

parlour and kitchen on the ground floor, and a good-sized bedroom on the first floor, with suitable outhouses. Due attention has been paid to the important matter of drainage, and a copious supply of water has been obtained from the Colney Hatch Waterworks. The architect is Mr Palgrave, of West Brompton; and the architect Mr R Batterbury, of Fitzroy-road, Camden Town.

The completion of the asylum was celebrated by an inaugural dinner at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street on Tuesday last, when more than one hundred gentlemen assembled, under the presence of Lord Ebury, to do honour to the occasion. His Lordship, on proposing the toast of the evening, eloquently advocated the claims of the asylum on the benevolence of the influential watch and clock makers of London, and on the public generally. The result of his Lordship's appeal was a collection of nearly £600."

On 28 October 1888 *Lloyds Weekly Newspaper* reported that "at present there was accommodation for 24 inmates, the females receiving 15/- annually, with coal and gas; and the males 24/- with the additional privileges." Two years later, on 25 April 1890, *The Coventry Free Press* reported on the thirty seventh Annual General Meeting of the donors and subscribers to the asylum. Subscriptions had fallen below those of the previous year, the balance showing subscriptions of £257. 2s 0d, with dividends on invested stock of £216. 17s 1d. An alteration had been made to the rules whereby the widow of a deceased inmate, who had been his wife 25 years and was 60 years of age, should remain in the asylum and receive a widow's pension until a vacancy occurred in a widow's house. There were now 19 inmates, the average age of whom was 75 years and 5 months. The inmates had received £37.16s 0d from the pension paid by the Watch and Clockmakers' Benevolent Institution and £24.10s 0d from the Clockmakers' Company. Receipts showed a total of £872.11s 0d, including £300 from the Goldsmith's Company and £57 from the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers. Asylum charges reached £770.16s 4d, and expenses of management £86. 3s 0d, leaving a balance in hand for the year of £37.16s 0d.

WHETSTONE UPDATES

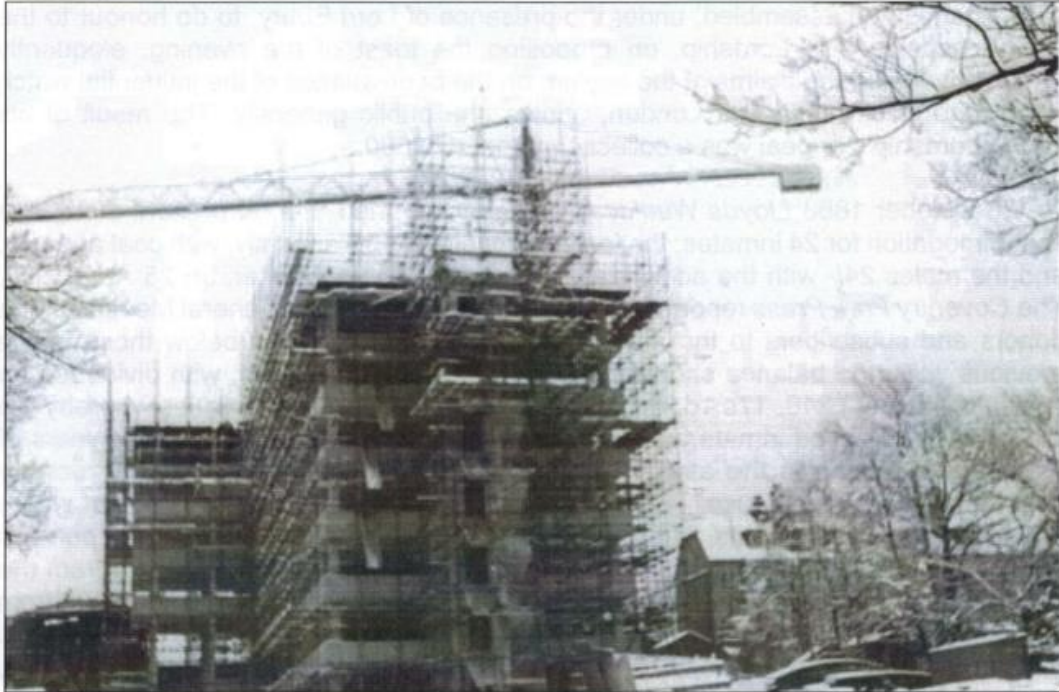
Following a public consultation in June 2014, the plans for the B&Q site at 1201 High Road, Whetstone have been amended. A planning application has now been submitted to Barnet Council which proposes 124 homes (100 apartments and 24 3 and 4 storey houses) which represents a reduction from the 130 homes proposed at the public exhibition. In addition the car parking has been increased from 117 spaces to 125. There has also been a change in the design of the three southerly blocks which would now have pitched roofs running parallel to the High Road. This would give "a contemporary vernacular character to the architecture and reduce the impact of the buildings on the street scene." The northerly block, on the corner of Baxendale and the High Road, has also been reduced by setting back the top floor by 3 metres and by reducing the depth of the building to make it less visible from street level.

A further development, in Well Grove, off Chandos Avenue, has been approved by Barnet Council. This will result in the demolition of existing buildings and replacement by 62 houses and 8 flats and the provision of a '300sq m non-residential institutional building'.

The 0.28 acre site of the former BP petrol station, number 1418-1420 High Road, is now being advertised by Blenheim Bishop. The BP station was demolished in early 2013 and the site has been used since then as a car wash. A planning application for

redevelopment of the site had been turned down by Barnet Council in 2008. A revised scheme for 12 1-bed apartments and 14 2-bed apartments with retail units on the ground floor and basement parking was prepared but never submitted.

Advertisements have started appearing promoting the redevelopment of Northway House. Redrow London are offering 1 bedroom apartments from £299,000 and 2 bedroom apartments from £425,000.



Northway House in the course of construction in 1968 (photo by Bill Watts)

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

Your subscription runs out on 31 March 2015. If you wish to renew for a further year, from 1 April 2015 - 31 March 2016, please complete the enclosed form and return it with your cheque.

We are pleased to say that the rates remain the same - £8 for a single person and £14 for a couple or group.

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