

Friern Barnet *Newsletter*

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A LOCAL HERO REMEMBERED

by David Berguer

On Wednesday 23 March a stone laying ceremony took place at noon in Oakleigh Park North to celebrate the life of Captain the Reverend Noel Mellish who was awarded the VC a hundred years ago, on 27 March 1916. The ceremony was attended by representatives of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, successors to the Royal Fusiliers as well as a number of dignitaries including Martin Russell, the Deputy Lieutenant of Greater London, members of Mellish's family and schoolchildren from All Saints', Queenswell and Sacred Heart schools.

Noel Mellish was born on 24 December 1880 at 'Trenabie', Oakleigh Park North, the son of Edward and Mary Mellish. He was educated at Saffron Walden Grammar School and became a member of the Artists Rifles. In 1900 he served in South Africa with Robert Baden-Powell and at the outbreak of the First World War he had been assistant curate at St Paul's, Deptford.



Martin Russell reads a biography of Noel Mellish at the stone laying ceremony

Noel was Padre to the 4th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers. At St Eloi at 4.15am on 27 March 1916 the British detonated several huge mines under the German lines. It was expected that there would be a large advance but the British troops were met with heavy German fire. During the heavy fighting that followed Noel went continuously between the British trenches and the captured German trenches, attending to and rescuing wounded men. He rescued 10 severely wounded men under heavy machine gun fire on the first day and on the second day he returned and rescued 12 more. On the third day he returned and rescued the remaining troops. All this was done voluntarily and was outside his normal sphere of duties. He was awarded the Victoria Cross for valiant and extended action. In 1918 he was also awarded the Military Cross and shortly afterwards married his sweetheart, Elizabeth Wallace Molesworth. Noel served until 1919 but his brother, Second Lieutenant Richard Coppin Mellish, was killed in action on 25 September 1915 while serving with the 1st Middlesex Regiment at the Battle of Loos.

After the War Noel was vicar at St Mary's Church, Great Dunmow, Essex and was then curate of the Church of St Dunstan, Baltonsborough in Somerset. He died on 8 July 1962, aged 81 and is buried at Weymouth Crematorium. His Victoria Cross is displayed at the Royal Fusiliers Museum in the Tower of London.

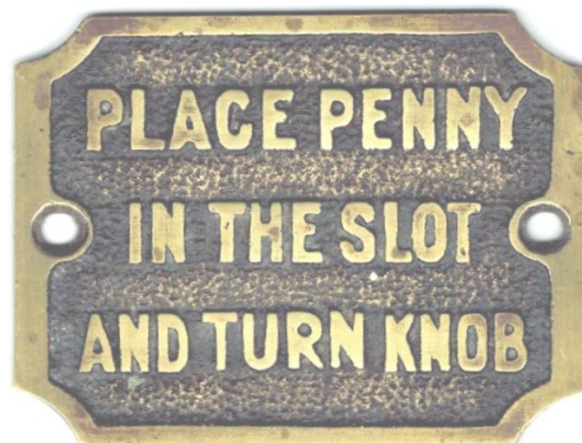
THINGS YOU DON'T SEE NOW

by David Berguer

I don't know if you ever wake up in the early hours of the morning and find yourself suddenly unable to get back to sleep, but it happened to me a few months ago and I found myself thinking of my childhood and early adulthood and it suddenly dawned on me that many of the things I knew then were no longer in existence. I started jotting them down on the notepad I keep by my bedside and here they are, in the random order that I remembered them:

Robertson's golly
Stone hot water bottles
Running boards on cars
Dubbin
Plimsolls
Corsets
Used Tickets boxes on buses

Marshalling yards
Radio valves
Timothy Whites & Taylors
Radio Luxembourg
TV rental shops
Sealing wax
Galoshes



*The origin of 'spending a penny'
Nowadays of course it is more like 20p.*

Lift attendants
Sardine tins keys
Metal toothpaste tubes
Quart bottles of brown ale
Washboards
Creosote
Dentifrice powder
Surgical Appliance shops
Esso Blue and Pink Paraffin
Chappie dog food
Coalmen
Stair Rods
Spong mincers
'Do not Lean out of the Window'
Slam doors on trains
Mechanical horses
Speedway at Harringay
Nylon shirts
Green Shield stamps
Air Wick bottles
Fountain pens
Nightwatchmen
Mr Chad
Blakeys
The Man from the Pru
Choke handles

Penny chews
Fivestones
'Halt at Major Road Ahead'
Coal scuttles
Izal toilet paper
Gas mantles
Tin baths
Oil shops
Radiograms
Distemper
Workers' Playtime
Wills' Passing Clouds
Mangles
Collar stiffeners
Signwriters
Smog masks
Bob a Job Week
'Press Button B'
'Do not Spit Penalty £5'
Anthracite
Hangmen
Lace-up footballs
Co-op dividends
Cinema usherettes
Dial telephones
Mangles

Patricia later added some things I knew nothing about - Sanitary Towels with Loops, Mascara blocks, Odo-Ro-No, Carmen rollers and Liberty Bodices.

I am sure there are many more things; perhaps you would like to compile your own list and if you would like to share it I'll be happy to publish it. Incidentally, this topic makes a good party game, providing your guests are of a certain age!

THE WRIGHT-KINGSFORD HOME

by John Heathfield

In September 1898 two hospital nurses, Miss Blanche Wright and Miss Ellen Kingsford, rented a cottage in Walton-on-Thames as a Home for Homeless Babies. The house was severely neglected and the first babies arrived before it was really ready. There were originally eleven babies looked after by the ladies and a single maid.

By April 1902 they needed somewhere large and nearer London and they located a site at Finchley which could accommodate up to 40 babies. Unfortunately it was found to be unsanitary and the local Medical Officer of Health ruled that it could not be occupied without substantial remedial work. Typically the Miles family came to the rescue with a gift of £1000 from Henry Miles. The babies were temporarily accommodated at the Manor House (now North Middlesex Golf Club clubhouse) –cor! smelly nappies in the Golf club bar!

By May 1903 a different house had been found on a two-acre site in Granville Road near Fallow corner. It was bought from the Wimbush family for £4000, of which the ladies had £1000. The furniture would have arrived by horse and cart.

Even though a Ladies Entertainment Committee had been formed, by 1905 there was not enough money to provide food for the babies and there was a nationwide appeal for funds which was so successful that they were able to pay off the mortgage. Unfortunately the First World War intervened and no further money was raised however Sir John Kirk, a noted Scottish physician and one-time explorer, persuaded the Shaftesbury Society to take an interest and within a few months the home was free of debt.

The Society decided to call it the Wright-Kingsford Home with Miss Kingsford as Treasurer and Miss Wright as Matron. Miss Wright had been trained at the East London Hospital for Children from 1891 to 1894 and the Leeds General Infirmary from 1894 to 1896. Miss Kingsford trained at St Bart's from 1888 to 1891. Miss Kingsford died in 1945 and Miss Wright in 1950.

The Home provided a remarkable example of community involvement. The Ladies Committee ran a series of summer fetes which always included a contribution from the Woodhouse School girls organised by Miss Shore, who lived round the corner, and the Friern Barnet Brownies. One of the fund raising schemes included sponsoring a bed and the Pearly King of Hornsey Road gave £10 a year, as did the Lady Margaret School and the Finchley Table Tennis Club.

In 1924 a scheme to extend the building was broached; money was raised and the former stables were converted into dormitories, a playroom, a kitchen, a sick room and 'commodious cupboards'. Funds continued to be raised by the Shaftesbury Society and the Ministry of Health was also involved in raising the necessary £8000. On the ground floor were two nurseries, two nurses' bedrooms and a sick room and all were centrally heated. A laundry with 'modern appliances' occupied a separate building. A new wall and outer gates were built at the same time. There was eventually room for 100 children who wore a distinctive red and blue uniform. Boys left at the age of five but the girls stayed on until the school leaving age of 14. Most of them went to Summerside School and later to either Finchley County or Manorside. From 1937 children from the Home would march on Saturday mornings in a huge crocodile to the Gaumont Kiddies' Club at Tally Ho.

In 1926 Princess Mary opened the new extensions and in 1937 she visited again to recognise the work that had been done. In 1935 the world's biggest perambulator holding a dozen tots was specially built for the home and a publicity photograph of 15 children having a ride in it was printed in the newspapers. In 1939 part of the building was used for nurses' accommodation from Finchley Memorial Hospital. By 1945 the building had become very run down and it was closed as part of the establishment of the NHS. The site was cleared for demolition in the 1950s.

WHERE WAS MARE LANE?

by John Heathfield

The *Victoria County History* states:

"Leading north east from the centre of Oakleigh Road was Mare Lane, so called in 1522 and 1825, but also known as Beldams Lane before 1820 when it was

described as Blackhorse Lane and as East Barnet Lane by 1863. In 1975 it was Russell Lane”

I believe this to be wrong.

In the Friern Barnet Court Rolls are the following:

“1770. Sale to Robert Cassall, a cottage, orchard and appointments on Mare Lane near Whetstone turnpike to which J Child was admn. in 1755, then divided into 3 parts.”

1771. James Smart surr. to R Cassell, a messuage, now 3 in Mare Lane, late Ware’s (admn. 1755)

1797. Cassell dead, W Williamson admn. to a cott. on S side of Mare Lane in occ. of ? Warren, also a tenement in occ. of Sam Huggins, late John Child & widow Benson on the North side to which Cassell admin 1770. Also 2 tenements on the North side of Mare Lane near the turnpike in occ. of Henry Ward and widow Benson, late Smart – Wm Woodward admn.”

The Enclosure map of 1815 shows W Woodward owning plots 855, 865 & 857.

The reference to the turnpike which was Whetstone High Road and the map clearly shows Woodward’s land covering what is now Athenaeum Road.

Blackhorse Lane is the top of Oakleigh Road North, named after *The Black Horse* pub which stood where Barclay’s Bank now stands, Beldam’s Field ran from Oakleigh Road to Friern Barnet Lane covering roughly what is now the Sweets Way estate. If Mare Lane was Russell Lane then there would be cottages on the south side.

So where are they and why are they not shown on the Enclosure map? In short, Mare Lane is now Athenaeum Road, I believe Mare Lane to be a miscopying of Marl Lane, which led to Marl Field.

According to Joanna Corden, the former Barnet Archivist, the *Victoria County History* researchers had only six weeks in which to cover Friern Barnet and Finchley. The remarkable thing is that they made so few mistakes.

Tail piece: Woodward owned *The Bricklayer’s Arms* pub (number 1276 High Road) which by 1936 had become the Central Fruit Stores and which was until recently occupied by Rosalie Owen Florist and is now part of Izgara restaurant.

ROYAL JOURNEYS

by David Berguer

In Alison Weir’s excellent book *Henry VIII: King and Court* she describes in astonishing detail the everyday goings on of the Tudor court which comprised well over 1000 people. Along with the intrigues and the jostling for power, the main feature of Henry’s reign was the vast amounts of money he spent on entertainment. He had inherited some £1.25 million from his father (equivalent to £375 million today) and he did not hesitate to arrange lavish feasts and elaborate pageants which made the English court the envy and wonder of the world.

He had also inherited fourteen medieval castles and seven main houses – Westminster Palace, the Tower of London, Greenwich Palace, Richmond Place, Eltham Palace, Woodstock Palace and Windsor Castle. The royal estate also included seventeen lesser houses throughout the country. By the time he died in 1547 he owned over seventy residences and would frequently make visits to them, mainly to hunt.

On a royal visit he would be accompanied by anything up to 300 courtiers and servants with the royal possessions conveyed on carts and wagons, mules and horses and sometimes on boats. The poor state of the roads meant that the King and his main retinue always rode on horseback. This frequent travelling also had the effect of keeping him and, until her fall from grace, Queen Catherine, in the public eye. To give an idea of the lavishness of the court, on a single day in 1532 on a journey to Calais he and his household consumed 6 oxen, 8 calves, 40 sheep, 12 pigs, 132 capons, 7 swans, 20 storks, 34 pheasants, 192 partridges, 192 cocks, 56 herons, 84 pullets, 720 larks, 240 pigeons, 24 peacocks, and 192 plovers and teals. The annual cost of feeding the whole court amounted to the equivalent to over £6 million. On a journey to York in 1541 the King took a retinue of five thousand horses, a thousand soldiers, most members of the court and two hundred tents and pavilions to accommodate those for whom there was no room in the houses where the King was to stay! One can imagine this lot riding through Whetstone.....

In July 1529, at the height of Henry's attempts to get his marriage to Catherine annulled by the Pope, he went, accompanied this time by Anne Boleyn, to Greenwich and then visited Waltham Abbey, Barnet, Tittenhanger, Windsor, Reading, Woodstock, Langley, Buckingham and Grafton. If they had gone directly from Waltham Abbey to Barnet they would not have passed through Whetstone but Henry's two children, Edward VI and Elizabeth spent their childhood at Hatfield Palace and would have travelled through Whetstone, and possibly Friern Barnet, on the way.

There has been much speculation on the origin of the word 'Betstyle'. One of the most fanciful stories concerns Princess Elizabeth who before she became Queen (she was born in 1533) was forbidden to approach London any nearer than Enfield Chase. The point at which the Chase is nearest London is at the eastern end of Friern Barnet Road so she was supposed to have leant on a stile there and looked at the capital which was just beyond her reach - hence 'Betts stile'. It is true that as a child of thirteen, during the last years of Henry's reign, she did reside at Enfield and hunted on the Chase but she would have been accompanied by her governesses and servants.

After the dissolution of the monasteries which took place between 1536 and 1541 the first Court Roll of the Manor of Friern Barnet mentions 'Bett Style Grove' but at this time Elizabeth would have been only around eleven, the above legend does not hold water. A possible explanation for the name is that in old deeds the words 'stile boot' occur, which in feudal times was an annual payment to the lord of the manor for permission to have a stile and right of entry. If the words are transposed, 'bootstile' could later have become corrupted to 'Betstyle'.

ACQUISITIONS

We keep a pretty close eye on eBay to see if any photographs or memorabilia of the area come up and occasionally we strike lucky. Before Christmas Colin Barratt came across a photograph of New Southgate Station and we thought it was worth making a bid for. Fortunately he was successful and we now have the photograph in our archives. It was taken by an unknown amateur photographer and measures only 2½



by 4½ inches. There is no indication when it was taken but a bit of detective work and studying it through a magnifying glass has narrowed it down somewhat.

The name 'New Southgate & Friern Barnet for Colney Hatch' was changed in 1923, the station having started life on 7 August 1850 as 'Colney Hatch & Southgate'. In 1855 it was changed to 'Southgate & Colney Hatch' and in 1876 to 'New Southgate & Colney Hatch'. As the district developed, local residents in New Southgate were anxious to drop the reference to Colney Hatch as by then the asylum was very well known to the public at large and they were keen to downplay its connotations; one can imagine that houses were becoming more difficult to sell!

So we knew that the photograph was taken after 1923. A further clue was the name LNER on the engine's tender. The London & North Eastern Railway ceased to exist after 1948 when it, along with the LMS, the GWR and the Southern Railway were nationalised. So it had to have been taken between 1923 and the end of 1947. On closer inspection the loco turns to be an A3 Pacific and the number is 4472 – so it is none other than *The Flying Scotsman*! The engine had been built in 1923 was numbered and named in 1924. It spent 1924 and 1925 being displayed at the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley so the photo must have been taken some time after 1925. The stamp on the back of the photograph says 'Velox' which was a name used by Kodak for their photographic papers in the 1940s and 1950s, so the likelihood is that the train hurtling through New Southgate on the last lap of its journey to London was captured around sometime between 1940 and 1947.

KNIGHTS OF ST JOHN

by John Philpott

Friern Barnet owes its existence, its very name, to the brothers ("friars") of the Knights of the Order of St John of Jerusalem, the Knights Hospitaller. The history of the Hospitallers began in the 11th century, with the establishment of the Hospital of St John in Jerusalem, by then under Muslim rule, for the care of pilgrims to the Holy

Sepulchre. The hospital was particularly for the care of the poor – the brothers described themselves as “serfs of the poor”; the needy of other faiths, Muslim or Jew, would not be turned away. A decade or so after the foundation of the Jerusalem hospital came the tragedy of the first Crusade. Tens of thousands of crusaders brought untold suffering across Europe, particularly among Jewish communities, before they had even reached Muslim held territory; of the crusaders themselves, probably about three quarters perished. Jerusalem was captured in 1099 and, for the ninety years that it remained under Christian rule, pilgrimage flourished, and with it the demands on the Hospitallers. During this period, the Order of the Knights Templars was founded, devoted to the protection of pilgrims as they journeyed to the holy sites, and a little later the Hospitallers also took on a military role in safeguarding pilgrims as they journeyed to the holy sites, in addition to medical care. Both orders, Templars and Hospitallers, were popular objects for charitable giving and became wealthy, owning estates across Western Europe.

In 1187 Saladin recaptured Jerusalem, and the Hospital of St John, which before the Crusade was permitted under Muslim rule, ceased to exist. A few enclaves in the Holy Land remained under Christian control, some in the hands of the Hospitallers who continued their humanitarian role with the building of a hospital in Acre (in what is now northern Israel). At the end of the 13th century finally driven from the Holy Land, Templars and Hospitallers took refuge in Cyprus. The Order of the Knights Templar did not survive long after this. In 1307, for reasons that are not clear, seemingly a mixture of public hysteria and envy of their wealth by the French king, who obtained the connivance of a weak Pope, all Templar brothers in France were arrested, tortured to obtain confessions to fantastic crimes, and many burnt at the stake. The Templar order was disbanded, their estates passing to the Hospitallers, although at a price. Shortly afterwards the Hospitallers, perhaps in order to escape the fate of the Templars by proving that, on spite of failure in the Holy Land, they were not moribund, invaded and captured the island of Rhodes, to which the Grand Master of the order moved his headquarters. There they built an efficient navy with which they continued the fight against the Islamic empire, including licensed piracy against merchant shipping. Muslim rulers made several attempts to dislodge the Knights, unsuccessfully until 1522, when the Ottomans, after a desperate siege lasting six months, forced capitulation, generously allowing the defenders to leave without further molestation.

The Hospitaller headquarters then moved to Malta, granted to the Order by the Emperor Charles V (1500 – 1558). At the Great Siege of 1565, an attempt by the Ottomans to capture the island failed in the face of an heroic defence by a much smaller force of Knights Hospitaller, and Malta remained the Order’s home for over two hundred and forty years. The welfare of the poor remained their concern: as well as the main hospital, the Sacred Infirmary, with a school of anatomy and surgery attached, they built a number of smaller hospitals. As from the first, their principle was that in the poor they were serving Christ and only the best would do, conditions normally enjoyed only by the wealthy: each patient had his or her own bed in the privacy of an alcove; a good diet was served from silver dishes.

In England, as elsewhere in Europe, the Order of Hospitallers became a major land owner. The English Priory headquarters was in Clerkenwell, with around forty Commanderies (local headquarters) throughout the country. In the twelfth century, the manor of (what was to become) Friern Barnet was given to the Order by the Bishop of London, together with the responsibility of provision for a church and a priest to serve it. Perhaps it was the Hospitallers’ priest who founded the original parish church of St

James the Great in Friern Barnet Lane; perhaps it was there already. There is no firm evidence to support the legend of a hospice for pilgrims nearby, but the position on what was then the main road from London to the north, and on the pilgrimage route to St Albans, gives us hope to suppose it may be true.

In 1540 the Order in England was dissolved, its estates taken by Henry VIII as part of his dissolution of the monasteries. The manor of Friern Barnet, together with the patronage of the church, was given to the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's who sold the manor in the nineteenth century, but remain patrons of the Parish of Friern Barnet. Elsewhere in Europe at the Reformation, with the schism from the Roman Catholic Church, the Order was likewise dissolved in some Protestant countries, but survived in northern Germany and the Netherlands, though now separated from the main Roman Catholic Order. Malta remained the latter's headquarters until ousted by Napoleon in 1798. A new home for the headquarters was later found in Rome. It remains today the oldest surviving chivalric order, now with its original function of providing medical and welfare care. The Order was re-established in Britain in the nineteenth century on an inter-denominational basis, and came, in time, to take up again a philanthropic role. In 1888 it received a Royal Charter as the Most Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem. Of the Clerkenwell Priory, the chapel and gatehouse had survived, and the re-born Order was able to acquire them, building a headquarters incorporating the latter. Its work best known to us is the running of the St John Ambulance Brigade, founded in 1887. It also runs the St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem, established in 1882, so returning to the place where the Hospitallers began centuries earlier.

The first St John Ambulance unit in the Barnet area opened in 1903 in High Barnet. The unit in Friern Barnet opened in 1947, an offshoot of one already established in Finchley. The Barnet Borough headquarters is now in Priory Grove, opposite the old Barnet Football Club ground. Two other local units still remain, the one at Friern Barnet meeting at Manor Drive Methodist Church. St John Ambulance provides training in first aid to its members and the public. Many units have uniformed youth sections. First



St John Ambulance in attendance at the Friern Barnet Summer show in 2008

aiders and ambulance crews in the Barnet area provide cover at both local and central London events, including, for example, school matches, Premiership football grounds (Spurs and Arsenal), the London Marathon and State occasions such as Trooping the Colour. During 2014 the Friern Barnet unit completed over 6000 hours voluntary service, providing first aid at public events, training at regular weekly meetings and working with its youth sections. There were 27 adults and 43 young people on Friern Barnet's books last year. (*The information on the Friern Barnet Unit was provided by Patricia Bagster of the Barnet Unit*).

18th CENTURY CRIME

The following is a cutting from the 15 November 1790 issue of *The British Advertiser*:

The Association of Finchley and Friern-Barnet, have paid by their Treasurer a reward of thirty pounds, for the apprehending of the foot-pad who robbed Mr. Briggs, and dangerously wounded Mr. Pasley of Coney-Hatch, on Finchley Common; and from the liberal contributions and spirited conduct of the Gentlemen of that neighbourhood, it is to be hoped, that they will be enabled to suppress all depredations in future on the public in that quarter. These Gentlemen have till the present instance, confined themselves to the general premiums offered in their terms of association, but their subscriptions are of that extent, that they mean in future to apportion them to the nature of the crime committed. An example worthy of imitation!

19th CENTURY CRIME

The following appeared in *Lloyds Weekly Newspaper* of 17 March 1895:

HIGHGATE.

STEALING THE PUBLIC SNUFF BOX.
—George Williamson, 33, a navvy, of 16, Harrogate-road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, was charged, on remand, with stealing a box containing snuff, of the value of 2s., from the mantelpiece of the York Arms beerhouse, Whetstone, the property of George Baldwin, the proprietor.—The prosecutor, it appeared, keeps a snuff-box on the mantel-shelf of his tap-room, for the free use of his customers. Prisoner was served with some beer in the tap-room, and when he had gone the snuff-box was missed. Prisoner was afterwards seen in the Railway hotel, New Southgate, and when asked about the box, produced it, and said a man in the York Arms gave it to him.—Prisoner's defence was that someone must have put the box in his pocket. He afterwards pleaded "Guilty" and was sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment with hard labour.

A DOCTOR RETIRES

At the end of February 2016 one of our most respected local doctors, Dr Kim Lumley, retired after a forty year career in the NHS, of which 31 were spent at the Oakleigh Road Clinic. Back in 1985 he and Dr Barbra Howells and Dr Jane Howells started on a project to modernise the practice with appointment and repeat prescription systems, computerisation, premises development and an expansion in services. In those days there were just these three doctors and a staff of three; today there are seven doctors, three practice nurses and a staff of twenty and the patient list stands at 8500. Sadly Dr Barbara Howells died in December 2014, but her daughter Jane is still there.

One of the features of the practice is the teaching of fourth year medical students from the Royal Free and University College Hospitals. All the doctors and nurses are now involved in the training and assessment of doctors either in the year before they become fully-fledged general practitioners or doctors who are in general training two years after qualification. Dr Lumley said: "I hope I have imparted some common medical sense over the years – in particular the importance of individuals taking a large responsibility for their own health by thinking and acting in terms of healthy lifestyle and prevention of risk factors". Dr Lumley gave us all some good advice: "No smoking, regular and sustained exercise, a 'Mediterranean diet' (not forgetting rolled oats for breakfast), moderate alcohol – regular postural exercise (Yoga/Tai Chi/ Pilates or similar) for those of middle or older age – perhaps you won't even need doctors in the future".

REMEMBERING GARFIELD SCHOOL

by Colin Barratt

Have you used Friends Reunited, now sadly closed down, or have you looked at the many comments on our photo gallery (www.friern-barnet.com), linked to views of local schools? If so, you will know the interest sparked off by these photos and memories. For many years former pupils of Garfield Primary School in New Southgate have got together every year for a reunion, and emails have continually bounced around between them, resulting in a lot of new information, photos and memories about New Southgate in general and Garfield School and its pupils in particular. Most of these former pupils were at the school in the 1950s or the late 1940s and many have now moved away from the area, but they have fond memories of a childhood still affected by the results of WW2.

One of these people, Colin Marr, thought these reminiscences were too valuable to remain just as emails, so he offered to collate them into a book, *Memories of New Southgate*. I printed this for him in 2010, and we sold a large number of copies, both at the reunions and by personal orders. Some even went abroad! This again sparked off more emails, particularly about the school, and it became clear that another book was needed. This time I had it printed professionally, and it was called *Memories of Garfield School and New Southgate* and was published in time for last year's reunion in May. It had a glossy cover, which showed the school as it was in the 1930s, and focused on Garfield School and its place in the life of the New Southgate area. It included 28 class group photos, spanning 42 years, from 1905 to 1947, plus other informal groups. This also sold well, and more memories are still coming in! In fact, there is enough material for three more books, the first of which, *Memories of New Southgate People* is almost complete and we aim to publish it in time for this year's reunion. (Details of this event are given below).

These memories are important, as the school building we remember was demolished over 40 years ago, together with half of New Southgate, in the "re-development". The school was rebuilt nearby in Springfield Road, but kept its original name. That school is now also being demolished, to make way for a larger and more modern one. The books have used many photos from our online gallery, with permission, and we have been acknowledged on them. I have been closely involved with these publications, on behalf of our Society, so they should be regarded as a joint enterprise between FB&DLHS and the Garfield Old Scholars. I am hoping to get the books put for sale on our new website (www.friern-barnethistory.org.uk)

The 2016 Garfield School reunion is on Saturday 14 May, again at the Conservative Club, High Road, New Southgate (on the corner of Woodland Road), starting at 12noon. A free buffet lunch is provided and there will be a bar. As usual, there will be a display of photos and memorabilia of the school and the area, and the Memories books will be available to buy. There may also be another guided tour of the area, if there is enough interest. Please let the organiser, Peter Turner, know if you need to come. (Telephone 01538 371331, email: peter.len.turner@gmail.com).

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 25 May 2016 prior to the talk on 'Germans who Fought with the British' by Helen Fry. With this Newsletter is the official invitation to attend, along with a Nomination Form and a copy of last year's minutes.

NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL

If you would prefer to receive your copy of the Newsletter by email rather than through the post, please let us know and we will arrange for you to get a pdf copy. Please email us at: friernbarnethistory@hotmail.co.uk

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

For those of you who have not yet renewed your subscriptions for the year commencing 1 April 2016, a further copy of the Membership Renewal Form is enclosed. If you have not renewed by 1 June you will no longer continue to receive copies of the Newsletter.

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