

Friern Barnet *Newsletter*

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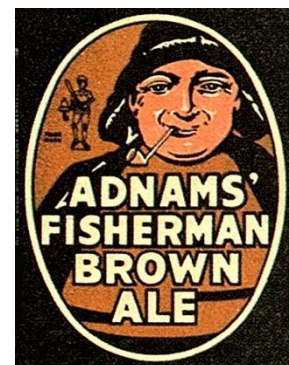
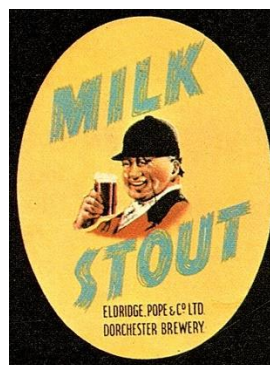
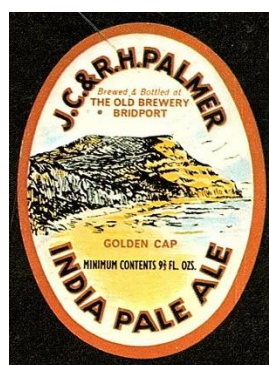
ALL ABOUT BEER

by John Heathfield

Medieval wells produced drinking water that was decidedly unhealthy. Most people brewed and drank their own beer. Beer is made by fermenting a mixture of barley and hops which purify the water. The remnants of the mash can be “twice brewed” to produce a weaker drink often called small beer. Beer and ale are alternative names for what is essentially the same product. Because some people were better at it than others, they could sell their surplus and so beer shops or public houses sprung up. In Barnet for example the land tax returns for the late 1390s show two tavern keepers, 12 malt mongers and 15 brewers in a population of about 120. An innkeeper had to provide accommodation and food for travellers, while a publican merely sold drink. Some inns overcame the drink problem by having a taproom built on.

By about 1484 local parishes were required to appoint “tasters” to ensure that the beer sold was of good quality. In 1550 the ale taster for Finchley that “Thomas Sanney and John Doget are commonly accustomed to put less hoppez in their ale” In 1606 William Miller of Hadley was charged with selling beer that was “foul, loathsome and disgusting”. He was fined four pence, which he managed to pay, so someone must have bought his beer! The parish vetted brewers. In 1505 Mary Sanny was granted permission to be a “common brewer” for four pence. She lived on the site of what became *The Griffin* in Whetstone. A common brewer sold ale to anyone who wished to buy it and often served more than one tavern.

During the eighteenth century there was a fashion for “brown ale”, a sweet beer. But a further duty on barley caused brewers to include more hops in their brews. This produced a “bitter beer”. At the same period “pale ale” was produced, which when mixed with ordinary beer made “half and half”. Early in the 1720s a more mellow beer was produced for “labouring fellows” and particularly porters who drank it often at breakfast. It was a beer only produced in London and had various names like porter, stout, brown stout, London stout, entire and heavy wet.



Markets attracted customers and in consequence many pubs were nearby. Barnet had 21 at one time. By 1890 East Finchley market place boasted *The George* and the *Windsor Castle* while nearby were the *Black Bess*, *Green Man*, *Bald Faced Stag* and *White Lion* in the High Road and the *Manor Cottage Tavern* in East End Road. Some inns had a blacksmith available. A horse, which had lost a shoe, has only three, hence some pubs were called *The Three Horseshoes*.

Many pubs proclaimed the loyalty of their customers with names like *The Crown*, *The King's Head* or *The Queen's Arms*. Local dignitaries were honoured by *The Sebright Arms*, *The Clarendon Arms* or *The Duke of York*. *The Two Brewers* reminds us that the barrels were so heavy that they were carried on a pair of long poles by two delivery men. A common sign for a tavern was a bush hung outside or a crooked billet of wood.

In 1665 some people of Totteridge stayed up all night praying and drawing up a petition to the Justices of the Peace saying that "Never in the memory of Man had any common ale house been allowed to be set up amongst them, there being no usual road through the village to any place or market. Nevertheless a licence hath recently been granted to one John Bemon to sell ale....He is by profession a tailor and clerk of the parish, and able to earn a competent living thereby if he would apply himself to his calling, his wife is a lusty woman also able to work for her living. The said ale house is of no other use than to debauch the neighbourhood and other servants of the parish, being a disorderly tippling house, receiving and entertaining idle persons and suffering them to continue and sit drinking there not only on ordinary days, but on Sundays also, and many times at unreasonable hours in the night and is a harbour for vagrants and vagabonds".

It was fairly common for pubs to change their names. *The Cardinal's Hat* in Barnet High Street became successively *The Antelope*, *The Red Lion* and *The Dandy Lion*. Similarly, *The Mitre* has been *The Busshe*, *Rose and Crown*, *Rose and the Man*. There has been a tavern on this site since before 1449, making it the oldest pub still in use of which we know. Class distinction was apparent. The public bar had sawdust on the floor and beer was a penny a pint cheaper than in the saloon. The private bar was a small room selling at top prices.

Gin was introduced into England from the Netherlands during the 1690s. It became so popular that by 1729 Londoners were drinking 8 million gallons a year. The government steadily introduced the tax that with the result that there were Gin Tax riots in 1743. In 1739 Judith Defour was charged with fetching her own child out of the workhouse so that she could murder it in order to sell its clothes for 1s 4d to buy gin. Hogarth's terrible Gin Alley is no exaggeration.

Worried by the amount of binge drinking, the government put up gin duty steeply in 1751. Many pubs responded by painting a black band around their sign or changing the name, for instance *The White Horse* became *The Black Horse*. At the same time licensing laws were introduced to control the sale of spirits and publicans had to be licensed by the local magistrate. An interesting example of the way in which the Victorians produced a virtue out of vice is the so-called "Whiskey money". The Local Taxation (Customs and Excise) Act of 1889 raised £750,000 annually (£98.5 million in today's money). This was to be distributed to local authorities and used to pay for police pensions with any surplus being spent on Secondary education. In the early months of the First World War it soon became apparent that some

workers were not pulling their weight and that heavy drinking was playing a part in this. The government gave local authorities the powers to limit licensing hours and from September 1914 pubs were closed after 9.00pm. In November 1915 further controls were introduced to noon to 2.30pm and 6.00pm to 9.00pm and off licences had to close at 8.00pm. Beer was watered down and spirits reduced in strength to not less than 30° under proof. Buying a drink at the bar for someone else, even a relative, was made a criminal offence, 'generous measures were outlawed as was the practice of running a slate to pay for drinks. The new opening hours, rather like temporary income tax introduced to fund the Napoleonic War, lasted much more than intended and licensing hours were not relaxed until November 2005.

A WARTIME CHILDHOOD – 4. D DAY TO VICTORY

by John Philpott

My memory of 6 June is standing in the school playground looking up at the 'planes, their wings painted with black and white stripes used from D-day onwards to make them easily distinguishable by allied forces. Soon after D-day V1 attacks ceased as their launch sites were overrun. Then came the V2 rockets, longer range and their launch pads more distant. Unlike the V1 there was no engine noise; the first you heard was the explosion as they struck the ground. As with earlier air raids, it was the east end of London that bore the brunt of the V2's. In the Friern Barnet locality, places where V2's exploded included East Finchley (15 November 1944), Muswell Hill (1 December 1944) and East Barnet (20 January 1945).

Bert's cousin Joe Barber, gunner in a Lancaster bomber of 90 Squadron, died aged 28 during the Normandy campaign, together with the six other members of the crew. The squadron took off from their base at Tuddenham, Suffolk, during the night of 7 August 1944 to bomb a strongpoint in Normandy. David and I were told nothing of this the time, but I remember during a visit to my grandmother somebody (perhaps a member of Joe's family) calling with two telegrams. In retrospect, these probably broke the news "missing" and then "killed in action".

Travel to the coast was forbidden for most of the war. This restriction was relaxed during 1944, initially allowing visits to relatives. Pat had a cousin living in Prittlewell, near Southend, so, staying with Auntie Ethel, we had our first holiday since 1939. We travelled to Prittlewell by train then, each day to Southend by bus. The condition "visiting relatives" was later lifted and we had a week in Seaford, Sussex. Once from the beach we saw far out a huge white cube being towed by a tug, a component of a breakwater for a Mulberry Harbour. In 1945 we had a holiday at Shanklin on the Isle of Wight.

I remember when with the advance of the allied armies Belsen concentration camp was liberated seeing pictures in the newspaper of the emaciated freed captives in their striped clothing. The paper was quickly snatched away from me lest I was disturbed by what I saw.

News that the war was over in Europe came to my class of Holly Park School during our weekly swimming lesson at Arnos Grove Pool. The children were in the water, our class teacher, Mrs Stanford, and the swimming instructor were sitting at the end of the pool, when a note was handed to the instructor. He read it to us and the announcement was met by silence. "Aren't you going to cheer?", he asked, and we then responded. He said that Mrs Stanford had promised to jump into the water if the news came during the lesson and made as though he would throw her in. He did not, of course, but such horse play among teachers

was unheard of in those days. Later, Pat and Bert took David and me to the Mall. I remember little apart from the packed crowd and vendors selling at inflated prices wooden rattles (like small football or ARP wardens rattles.) Bert made us each one of these the following day. Later, there was a street party In Goldsmith Road for the children to celebrate VE, with food set out on trestle tables, a conjuror, and races.

War continued against Japan until 15 August 1945. It is strange that although I must have received news of the conflict from wireless and newspapers, I have no recollection of any impression it made on me. I remember a large pyramid of wood (packing cases etc) in Ramsden Road, just round the corner from our house, fuel for a bonfire to celebrate VJ day. There were many streets with such bonfires, some of which got out of control, threatening nearby properties, so the fire service had to be called to extinguish them. Firemen were attacked, poor recompense for the exhaustion and danger they had faced in protecting the public in recent years.

When war ended, firemen were discharged gradually, depending on the urgency of the occupations to which they were returning. There was much work to be done in decommissioning equipment, dismantling static water tanks etc. Bert was not discharged until 30 March 1946. My diary for that day reads “Daddy discharged today. I get new sandals. Saw Daddy run. He was 2nd.” (Hampstead Harriers must have reformed by then after being in abeyance during the war.) After discharge he returned to his pre-war employer.

MAN SEEN PRAYING IN RAILWAY STATION

This was the headline of an article in the January 1965 issue of *Friern Barnet Parish Paper*:

“There is always something of interest in our great city of London. The other day I was travelling on the Metropolitan through Farringdon station, thinking of nothing in particular. As we stopped at the far end of the platform, my attention was suddenly riveted by something that was happening just outside the carriage window. A young man had taken his shoes off and put them at the east end of a square of material, and he knelt down several times, and touched the ground with his forehead, saying prayers which I could not hear. I glanced at my watch and found that it was exactly 1.30pm.

So, I am sure that the young man was a Muslim, and he was carrying out the tradition that prayers had to be said whilst facing Mecca. Of course, Islam is at its best but a pale shadow of the Christian Faith; our Faith; our Faith in comparison is like the noonday sun. But this courageous act of faith of a young man in a railway station showed two things – He believed in God. He was ready to witness to his Faith. Our ways are different, even when we allow the passer-by to see, through clear glass, our chief act of worship. But such courage and strong and strong faith is always an encouragement to all of us, whatever our age.”

It is interesting to compare how things have changed in the last fifty-five-odd years. Today Islam is the second largest religion in the UK, dedicated prayer rooms for Muslims are commonplace and the Muslim population in London is now some 1,012,000. In 1956 there were only 50,000 in the whole of the country!

FIRE BRIGADES

by John Heathfield

By 1824 Finchley had its own fire engine – a splendid toy for the Church Wardens to play with every Sunday after matins. They even paid for its repair in 1845 and again in 1849.

A Volunteer Fire Brigade was formed and kept a cart with hoses and axes in a shed near the top of Woodhouse Road and later another one near *The Queens Head* in East Finchley. The district grew apace after the opening of the railway to Church End (now Finchley Central) and a new fire station was opened in Hendon Lane in 1888.

After the formation of Finchley District Council in 1899 a new Fire Brigade was set up, based in Hendon Lane with sub stations at East Finchley, North Finchley and Whetstone. The part timers at Whetstone station used a wooden hut in the High Road. In 1901 the staff included the Howard brothers, William and John. They were outstanding firemen and in 1901 won a hose drill competition at Alexandra Palace.

In 1904 the Whetstone staff went on strike for more pay. As retained firemen they were paid 2s 6d for the first hour at any fire and 1s 6d for subsequent hours, plus meals after three hours. The Finchley councillors regarded this as a challenge; the striking firemen were dismissed, The Whetstone station was reduced to being a hose store and an extra full time fireman was employed at Church End.

In 1908 the costs to the council were:

Salaries

Chief Officer	£62 per year
Second Officer	£44 per year
Engineer	£50 per year
Two firemen	£33 each per year
Three part time superintendents	£7 7s 0d each per year
Eleven part time firemen	£2 each per year

The duties of the firemen were:

Daily cleaning and maintenance of the pump engines

Repairs and decoration to men's quarters as needed

Wiring repairs

Maintenance of telephone equipment

Inspection of hydrants

Inspection of places of public entertainment

Inspection and advice to schools and other council property

The firemen were on duty for 60 hours a week and the rota was such that at any time a senior officer and two firemen could answer a call.

Attendance at a fire had to be paid for. The charges at Finchley were:

Manual engine	£1 15s 0d (including two horses)
Motor combination	£1 5s 0d

Men to pump	1s per hour each
Motor pump	15s per hour
Curricle or hose cart	5s
Firemen 1st hour	2s 6d each
2 nd hour	1s 6d

The total number of fires in Finchley each year were:

1900	13
1901	19
1902	16
1903	18 (7 serious, 11 slight)

Most of the fires were chimney fires.

In 1868 Barnet ordered a nice new engine at a cost of £111.

Fire fighting was always a dangerous occupation. Finchley's Fireman Evans was awarded a specially struck medal for his bravery in 1923. He was not discharged from North Middlesex Hospital until February 1924 and did not resume duty until March of that year.

A local resident, Eric Daw, remembered that:

“In 1923 I was tinkering with my 3-seater sports car in the yard behind New Barnet Fire Station (their tools were much better than mine) when a call out was received. I left my car to watch the engine roar out. Soon after they had left, two breathless firemen arrived at the station. I offered to take them and they quickly put on their uniforms while I went into the watchroom to find out the origin of the call. Then off we dashed to The Crescent at the top of Hadley Road. We must have presented a curious sight – a small open car with one brass helmeted fireman sitting beside me and one in the dicky seat. We were astonished to find no fire engine when we arrived. My firemen went inside and soon had the fire (a furiously smoking chimney) under control. A few minutes later the engine turned up. It had gone to Crescent East in Hadley – not even in our area!”

Footnote

If you are interested in learning more about local fire brigades, please see page 8 of our Newsletter No 46 September 2011 where there is an article entitled ‘Problems with the Fire Brigade’

FIVE YEARS IN NIGERIA 1966-1971

by John Philpott

After eight years teaching at Christ's College, Finchley, my first job following National Service, it was time to fulfil a long-held intention and teach for a while overseas. In the *Times Educational Supplement* there was an advertisement for a vacancy for a mathematics teacher at Lagos Boys' Grammar School. The advertisement was placed by the Overseas Appointment Bureau (OAB), a body which acted as agent for non-governmental, largely church schools. I

was called to the OAB office in London for an interview. I was the only applicant. That week, just six years after independence, the first military coup had taken place!

An account, (though brief and oversimplified) of the country's ethnic composition and history may help explain the violence that beset Nigeria. The country is divided into three by a huge Y formed by the River Niger and its tributary the Benue. To the north the population is largely Hausa/Fulani; to the south-west, Yoruba and to the south-east Igbo. These main areas are divided by a belt containing smaller ethnic groups.



Zaria Emir's Palace in the Muslim north



Kano mosque. Kano was the capital of the Northern state

Before the arrival of European influence, the north of the country was ruled by powerful Muslim emirates. In the south-west Yoruba kingdoms were ruled by Obas. A predominant power in the south was the kingdom of Benin, famous for its bronze artwork, now to be found in the British Museum, having been looted by the British army. A British colony was established on Lagos island in 1861 as a base for the Royal Navy anti-slavery patrols.

In August 1966 I embarked at Liverpool aboard the *MV Accra* of the Elder Dempster line. As we crossed the Bay of Biscay I was feeling distinctly queasy and I was not alone - the dining room remained almost empty. Then we reached our first port of call, Las Palmas in the Canary Islands, marking our departure from Europe. With the warmer climate, the swimming pool came into use and deck sports were organised. The next port of call, the first on the West African coast, was Freetown, Sierra Leone. It was here that after 1807 the Royal Navy settled



Deck sports, others included cricket and quoits



Entering Lagos Harbour

slaves freed from intercepted slave ships. The founder of the school that I was to join was born here, son of freed slaves. From now on the foredeck was occupied by deck passengers, sheltered from the sun by an awning. In the course of the passage along the coast, one of the deck passengers died. I have a touching memory of the captain and the ship's officers in their best uniforms descending for the burial at sea. There was one more port of call, Tema, the port for Accra. Then, after a voyage lasting two weeks, we docked at Apapa, the port of Lagos, with Lagos Island, the political and commercial heart, across the water of Lagos harbour.

The end of an era was near. In the 1960s the Elder Dempster line had three liners running a weekly passenger service to the west African coast, a service soon to vanish completely in the face of competition from the air. Unlike today's cruise liners, nobody was travelling purely for pleasure. All had a reason for the journey, such as work or returning home. Particularly for those, like me, going out for the first time, there was much to be learnt from the experience of others. When I disembarked, I found waiting to meet me was Canon Adelaja, principal of my new school, together with his driver, who loaded my trunk in the car, and we were off to the school, on the northern outskirts of Lagos.

The founder of the school was born in Freetown in 1826, the son of Yaruba parents who had been freed from a slave ship intercepted by the Royal Navy. He was called Thomas Babington Macaulay, named after the well-known British poet, historian and politician. The missionaries at Freetown of the Church Missionary Society (CMS) must have seen his potential, for they sent him to England to study at the CMS college in Islington and at King's College London. On his return to Freetown as an ordained priest, he was sent by CMS on a mission to Lagos, to the Yaruba people of his parents' origins. In June 1859 he founded the CMS Grammar School, Lagos two years before the British colony was established there. He died in Lagos of smallpox in 1872.

To be continued

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

by David Berguer

In the course of a year the Society receives a number of requests from people trying to trace their family history and, wherever possible, we try and help them, either by referring them to our website, by doing some research on their behalf, or advising them of someone who may have access to the information they require.

On 20 October 2019 we had an email from a Katie Bryant who works for a company called Wall to Wall which is a Warner Bros Television Production Company. Katie was doing some research for a programme in the BBC series *Who Do You Think You Are?* and she wanted to talk to someone about our book *The Friern Hospital Story*. I rang Katie and discovered that she was researching an ancestor who spent the last 15 years of his life at Friern Hospital between 1945 and 1960. He was a Jewish refugee, Israel Medalayer, who had fled pogroms in Russia and his case book went into extensive detail about how this experience caused him to have a severe tremor for the rest of his life, as well as paranoia about being constantly persecuted. We had several conversations, both verbal and by email, and I was able to give her some details of the hospital including the changes of name at the time. In 1930 it was called Colney

Hatch Mental Asylum and it changed to Friern Mental Hospital in 1937. I was also able to tell her that, in the 1920s, some 35% of the 2530 patients were Jewish. This was because the catchment area of the asylum included the east end of London where there was a large Jewish population, many of whom had suffered similar experiences of persecution.

I referred Katie to our photographic website (www.friern-barnet.com) where we have over 150 images of Friern Hospital. Katie had been in contact with London Metropolitan Archives (LMA) who had been able to give her a copy of Israel Medalayer's case notes but therein lay a problem – who owned the copyright of the material? The LMA did not seem to know and I suggested that whoever had deposited these with the LMA was probably the copyright holder. This could have been a number of authorities. Between 1889-1947 the hospital was managed by London County Council (LCC), With the formation of the NHS control was as follows: 1948-1974 North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board; 1974-1982 North East Thames Regional Health Authority; 1982-1993 Hampstead Health Authority and 1993 to the closure, the Camden & Islington Health Authority. I suggested that if the records had been deposited by a now-defunct organisation, there would probably not be a problem with copyright. The last query from Katie concerned the possible burial site of Israel and I suggested that initially she contact the New Southgate Cemetery and Crematorium. I also gave her a list of Jewish cemeteries in north London which proved to be useful as she later discovered that he had been buried in Edmonton Jewish cemetery.

HOUSING UPDATES

The number of new or converted properties in the area continues to increase. Since our last report in the November 2020 *Newsletter* the following planning applications have been submitted to Barnet Council:

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Flats</u>	<u>Total</u>
Friern Barnet			
369-383 Alexandra Road		4	4
5 Bellevue Mews			1
79 Colney Hatch Lane		3	3
156 Colney Hatch Lane (Minstrel Boy)	1	3	4
162-164 Colney Hatch Lane		5	5
4 Friern Barnet Lane (Windsor Court)		6	6
153 Friern Barnet Lane	3		3
2 The Broadway Friern Barnet Road		1	1
22 Queens Parade Friern Barnet Road		1	1
22a Queens Parade Friern Barnet		1	1
131 Friern Barnet Road		3	3
Hampden Road (Hampden Court)	3		3
1-6 Gabriel Mews, Sutton Road	6		6

29 Glenthorne Road		4	4
2 Pembroke Road		5	5
15 Pembroke Road		2	2
Pembroke Road		6	6
2 Sutton Road		2	2
10 Sutton Road		2	2
<u>New Southgate</u>			
66 Atheneum Road (Cedar Court)		6	6
8 Brunswick Grove		6	6
<i>(HMO - House in Multiple Occupation)</i>			
North London Business Park		2428	2428
6 Oakleigh Park South		7	7
24 Oakleigh Road South	2		2
Haslam Court, Waterfall Road		7	7
<u>Whetstone</u>			
Bawtry Road (St Ninian's Court)	1		1
13 Beresford Avenue		1	1
16 Church Way	2		2
1150 High Road	1		1
1255 High Road (Barnet House)		260	260
1473 High Road	5		5
232 Oakleigh Road North	5		5
450 Oakleigh Road North		3	3
452 Oakleigh Road North		3	3
24 Oakleigh Road South	2		2
		Total	2799

The average household in England comprises 2.4 people, so we can assume that the population in the area will increase by some 6717.

THE 1921 CENSUS IS RELEASED

by Colin Barratt

For those of you interested in your family history, no doubt you will be aware that the much anticipated release of the 1921 census happened on Thursday 6 January. As you probably know, censuses are closed for 100 years, and legally it couldn't be released earlier than this.

It took almost three years to digitize, a project shared between The National Archives and family history website *Find My Past*. It can only be accessed on the *Find My Past* website (www.findmypast.co.uk), who will charge £3.50 for a digital copy of an original household schedule, or £2.50 for a transcription of it. (However, you can access it free of charge if you visit The National Archives at Kew). It's not just a useful source for family research, but also

gives a valuable insight into social history, with employment details and divorce included for the first time and many disabled ex-servicemen following World War 1.

It paints a picture of life 100 years ago and will be the last census available for the next 30 years, because the records of the 1931 census were destroyed by fire during WW2 and the 1941 census wasn't taken due to the war. So, it will be the last full census available until 2052, (unless the law changes in the meantime). We do have the 1939 Register, which was a form of census, taken just at the start of WW2, which is very useful, but more limited.

On release day 6 January I tried the census myself. The first schedules I wanted to find were those of my two sets of grandparents, which included my parents. As I'm a subscriber to *Find My Past* the search was straightforward and similar to the other censuses. I knew their likely locations, so the number of options given were small and it was easy to find them. You have the choice of ordering an original document or a transcription and to ensure that you've found the right family before you purchase it, you can hover the cursor over either option button next to the name and you'll be shown the names of some others in the household and how many people in total are on the schedule.

As with other online shopping, it's very easy to just click the buttons to make purchases and not realise how much you're spending. I spent £29 in quite a short time on the first morning, for ten documents, but these were for ones I had planned to buy: my grandparents' families, plus a number of my grandparents' siblings' families. I haven't made any purchases since, but probably will soon.

My mother's parents were living in New Southgate, in the same small house I remember them in as a child, just two doors away from my house. These had three small bedrooms, but no bathroom. In the census there were ten people staying there: my grandparents, their six children (including my four-year old mother and her twin sister), a father-in-law and brother-in-law. How they squeezed them all in, I don't know. Four of the family worked for the local gas company (who owned the houses in the street).

The advantage of ordering original schedules is that they are written and signed by your ancestors themselves. They also give ages in years and months, not just years, as with the transcription. The schedule also gives the place of work for those employed, which isn't included in the transcription. The advantage of a transcription (apart from the cheaper price) is that it's clearly laid out and includes the address and a large scale map of the location. The disadvantage (apart from those listed above) is that you're relying on the accuracy of the transcriber, with no way of checking, except by purchasing the original schedule. I don't know how the transcribers manage to decipher the handwriting on some of these schedules, and other censuses, but they seem to get it right most of the time. However, on the transcription of my father Leonard's family his name was transcribed as Lemour! To be fair to the transcriber, when I looked at the original handwritten name, it was poorly written by my grandfather and could easily be read wrongly.

I was disappointed with two aspects of the census. The scanning process had been done with high definition double sided equipment, but the resulting images of the schedules I have seen so far have a poor contrast between the handwriting and background, some details so faint as to be almost illegible. When I saved the documents and adjusted the contrast on my PC, it made them much clearer and readable. I thought this should have been done at the scanning stage. The other disappointment was that the household address isn't shown on the original

schedule (unlike the 1911 census). You have to go to the front page of the schedule to find it. To begin with, I found this didn't work, but *Find My Past* have made some changes since the release, so now if you go back to a saved schedule there is a button labelled Extra (Address), which allows you to click on another button labelled Address and this opens the front page and address. A bit of a process, but it's easier now.



Friern Barnet Lane as it was in 1921

This census has other features which I haven't explored yet. For example: linking matches to other record collections, researching people working for a specific employer and maps which show how a particular location has changed over the years. To quote Find My Past "Taken between two world wars, following a global flu pandemic, during a period of economic turmoil and migration from the UK, and with social change at home as women won the right to vote, the census documents a moment in time that will resonate with people living today". This census is going to be a valuable tool for us to use for years to come, both for family historians and local historians. Try investigating it yourself.

BY TUBE TO NORTH FINCHLEY?

The following appeared in *Barnet Press* on 18 February 1922:

"Replying to a letter from Mr R Mann, Secretary to the Finchley Ratepayers' Defence League, Lord Ashfield, chairman of the Electric Railway Company, writes:-

"I have received your letter of the 20th January in which you suggest an extension of our railway from Highgate to North Finchley. I agree with the suggestion that an extension of this kind is desirable and would be very beneficial to the district to be served by this extension, and I am glad to know that such an extension would have the support of the residents in the district concerned.

Unfortunately, the high costs of construction, and the great difficulty which would be experienced in raising the large sums of money necessary for this improvement, make

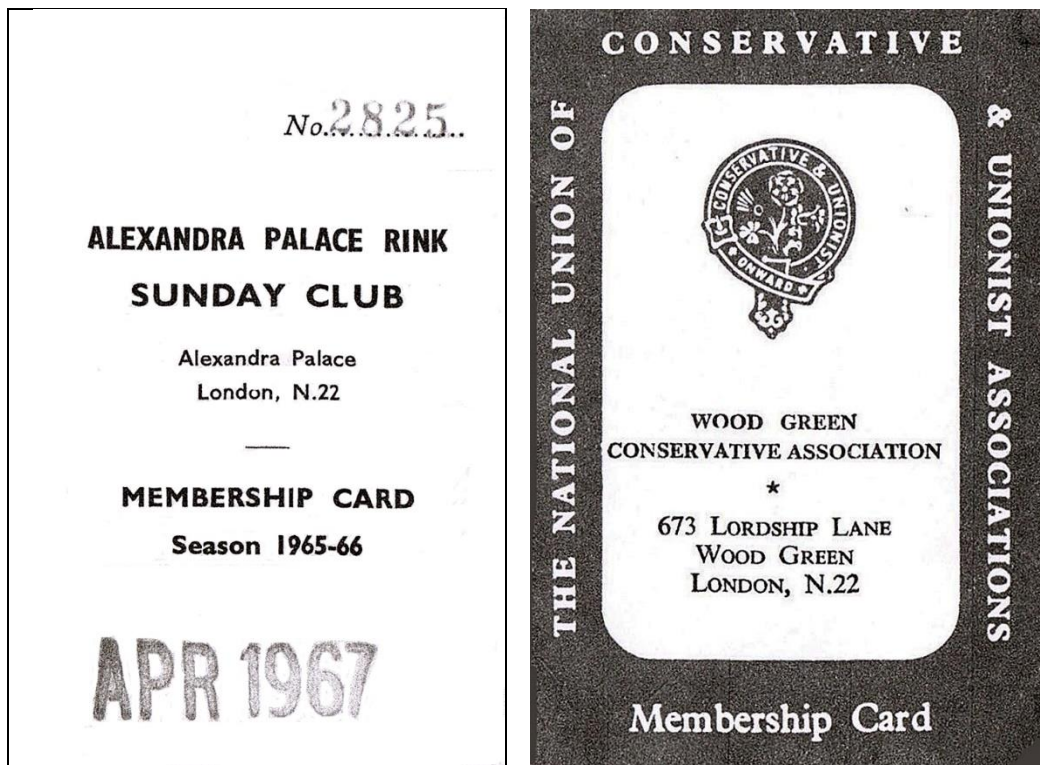
it impossible for me to give favourable consideration to your suggestion at this particular time. I hope that when the situation changes, and money can more easily be raised and the works executed at a lower cost. I may be able to take a more favourable view of the matter. In the meanwhile, I will not neglect to bear in mind the suggestion which you have made.””

PASTIMES IN THE MID-1960s

by Julia Davey

I lived at number 255 Alexandra Park Road from 1951 to 1953 and from 1953 to 1968 I lived at number 243, directly opposite St Saviour's Church where I was baptised in 1951 by the Rev Vaughan. I have a few memories a child which I would like to share with you.

I belonged to the Young Conservatives and occasionally attended dances at St Saviour's where a group called *The Moonrakers* played. I remember the entrance fee was 7 shillings. My friend and I would quite often go to the Tottenham Royal where famous groups such as *Amen Corner* entertained us. Also at Tottenham was a large pub/club, *The Eagle*, which was very popular. There were a lot of people enjoying themselves, but it became quite rough with a piano and other things being destroyed and thrown into the audience! This was at the time when the government was trying to close down the so-called 'pirate' radio stations such as *Radio London* and *Radio Caroline*. Anger at the time was directed at the Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan, because of his government's attitude to the radio pirates.



It was also the time of flower power. Then events started happening at Alexandra Palace with groups such as *The Pretty Things* and *The Move* attending. I went to 'The Ball of the Year' in support of Free Radio on Saturday 22 July 1967 with my friend. The Ball finished at midnight and we all piled out. My dad was waiting outside, and I was actually glad to see him!

Looking back, I realise how lucky I was to live then – there was plenty of entertainment, plenty of public transport and as Mary Hopkins sang: *Those Were the Days*.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

We have always tried to keep our subscription rates as low as possible. Back in 2012-13 the rates were £7 for a single person and £13 for a couple. In 2013-14 we made modest increases to £8 and £14 respectively. Seven years later and following increases in printing and postage costs in 2020-21 we had to raise these to £10 and £16. Recent events have affected how the Society operates and we are now faced with increases to such an extent that we anticipate that next year we may end up with a deficit. We want to keep the Society running as normal but, with the exception of occasional sales of publications, subscription rates are our only source of revenue, so we are proposing the following changes:

1. From 1 April 2022, the subscription rate will be £12 for a single person and £22 for a couple. We reckon that this would produce an extra revenue of some £250 which will go some way towards financial stability
2. We currently circulate hard copies of our Newsletter which involves incurring costs of printing and postage and clearly we have no control over these costs. We are therefore proposing to distribute future copies of the Newsletter via email to those of you with access to computers. Everyone else will continue to get a hard copy posted to them. This should also help to reduce our outgoing costs Please let us know if you have a problem with this by emailing friernbarnethistory@hotmail.co.uk.
3. Most of you have been paying your subscriptions and donations by cheque but increasingly people are happy with internet banking so if you wish, you can pay your subscriptions and donations directly into our bank account. The only provision is that after entering our bank details you must enter your initials and surname in the reference section so that we can easily track your payment. You will need to complete the subscription form as usual which you can then email to our Membership Secretary at john.holtham@btinternet.com.

We hope that you will continue to belong to our Society and to enable us to continue to adhere to our motto – Past, Present, Future, in other words research the *past*, record the *present* for the benefit of *future* historians.

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Local History Society©**

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