SOUTHALL 830-1982



Research by R. J. MEADS

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

After I had written my two previous efforts into Southall's history —Growing up with Southall from 1904 and The Maypole and Southall Green — have come to realise that so great are the changes which have taken place over the past twenty years that, if this continues over the next decade, very little will be left of Southall that will be recognisable. So, here is a book; it is not meant to be history in any regularised form but just an appraisement of some of the early days and early folk who have figured in making Southall's history. Dates you will find a-plenty and, as usual, one comes across the problem of duplication, so I make no apologies if, in some cases, you differ. Quietly pencil in your own version!

There are so many to thank for help given the Southall Reference Staff for the loan of photographs and documents; Southall Chamber of Commerce, the British Legion, photographs; Miss M. Barnett, Mrs E. Neighbour, Mr W. Fuell and Mr S. Hayes, Featherstone Road School and Band, history; Mr Vale, Scout history; Mr Shergold for help with photography; and Mrs Hoskins, who has had the unenviable job of typing my script and correcting my very poor grammar. If there are, and I know there must be, others whom I have not mentioned by name will they please accept my thanks, at least they will have helped to record Southall's past history.

The last thirty years have been the hardest to record, and I have tried my best to be non-racial but, if, in any way, I have caused offence to our new Southallians it has been done without malice or forethought.

SOUTHALL 830 to 1982

In 1982 with all the modern day trappings — electricity, gas, transport, wireless, motorways, etc. — it requires a very vivid imagination to go back in time to 5000 BC when almost the whole of Middlesex was covered with trees, scrub and bush land, and wild boar and other wild animals were hunted. Evidence of Stone Age human activity in the area came to light in the year 1887 when excavations were being made for a drainage scheme in Norwood Lane (now Tentelow Lane). The workmen unearthed some bones of a mammoth, against which they found a flint spear head. Some other flint implements were also found.

The Bronze Age is well represented by the findings of two collections of vessels, weapons and implements, moulds and ingots of bronze which would be from a founder's workshop. These finds were made at North Hyde and are now in the British Museum.

First Records

The first recorded reference to the area was in a Will made by a certain priest named Werhard in the year AD 830.In his Will Werhard left considerable land in Hayes and Norwood to his next of kin, Archbishop Wulfred of Canterbury. Thus did the Manors of Norwood and Southall come under the Church of Canterbury. So we find that the Lords of the Manor were, in fact, the Archbishops of Canterbury and included such illustrious names as:

Dunstan (950-988)

Stigand (1052-1070)

Lanfranc (1070-1093) who was friend and adviser to William the Conqueror

Thomas a Becket (1162-1170)

Stephen Langton (1207-1228) of Magna Carta fame

Henry Chicheley (1414-1443) who did so much for St Mary's. Norwood Green

Thomas Cranmer (1533-1545) of Henry VIII's reign

This also gave control of the churches to Canterbury.

It is thought that the Priest Werhard resided in Hayes or Hesa (as it was then known).

For the purpose of the Domesday Survey in 1086 Norwood was included in Hayes. (Summarised, it stated that Archbishop Lanfranc holds Hesa (Hayes) for 59 Hides, there is land for Forty Ploughs. It also quotes a priest has one Hide (this is an area of land) and three Knights, six and a half Hides. It concludes 'with all its profits it is worth £30'. Archbishop Stigand held the Manor.

So nearly the whole of Hayes, Norwood and Southall was worth £30. Norwood, North Hyde, Northcote, Northolt were all Manor, with Southall (Green) and Dormandswells all mentioned as being in 'the West Middle Sax' region.

The history of the Manor Lands in the centuries is rather confusing. The first Manor of Southall may have been in the Waxlow area, a ward of the modern borough is in fact called Waxlow Manor but it is quite probable that there was only ever a Manor Farm there and not an actual Manor. Waxlow Manor Farm did actually exist until 1928. In 1821 it was the property of Mr John Brett and was occupied by Mr J. Cannock. 1481/2 acres, together with house, offices, stables,lawns, ponds, garden and orchard; had the rateable value of £267.13.1% (£267.66). The last farmer was Mr W.Goddard. It was sold to Messrs Wimpey and Co., who between 1928-1933 built the Waxlow Estate.

In 1070 the name Deorman or Deormund William 1st 'The King's Man' was the owner of extensive property, and may have leased some land belonging to Archbishop Anselm, his friend. The modern form Dormers Wells dates only from 1863. What appears to be the first records of what was to be Dormandswells House is that, in 1382, Coroners rolls mention proceedings at Southall. Seven unknown men wounded John Braynt with swords. Among those who signed the record were John Hull, Hugh of Greenford, and William Cheeseman.

In 1383 the Manor was sub-let to Stephen Yedding by John Shoredyche for ten years for £22 per year. During the next 126 years the Southall Manor changed tenants several times and, in 1510, Robert Shoredyche surrendered the house 'Dormandswells', a mill and some land to Robert Cheeseman who was already living there. During his time important repairs were carried out on the Brent Bridge but it was decided to rebuild the bridge in 1530 at the expense of the Archbishop of Westminster who was owner of lands on either side of the river. Robert Cheeseman died in 1547. By this time 'Dormandswells' was large enough to have a Chapel. He left the house in his Will to his second wife, Alice, who was the daughter of Henry Dacres, Merchant Taylor, They had a daughter. Anne, who married Francis Chamberlayne. Alice Cheeseman died in 1558. On 11th May, 1548 Robert Cheeseman's Will was proved and the Manor passed into the possession of his daughter Anne and husband Francis Chamberlayne. In 1578 the Manor was sold to the 10th Baron Dacre. He died on 25th September, 1594. Before his death he had commenced the building of a Manor House 'The Wrenns' in Southall Green. Lady Dacre survived her husband by only eight months. Thus Southall Manor (Manor House) was sold by the Executors of her Will on the 7th June, 1602 to Francis Awsiter. At the same time he purchased the Manor of Norwood. It is on record that King Henry VIII used to visit Dormandswells House around 1515 and take part in wild boar hunting across country to Syon House, the home of the Duke of Northumberland. This connects with a very old house known as 'The Romans' which stood on the right hand side of Southall Green. The King's Chancellor, Cardinal Wolsey, used to stay there whilst the King was visiting Dormandswells (more about the Romans later).

In Lady Dacre's Will four Trustees were to take care of her estate. Dormandswells was to go to Sampson Leonard, her sister's husband, but he had not the money to keep it going and thus it gradually fell into ruin and, eventually, was pulled down. The site of the house was at the rear of what was Dormers Wells Farm where Telford Road now is. Near the Manor House was a well which produced Chalybeate Water (containing iron) which was considered beneficial to the health of the drinker. The mineral content in underground waters is so strong that crystals can actually be seen at times. Right up till the 1950s local people used to get watercress from nearby pools.

Around the time of the Magna Carta AD 1210, the population of this area (Sudhale) was 81, growing to 94 in Ad 1261 when known as 'Southalle'. This was about the time the Norwood Green Church was founded as a chapel attached to the Parish of Hayes. More about the church later. In 1496, when the area was known as Hesse-cum-Southall, the figure given is 260. In 1710, when known as Southolt, 677. Between 1756 and 1801, under two different names — 'Soutnoor' and 'Southwould', the population increased to 697. There were 117 houses — 35 Southall Green; 56 Northcote; 27 Dormers Wells. 141 families — 346 female and 351 male. In 1831, still under the name of Southwould, the number was 1,220 and from here on one must include patients and staff of Hanwell Asylum (more later) which, by 1841, brought the figure to 2,385.

Areas

So just picture the scene coming from London to Oxford by coach along the Oxford Road (now Uxbridge Road) right up to the seventeenth century. Crossing the Brent over a wooden bridge, country on either side, on the right, a clear view across to Horsendon Hill; on the left, a clear view of Osterley Woods. A small road on the left hand side leading to Brentford (Windmill Lane) with a track leading off (Tentelow Lane) to Norwood Green and church. On the right hand side, a lane (Greenford Road) leading to Harrow. Next would come Dormandswells Lane, which of course lead to Dormandswell House and Mount Pleasant. On the left hand side Southall Green Lane, now South Road, this again leading to Norwood. There were footpaths on the right, one leading to where St Mary's Church, Hanwell, now is, another leading to Northolt (now School Passage). On the left, one leading to Norwood (via what now is the 'Devil's Tunnel') and Glade Lane. And, of course, the Church Path, via what now is Avenue Road, again leading to Norwood Church. The area between Brent Bridge was Norwood and between Dormers Wells Lane and what now is Hayes Bridge, was Northcote.

Perhaps here will be a good place to get Dormandswell Hall's connection with Southall Green explained. Robert Cheeseman was followed by Francis Chamberlayne in 1548, and his son Robert; and the last to reside there was Lord and Lady Dacre. He died and Lady Dacre had the 'Manor House' in Southall Green built in 1587 (more of the 'Manor House' later).

There seems to be no record of when Dormandswells' was demolished and there is no trace of it today.

Progress

The coaches coming along the Oxford Road would stop at the Old White Hart to 'change or water' the horses and, if necessary, make use of the Old Forge which stood on the corner of Southall Green Lane (now Fosters Corner). Up till 1756 there were only 56 houses in Northcote: there were three farmers with cottages; the Red Lion Hotel; some cottages opposite with a shop on the corner of Park View Road; the Market House and several small cottages; Minton House, where the shops are between Avenue and South Road; also, the Duchess of Marlborough had a large house built (Shepherds Haw) in grounds where Southall Park is now (more about this later). The Charter for Southall Market was granted by William III in 1698 to Mr Merrick. The site was 2.03 acres. The rates on Market and Market House in 1821 were £1.2.8d (£1.13p). In 1821 William Welsh acquired the lease of the land from the Earl of Jersey and remodelled it at a cost of £1,300. The market became famous throughout the West of England and, when the railway came, animals used to be unloaded from trucks and driven to the market.

Wednesday was Market Day and Wednesday became the official half day closing for shops. This, of course, still applies, but today a lot of our new traders seem to ignore it.

Right from a very early age I can remember going through the back entrance, which was in Boyd Avenue, and watching the cattle in the pens being auctioned, and later, some being taken to 'Jiggens' Slaughter House.

Norwood

Although we are following the development of Southall, the Manor of Norwood has always been closely connected. In the twelfth century a chapel was established which was attached to the Parish Church of Hesa (Hayes). Largely by the help of Archbishop Chicheley the church was built in 1439. Outer walls are of flint, and it became the Mother Church of the Precinct of Norwood, which included Southall Green. The porch is fifteenth century, and restorations took place in 1824, 1864, 1896. The wooden belfry has been removed and the small Breck and Flint Western Tower erected. Seating — 280; Registers — Baptism 1654, Marriages 1655, Burials 1659. The font —octangular was large enough for total immersion, and is still in use. The belfry contained six bells originally. The churchyard closed for burials in 1883, after which time only those with vaults or brick tombs allowed. Norwood did not become a Parish until 1859.

Maybe the Great Plague, 1665, and Fire, 1666, had some influence on the fact that several well-known London families had houses built on the outskirts, several at Norwood. Norwood Hall was built and occupied by Elisha Bisco in 1765. In 1767 he founded Bisco School and in 1772 he gave a large sum of money to educate 30 boys belonging to the Parishes of Norwood and Heston. The only condition being that they be of honest parents and have a pair of boots. The school was established on the left

hand side of Tentelow Lane, about 100 yards from the church. Each year tenders were invited for the supply of clothing and victuals.

Later, Norwood Hall became the residence of Major Unwin and, at the present time, is the Middlesex Horticultural College. Elisha Bisco was a great benefactor of Norwood Church and contributed generously towards building the Old Rectory, which was eventually destroyed by a flying bomb in the June of 1944, Second World War.

Another gentleman who had Norwood Court built was a Mr Henry Dodds. He started a Vitriol Factory (where the RSPCA centre now is) and we will hear more of his generosity later on. He died in 1843.

The Plough public house dates from the fourteenth century and, for a good number of years, was a shop as well. Over the years it has retained its old world appearance and has a very large lime tree and garden at the rear with Bowling Green attached. Rateable value in 1821 was £16.0.0d per year. John Filby was Landlord in 1821, George Roberts in 1896. The Dean family were licencees for over 70 years.

The Green itself was originally 11 acres, with a pond, but this was filled in in 1930 and the roads around have been widened leaving the Green now approximately 10 acres. Some splendid elm trees on the Green were all destroyed by Dutch elm disease in 1977. There is a small area between Norwood Green and Norwood Bridge known as Frogmore Green. Here in 1688 four almshouses were built for four widows, who each received 6/- (30p) weekly. They were rebuilt in 1814 by John Robins (more about these later). Records show three farms — Old Court Farm, Manor Farm and Alleyn Park.

Here we will leave Norwood for the time being, but much more will be mentioned as our story unfolds.

Stock Bricks

From early in the seventeenth century when it was discovered how good the earth was for brickmaking, stock bricks were made in the district. This continued until it finally finished around 1928. Some of the names of the brickfield masters were Reeds, Cullis, Hammonds, Watsons, Strouds, Newells, Braveys. Frankly, Newells brickfield alone produced 8.8 million bricks in one year. Most of the bosses had rows of small cottages for some of their employees. They were of a very low standard, but they were an advantage to the brickmaster because men would always be on hand to attend to the kilns. These names come to mind — Woodlands Place, Shuffy Row, Tilly Billy Bottom, left hand side Pluckington Place — all these have now disappeared.

The first strike ever to hit the district took place on 24th April, 1887. The brickmakers wanted another 2/6d ($12\frac{1}{2}p$) per week but, after a fortnight, it collapsed and they actually went back for slightly less.

Records show that rates on brickmasters were 'Strouds' — ten cottages, eight brickstools, cottage as office near canal Rateable value 1886 £231.13 .7½d (£231 .68p) per year. Braveys brickfields, Southall Green, 8 cottages, 15 Brick Stools, Pond and office, 1863 rateable value £934.0.0d per year.

Southall Brick Company — 32 cottages, pond, dock, 14 brick sheds, all on the Hambrough Estate, rateable value 1863 £613.15.0d (£613.75) per year. This was the last company in Southall. When the canals came stock bricks were loaded in barges to London. They were of good quality, and some were used at Buckingham Palace. In 1890 the price ranged from £1 for 250 delivered. Just recently, when some houses were being demolished in Featherstone Road, the asking price was 10p each - 100 years old.

Houses Built between 1780-1886

Townsend House. was a three-storey Victorian house situated almost opposite Hamilton Road, set back on the right hand side of South Road. It was built for the Hambro (Banking) Family. This is where the Hambrough Estate got its name. The last occupants were a family named Hudson, whose grandson was in my class at school. The house fell into ruins and was demolished in 1912 to make way for the Palace Cinema and shops.

Fairlawn Hall. This is now the Conservative Club. It was built for a retired professor and its grounds stretched as far as North Road. The Abbott family came there from Hanwell in 1876 (more about the Abbott family later).

Northcote House, South Road, built 1666 for a Mr Leybourne who died there at the age of 90. Later Mr G. Gibson, who was the first County Councilor, 31st July, 1896. Beside a lot of ground and 2 cottages was a large yard attached with a large drive in. There was a two-storey building which, when I was a boy, was a store place for R. Whites, the mineral water company, and the top floor was the Auction Sales Room for Edwards and Thomsons. Also in the yard was Kirbys (builders) workshop and a blacksmith.

Vine Cottage. This was situated at the end of Park View Road. Built in 1874 for Mr Hayes, one time Proprietor of The Times newspaper. In 1885 it was bought by Mr Charles Nash Abbott. On the site now is the Youth Centre.

The Elms, High Street. This was built around 1840 as the home of William Pearce. He was in business with a Mr Juggins, as Forage and Corn Merchants. The house was on the site where now stands the new Police Station, and his business yard was on the opposite side of North Road where the timber yard now is.

Grove House, North Road, built in 1867 for the Norman family. When he died in 1913 Mr Stroud, Veterinary Surgeon, occupied the house for about 12 years. Later, Mr and Dr Olive (his daughter) resided there, and she had her practice there also. It is now a Child Guidance Centre with a Nursery School at rear.

Hill House. Built for Mr W. W. Delotte. He was a very generous man and took a very active part in local affairs. To commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria he had built six almshouses in North Road.

Hortus House, Southall Green. Built around 1860. The home of Mr Lowe. It was on the site where Hortus Road now is and had a lot of land attached.

Elmfield House. Built around 1860. Mrs Challis, authoress, was born there. Others who lived there were Benjamin Armstrong (Brentford Magistrate) and an Indian officer named Muspratt. It was later bought by Mr George Gosney. The house

was situated where Church Avenue is, and its grounds stretched as far as the Church Paths and Havelock Road.

In 1821, Genteel Mansion Manor House stood on the right hand side of Southall Green Lane, occupied by Mr Charles Reeves. There were stables, coach house, yard, garden and land — the rateable value £139.19.3½d (£139.96½). The house was demolished in 1857 and the land sold for the building of St Marylebone School (more later). In 1904 part of the land was bought by the Wesleyan Church, where now stands the Kings Hall.

Coming of the Canal

A meeting in Birmingham in April 1792 launched a company to be known as The Grand Junction Canal Company. At the beginning of September 1792 statutory notices were published for the canal to run from Braunston via Berkhampsted, Watford, Ruislip, Southall, Hanwell to the Thames at Brentford. The canal to be 42 ft. wide at top, bottom 28 ft., depth 4½ ft, with locks 15 ft. wide and 86 ft. long. The bill was passed in Parliament March 1793 and received the Royal Assent 30th April, 1793. William Praed, Chairman (hence Praed Street); James Barnes, Chief Engineer — full time, 2½ gns. a day; William Jessop, Site Engineer.

Work started at both ends on May 18th, 1793. There were 370 men on the Pay Roll, this gradually increased to 800. They were paid from 2/- (10p) 3/6d ($17\frac{1}{2}$ p) a day according to grade. They worked in deplorable conditions; most living rough; and food, etc. was brought on to the site from Brentford or Uxbridge. 90% of the digging was done manually and horses and wagons were hired at 18/- (90p) per day for a wagon and five horses. All lock gates were made by hand on site. The oak cost 1/8d (9p) per foot, elm 1/3d ($6\frac{1}{2}$ p) per foot. Blacksmiths were employed. Local stock bricks were used wherever possible. The hard, blue bricks coming from Staffordshire.

The canal opened from Brentford to Uxbridge Monday, November 3rd 1794, and the Paddington Branch from Bulls Bridge on 10th July, 1801. Most of the water came from the Colne and Ouse. Tonnage charges — half penny per ton per mile. All military material free.

Although in reality at the time the canal only skirted Southall Green boundary (almost all being in Norwood) several small branches were made. Hanwell Military Dept. Line, Southall or as it became known – Weedons Dock five and a quarter furlongs — all now filled in but the entrance still visible near Old Oak Bridge. Passmore Dock, four and seven eighths furlongs, stretched as far as the Recreation Grounds — an old barge was found buried there about seven years ago. Hamborough Dock, five and a quarter furlongs, and another which came alongside (Fedder Lane), now Havelock Road, came up to where Victoria Road is now. All the last three were made to get the stock bricks away. Much later came the Maypole Dock, three and a half furlongs, built in 1912-13. The tonnage at Top Locks was 1906—355,458, boats 16,892; 1914 — 440,516 tons, boats 20,272; 1928, 391,006 tons, boats 16,819. Fellow-Morton-Clayton were the largest barge contractors.

In 1914 Rudolph Lane de Salis became Chairman of the Company. With the coming of the railway the traffic on the canals gradually became less and gradually more leisure craft began to appear. The Waterways were national—ised in 1952 and became British Waterways. A Leisure Boatyard has been established near the Three Bridges and another old barge company, Murrells, run barge excursions from Bulls Bridge, and the Ealing Borough is turning the Old Adelaide Road Dock into a Boating Leisure Centre.

The coming of the canal virtually turned Southall into an island, with bridges built at Windmill Lane, Norwood Road; Old Oak Bridge, Western Road; Hayes Bridge and Northolt Bridge. Just one record of rates paid — in 1900 £136 for six acres of land (there were workshops at Top Locks) and seven houses. The numbers 90 and 91 are quoted as locks in Southall. A new bridge was built in Norwood Road in 1925, and the North Hyde Bridge in 1932.

When the canal came the population of Southall was still only around 11,000. The longboats (barges) were all horse-drawn, and I personally benefited from there being so, with a barrow and shovel along the towpath! Several small beer-houses came into being, The Prince of Wales, this was right at the end of what is now Havelock Road; Kings Head, side of towpath near where the Junction Arms is now; and the Blue Boar near Bulls Bridge. These have gone, but the White Lion which was originally on the canal side was transferred to the corner of White Street and Gas Factory Straight. The Hamborough Tavern near Hayes Bridge — this was known by the locals as 'Franky Newells', he being the landlord and brickmaster. This pub was brought up-to-date on several occasions, and was eventually burned down during the Southall riots on Friday, July 3rd, 1981.

Growth

Industry gradually came. Henry Dodds had started Vitriol Factory at Norwood Court in what became the `Lorival', now Palgrave Brown Timber Company, and he was followed in 1780 by Messrs W. Holder and Co., they eventually moved to White Street and closed down in 1970.

There is no record of when they were built, but there were two windmills; Overshot Mil in Greenford Lane, not far from Pond in Golf Links, its rateable value in 1821 was £49.5.5¾d (£49.27½p), the owner in 1896 was A. W. Burnetts. The other, the Old Mill in Windmill Lane, the front of which stood level with the lane close to the Three Bridges also contained the baker's shop which once supplied Southall and Greenford with bread. Daniel Sibley in 1886 paid rates of £15.0.0d, and in 1896 Mr Symons paid £72.3.11d (£ 72.19½p). Both have disappeared.

Continuing with the supply of bread, Robert Birch established a bakery in 1820 at Norwood Green. This business was carried on for well over a century by the same family. The bakery was pulled down in 1974.

Robinsons Norwood Bridge Flourmill was built in 1855, by the side of the canal — barges came in useful. It was a steam mill, with meadow, Mill Hall and

garden rated at £200 per year. The mill itself was burned down January 31st, 1912, but Mil Hall is still in use as a Youth Hostel.

Changes were going on around the High Street. Minton House was pulled down and the row of cottages (now shops) were built, also a small pub The Three Horse Shoes, Hamilton Road (named after Sir George Hamilton, MP for Middlesex 1888-1906). In 1860 the Uxbridge governing board passed the plans for shop fronts to be fixed subject to an 8 ft. pavement. It is exactly the same today, 1982.

In 1864 Featherstone Terrace was built, this was a turning just on the right hand side of Featherstone Road (named after Featherstone Farm). These were very small, two-storey cottages with rents 4/6d per week (221/2p). It was nicknamed 'Bug Alley', but was no reflection on the people who lived there and brought up families. They were all pulled down in 1960.

Institutions

When the canal came through it cut off land from Trumpers Farm, with the name of 'Chevy Chase' bounded by River Brent on the east side, frontage to Uxbridge Road and west side Windmill Lane. It was purchased and became the site of Hanwell Asylum. Under Robert Sibley, architect, building was started in 1830 to cost £120,000. The labour was almost all French prisoners of war, only about 20 local men were employed. It was opened May 16th, 1831 with 600 patients Dr and Mrs Ellis in charge. He was a splendid humane man. Over the years more buildings were added and the number of patients in 1917 totalled 2,124. It was almost self-contained, for a good number of years it had its own brewery, bakery, some patients worked on a farm and grew most of the vegetables. This has all gone now and is known as St Bernards ospital. It has a very up-to-date laundry and all modern hospital equipment. Gone are the days when all along the frontage to the Uxbridge Road was an 8 ft. high wall, with the gates at the entrance arch always shut. Now, on what used to be the Staff Playing Fields, is the new King Edward Hospital, built between 1974-80 by Sinclairs of Cambridge at a cost of over 8½ million pounds. So, in the year the old Hanwell Asylum celebrated its 150th anniversary, it has now become St Bernards Annexe.

From personal experience I can say 'Thank God' for things as they are today compared with the treatment of mental patients years ago. The caring for mental patients of the upper class became a very paying business, and the large house built in Southall Park (Shepherd Haw), after several occupants, was turned into a private asylum. Dr J. Connolly and a Dr Boyd, who bought the house from a Doctor Stewart, had control. On the night of August 14th, 1883 a disastrous fire burned the house down, and Dr Boyd, his son, two patients and two servants died. Boyd Avenue is named after him. It was as a direct result of this fire that Southall Fire Brigade was started.

Another large house, Featherstone Hall, built on the site of Featherstone Farm at the corner of The Green and what was then Workhouse Lane, for a Mr. Alfred Weise (more later) eventually became a private asylum with a Dr Bailey in charge. This carried on until demolished in 1934.

Scarlet fever and diphtheria have now almost been eradicated but an epidemic in 1876 caused a small Fever Hospital to be erected in Havelock Road near where the New Temple now stands. Nothing of this remains but in 1903-4 Mount Pleasant Isolation Hospital was built. Dr Davenport Windle was Medical Officer of Health, Mrs E. A. West, Matron, and Mr J. Dixon Caretaker. It was the practice in those days that a horse and van collected all infected bedding and clothing; it being all steamed and disinfected before being returned. Today Mount Pleasant Hospital is a Geriatric Centre for chronic cases. Infectious cases are now sent to Isleworth.

After the First World War it was felt that a local General Hospital was needed. Initial steps taken by the Council February 10th, 1925 and a Committee formed, and subscriptions asked for. In 1930-31 a site was purchased at the rear of Holy Trinity Church but this was ultimately resold and, in 1933, the present site which was The Chestnuts was bought for £2,500. A ceremony of stone laying by Viscount Wakefield took place on June 19th, 1934 and he donated one thousand guineas. After alterations and additions, the architects being Messrs Bostock and Hollings, the first patients were admitted on the 20th November, 1935. It was officially opened by Alderman Percy Vincent, Lord Mayor of London, Wednesday, 27th November, 1935. The whole cost was met by public subscriptions. Miss D. Spriggs was Matron. A pennya-week scheme organised by Mrs Young produced a million pennies.

Since 1976 there have been many attempts to close it down but one can only hope that it will continue its good work.

Early Civil Administration

For the purpose of the Domesday Survey in 1086 the whole of Norwood-Southall area was included in Hayes. This changed over the years and, until 1895, Southall Green and Norwood and Northcote were a vestry of Uxbridge, but for Parliamentary Representation came within the Brentford constituency. 1800-02 W. Mainwaring (Lib.); G. H. Byng 1802-47 and 1867-68 (Lib.), created Viscount Endfield. 1847-1867 Lord Robert Grovenor (created Peer), Sir George Hamilton.

In 1886 Southall was transferred to the Uxbridge Division: 1885-86 O. C. Coope (Unionist), he died November 29th, 1886. Southall had representatives on the Uxbridge Vestry, and they had quite a fight to get things done. Lighting of principal roads 1866 (by gas light). There was very long wait for any form of sewage and drainage scheme. In 1890 a tender from H. W. Gould and Co. (Southampton) of £10,222 was accepted to lay a sewer with outlet at Wyke Green. A Mr Freman, a brother-in-law of the Abbott family, did a tremendous amount of work to get this started.

Fresh water supply was another urgent want as wells in use in the Southall Green area had been fouled and an outbreak of fever had resulted. The first tap water came from artesian wells near Southall Railway Station. It was supplied by Southall Water Company and was soft and pure. This supply carried on until 1885.

Another function which came under the Uxbridge Board of Guardians, were the vagrants and very poor. They maintained the Hillingdon Workhouse. There was a

great deal of poverty around and a great many old people who could not support themselves would have to go into the Workhouse at Hillingdon. Husband and wife parted perhaps for ever. Tramps used to go from one workhouse to another. They had a very bad reputation and just enough food given to sustain life. From the records of the Board of Guardians October, 1884, tenders were asked for the supply of coffins. Mr Watts of West Drayton accepted. Prices being — Coffins for paupers for Workhouse only, under 14 years 8/3d (41p); over 14 years 11/9d (59p). For outside use, under 14 years 9/1d (45p), over 14 years 13/9d (69p).

It was the Uxbridge Vestry that passed the plans in 1865 for Mr Garratt to put shop fronts on the row of cottages between Avenue Road and Three Horse Shoes.

In 1895, with the population of 8,500, Southall became the Southall-Norwood Urban District Council, with Mr W. W. Holder as its first Chairman. The acreage was then 246,000, this has increased to 308,000 with the adjustment of boundaries.

Growth 1800-1900

In 1800, still known as Southwould, the population was only around 800 and this rose in the next 100 years to 8,500. This figure included the staff and patients of Hanwell Asylum, and resident staff and scholars at St Marylebone School (more later). In 1837 Mr Dodds, a businessman, donated enough money to build St Johns Church, Rectory and School. This was the first offshoot from St Marys, Norwood. Consecrated by the Bishop of London, the first Vicar was Revd F. Hewson. In 1868 St Johns Fees were — Publishing Banns 2/- (10p); Marriage 5/- (25p); Baptismal Certificate 7d (3p) but, if obtained later than fourteen days, 2/6 (12½p). The old rectory has gone, so has the school, but the old church still remains, so does St Johns Hall built in 1892 (King Street), but in 1982 is now an Indian Religious Temple (more about St Johns later).

Between 1830 and 1850 railways were being constructed all over England and a Bill was passed through Parliament, with the help of Lord Wharncliffe, for the Great Western Railways. It came through Southall 1838. When first constructed it was wide gauge, 7 ft. between rails, but this was later altered to 4ft 81/2 ins., as now. Brunel was the Engineer. The Wharncliffe Viaduct, 300 yards long, 65 ft. high with eight arches, was constructed by Messrs Grissell and Peto, costing £40,000, to get the railway over the Brent, and what we know as The Iron Bridge although mostly of wood, came over the Uxbridge Road. This got badly burned in 1841 and reconstructed in iron.

Southall Station was opened in 1839, a hut on a level crossing. Southall Station, as now, and bridge were built in 1859, the year Brunel died. In the literature issued by the railway at the time, Southall Station is a quarter of a mile from a hamlet Southall Green in the precinct of Norwood and on the south border of Northcote.

Brentford branch, built in 1858, included the building of The Three Bridges, an aqueduct to carry the canal over the railway and Windmill Lane over the top of that. The line opened July, 1859.

The cost of land on which the railway was built was £400 per acre. As recorded in the Southall News, Rate value of line of railway 1886 £315.0.0 but the

total rates including station cleaning sheds, land and exits, £3,050. Station Masters — Mr Coleshill, 1860; Mr Gray, 1886; Mr Aston during First World War. Southall Green Lane (South Road) became Station Road. The bridge was widened in 1926 at a cost of £21,700. A few years ago part of the station was demolished as unsafe and has never been rebuilt so, in 1982, Southall — with a population of around 87,000 — has half an out-of-date station. But maybe there is hope, as a new plan to give Southall an uplift did make mention of the station.

The Subway, a tunnel under the railway leading from Dudley Road to the gas works, was constructed in November, 1885 at a cost of £300. This came about through the prosecution of a Mr Andrew Hardy for trespassing on the railway. This established that a footpath which the railway had not provided for, and which actually went right through the gas factory site.

Gas Works

In 1865, a small gas works (Norwood Gasworks), on a site three quarters of a mile south-east of the present works was bought out when, in 1868, the Brentford Gas Company bought 17½ acres of land for £6,325 between the Paddington branch of the Grand Junction Canal and the Great Western Railway. On December 4th, 1869 the first gas was produced. The first gas holder had a capacity of 480,000 cubic feet. In 1887 another thirteen acres of land were purchased. Rates payable, 1894, £10,321. During the First World War 18 pounder shells were manufactured in the workshops. Mr J. S. Thorman was Station Engineer when amalgamation took place with Gas Light and Coke Company, taking the place of Mr Busby. In 1896 gas capacity was up to 17 million cubic feet a day.

In 1929-30 the 305 ft. high waterless gas holder was constructed. In 1931 the public were allowed to the top on payment of 6d ($2\frac{1}{2}$) in aid of Southall Hospital. Nationalisation in 1949 found the works under the North Thames Gas Board and, by introducing a new type of plant, a peak day's output could be up to 175 million cubic feet a day.

The works had their own brass band which made its first appearance at the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Party held in Southall Park 29th June, 1887. There was always a works committee with workers' participation. Who could possibly imagine that, by 1978, the whole of this splendid works would be standing derelict, closure due to North Sea Gas. When working to full capacity it employed over 300 men. The works closed in 1973, after which the film industry has made use of the site for location scenes.

What was known as the Gas Factory Straight (road) was constructed via The Crescent, parallel with the railway for about half a mile to the works. This was a cobbled road. On the right hand side was the Works Sports Fields, and two houses. These were occupied by two families who gave long years of service to the company. Mr Stephenson and Mr Neighbour. Dave Neighbour (54 years service) was born there. The North Thames Gas Board still retain a transport yard with exit in Beaconsfield Road.

Martin Works

In 1877 an old soap factory on the right hand side of Havelock Road, near the canal, was taken over by Martin Brothers Pottery, who came from Fulham. Four brothers, Charles, Walter, Edwin and Wallace. Their pottery has become famous all over the world. They had a showroom in Brownlow Street, London. This was destroyed by fire in 1910. The brothers gradually died and very little work was completed after 1915, and completely finished in 1923. The fountain in the Manor House Grounds is an example of their work. The works were burned down in 1942. Now an up-to-date council estate is on the site, built in 1976-77.

In 1877 Abbott Brothers started a small factory on grounds attached to Fairlawn Hall. The entrance was in the High Street. They were, at that time, specialists in beehives but, later, made small cabinets and hospital furniture. They had a small showroom and stores on the left hand side of a gate with a road leading down to the workshops and, on the right of this, were the offices where the timekeeper used to ring a bell for starting time. All orders were delivered by horse and van. In 1982 the works are still there but at the rear with entrance from Shrubbery Road, and offices still in the High Street, and known as Abbess Limited. The original site in the High Street is where the fire station is now. (More of the Abbott family later.)

Changing Scene: 1794-1860

Coming into Southall from Hanwell we now find, in 1840, the Wharncliffe Viaduct and railway embankment on the right hand side and the Hanwell Asylum wall on the left to the Iron Bridge. Come under the bridge, the railway on the left with fields down to Southall Park, a private estate. The Red Lion Hotel, the entrance to Southall Market, and Market House with two or three cottages. Minton. House, Southall Station Road with the old blacksmith's forge on the corner. Nothing then until the old Hambrough Tavern at Hayes Bridge. Coming under the bridge on the right hand side we would see a windmill (Overshot Mill) with a farmhouse and small cottages in Greenford Road, a very large earth excavation made by the railway — the earth used for the embankment.

Looking over what is now the golf links, maybe the ruins of Dormers Wells House, a farmhouse and small cottages; seven small cottages and forage merchants to North Road. The Elms, old Quinions Harness Makers Shop and the Old White Hart and yard. School alley, five small cottages (later turned into shops), the old George and Dragon; four more small cottages, then nothing on the Uxbridge Road to the bridge. Just off the High Street, down North Road, was Sparrow Farm and a row of small cottages on the left hand side — Grove Cottages — and a small road with ten cottages — Grove Terrace - (still there).

Brickfields were being worked on each side of the Uxbridge Road and there were six cottages 'Shuffy Row' at the bottom of where Dane Road now is, and twenty-three on the canal side at Hayes Bridge (still there).

Still in 1840, Southall Station (South Road) on the right hand side Townsend House, Northcote House and coach yard. Genteel House to Beaconsfield Road, then railway level crossing, nothing on the left hand side to the railway. Big Pond, where entrance to station yard now is, and small ticket office. Crossing the railway on the right hand side there was an orchard and open land. Next, behind railings and cedar trees, was 'The Romans' (more later) followed by Featherstone Farm. This was near the corner of Workhouse Lane (now Featherstone Road). Records show that a small workhouse was situated where Hansons yard was also, there was the Featherstone Beer House built in 1838, and five small cottages (later turned into shops). On the Co-op corner was a pond and the site of the stocks, St Johns old church and school, nothing then until Pluckington Place, with the old White Swan at the end.

On the left hand side from the station, Hortus House with open land stretching as far as Glade Lane; two old cottages (later turned into shops Alexandra's papers, sweets, etc.) and, at the rear, Woodlands Place, a double-fronted house with garden at the front at the corner of what was to be Kingston Road. Then came the Manor House with three small cottages and the barn, flanking the Green. Elmfield House next with a great deal of land, St Johns Vicarage to the corner of Fedder Lane (Havelock Road), where there were several small cottages. Following along Denmark Road (later King Street), a farmhouse (later the Black Dog) and five cottages (later turned into shops).

In 1840 the population was 2,380 and this included staff living in, and patients, of Hanwell Asylum. Now let us retrace the same district which has now dropped the name of Northcote and was Southall and, twenty years on in 1860, has a population of 4,470. There is no change on the left hand side of the Uxbridge Road between Brent Bridge and the Iron Bridge. The railway bridge has had to be rebuilt because of a fire. Staying on the left hand side, a small timber yard and workshop has been established by Parslows Brothers, making wheelbarrows and such things from locally grown timber. No change to Avenue Road but Minton House has gone and a row of cottages and the Three Horseshoes Beer House built. The cottages are still there. Shop fronts were added on condition that an 8 ft. pavement was maintained. Hamilton Road built - this property all changed hands in 1865 when purchased by Mr Garrett. In 1923 Southall Council acquired the property for road widening which, in 1982, has still to take place. The Three Horseshoes has been entirely rebuilt. No further change to the Canal Bridge.

On the right hand side no change to the railway bridge but the land was being cultivated by patients from the asylum. No change to Lady Margaret Road but, just off the Uxbridge Road, Fairlawn Hall had been built for a retired Professor — Thackwaite — also, North Road Mixed School built in 1851. More cottages, 'Sach' and 'Durdans' built at Mount Pleasant. Waxlow Farm of 148½ acres, with Mr J. Cannock and family, had three farmworkers' cottages. Brickfields still each side of the road to the canal bridge.

Great changes have taken place in Southall Station Road. The site and ground of Genteel House on the right was purchased by the Government and, by an Act of Parliament, St Marylebone School was built in 1858 to accommodate 500, for the

education of pauper children of London. Also built, were two houses for staff and a Gate Lodge — the Headmaster was Mr J. C. Young. All this was behind a 7 ft. fence to the road. Still open land to Beaconsfield Road. We now have a bridge to climb for, in 1859, the railway bridge and Southall Station were built. Just over the bridge on the right hand side, lying off from the road, a house was built for a Mr Hammond who had quite a lot of land in the town and gave his name to Hammond Road. No further change to Western Road but, in 1850, people by the name of Hanson came from Brentford and started as builders and undertakers on the site of the old Workhouse in Featherstone Road (more later).

On the left hand side of Station Road a pair of houses and four cottages, and Hamilton Road with 31 houses had been built. One or two large houses, lying back from the road, were in the process of being built. At the side of the bridge a road had been made which would lead to the coal wharves and cleaning sheds. No change until Kingston Road which now had the Three Tuns Beer House on the corner. No further changes were noticeable from the road but brick-making was in full swing all around, and several more beer houses were opened - Prince of Wales, Western Road; The Lamb, Norwood and the Black Horse, High Street, came into the picture.

Just outside Southall border, in 1854, St Mary's Orphanage, North Hyde came into being. Taking over the old Military Barracks, it could take up to 600 boys. It was run by the Brothers of Mercy - a Mr C. Bosart was Headmaster. The school had a well-trained brass band, the uniform was mid-green with knee-length trousers with black braid and cockade hat, Mr Dunn was Bandmaster. Every so often a group of boys left for Canada - they had good connections with Southall and the band was in great demand. This has now all gone and on the site now, in 1982, is a large, Air Radio, and British Airways Training establishments.

Roads

As we have been reading about roads maybe it would be the appropriate time to record what condition they were in. The main Oxford Road (Uxbridge Road) was the responsibility of the Middlesex County Council. There was no street lighting until 1866, no paths as such. In the summer dry weather caused a great deal of dust, and bad weather in the winter made the roads ankle deep in mud, and flooding was very frequent at Brent Bridge. Traffic was not very heavy, horse coaches and farm carts going up to London with produce or hay and straw for horses in London, and return loads if possible. Wells were sunk, and pumps fixed, water carts used on the road to combat the dust. Two of these pumps can still be seen — one on the Uxbridge Road just past Dormers Wells Lane, the other on Wolf Green, Norwood Road, on to which, just recently (1981) they have moved a Metropolitan Drinking Fountain and Cattle Trough - the name being self-explanatory. Another of these is in The Green, near Osterley Park Road. Yet another used to be in the High Street between Lady Margaret Road and Greenford Road.

Secondary through roads such as South Road, Norwood Road, Greenford Road were the responsibility of the Uxbridge Vestry and, in the times I am writing about, were in no better condition than the main road.

When development started and new roads were made, they were mostly constructed by the builders who, in turn, applied to the local authority for them to be taken over. This they would do providing there was sufficient rateable property on them. Until then they were known as private roads and, to keep them so, one day a year (in theory) they were closed to public traffic. Three examples were - the Gas Factory Strait, Rheubastic Road and Maypole Road, all of which used to be roped off once a year.

The Earliest Schools

In 1767 a Mr Elisha Biscoe, resident at Norwood Hall, gave a large sum of money to educate and clothe 30 boys and 10 girls belonging to the Parishes of Norwood and Heston. The only conditions were, that they be of honest parents and have a pair of boots. The school was established on the left hand side of Tentelow Lane, almost opposite the Plough Inn (the building is still there - 1982). Every year tenders were invited for the supply of clothing. In the early part of the eighteenth century a portion of land and some cottages was bequeathed by Francis Courtney of Norwood Green for the education of poor children. This was incorporated with the Biscoe School. It eventually closed in the early 1950s when the State took over education.

When, in 1837, a Mr Dodds donated enough money for a school to be connected with St Johns Church, it was built at the rear of the church, facing Western Road. Opened in 1839, it was to take up to 150 pupils, mixed. I have not been able to trace who was the first Head, but a Miss G. Taylor was Head until 1892; then Mrs E. E. Thompson, followed by Miss Nightingale till 1901. The old school closed when Featherstone Road School opened. The premises were used for a men's club and other organisations until, finally, pulled down in 1950. Records show that the caretaker was paid 6/6d (32½p) per week.

Around 1870 a small school was built, named Norwood Bridge School, for girls and infants. Pupils had to pay one penny a week. It was gradually enlarged and, with Mr J. Dunn, could take up to 350 in 1886. It became all Infants in 1894. Records show that there was normally a staff of five. The conditions at the school were very poor, there was a lot of illness both with staff and pupils. In 1904 the staff and scholars transferred to Clifton Road School on January 12th, and the school closed.

In 1851 a school was built in North Southall and became known as North Road Mixed School, to take 200 pupils. The first Head was a Mr Rouse who moved into a school house attached. Part of this school still remains. Mr and Mrs Wilson in the school house in 1894 had a joint salary of £192 per year. By 1902 a temporary classroom had to be built in the play—ground and, in 1916, a new school was opened with part of the old school attached. Mr Wilson retired in 1911 and Mr Payne became Headmaster (more about this school later).

1860-1880

Between 1860 and 1880 the population had grown from 4,500 to 6,650. There was very little change between Brent Bridge and Dormers Wells Lane. At the asylum several extensions had taken place, including a church which was dedicated on 11th November, 1880, and the number of patients had increased to 1,800. Park View Road had been made and, on the corner, we now have a corrugated iron small church. This had been loaned from the Ealing Rural Decanal Association in 1869, and was to serve as Holy Trinity Church until 1896. At the bottom of Park View Road Vine Cottage had been built in 1874 and two more large houses built for Mr F. Quinion. There was a baker's shop on the corner with the High Street.

The Southall Park Estate (Shepherds Haw) had now become a private asylum. Just past the Red Lion, the entrance into Southall Market with a small cottage (Prospect Cottage) at the side. Then four shops with a bakery, two small cottages, then the pedestrian entrance to the Cattle Market and Old Market House. Three shops and, later, Barclays Bank Ltd., bringing us up to Avenue Road which had started to go through to the station (alongside the Church Path) but not yet built on.

Towards the end of 1880 Lady Margaret Road was being made, coming into Southall Station Road (now South Road); on the left hand side 14 small houses and 15 larger houses were built. The larger ones housed doctors, dentists, solicitors and other businessmen. Coming to the station bridge on the right hand side, Beaconsfield Road had been started but the big change was 'The Crescent', leading round to the Gas Factory Strait, with the bridge embankment on the left hand side. On the corner right hand side, the old Coffee Tavern followed by five shops and a flat-faced block of flats which stood back from the road. Then a space where now stands a garage and, in crescent shape, thirteen houses built for railway workers, leads round to the cobbled Gas Factory Straight which is about half a mile long. At its extreme end with the White Lion is White Street, 38 small cottages, Houlders Chemical Works and Naylors Varnish Works at the end of the road.

On the railway side, just inside the Straight, was a beer house the Prince Albert. This was later pulled down and the licence transferred to The Railway Hotel (Glass House). Coming over the bridge, no change much on the left hand side, but on the right hand side Featherstone Farm has given way to Featherstone Hall. Built as a private residence for Mr Alfred Welsh (brother of Mr W. Welsh of the Manor House), this was walled in by a 16 ft. wall from The Green, and had what appeared to be a series of unglazed frames around the top, making allowance for a large pair of iron entrance gates. The wall was the work of one bricklayer, Mr Winter. Together with a small lodge, it took him nearly seven years, and the total cost was £20,000. A large area at the rear of Featherstone Hall became known as the Steamfield Brickfield Estate which opened in 1860.

In 1863 Mr R. W. Baxter had a farmhouse, orchards, stables, barns, roads and control of a gravel pit and nine fields stretching from The Green back to the railway with a total rateable value of £510.0.0d. (Mr Baxter, together with a Mr H. Gosney will feature quite a lot later in the development of Southall.)

In Denmark Road (King Street) 8 shops had been built on the right hand side between Western Road and Dagmar Road. At the rear of these shops runs a small roadway now known as Dagmar Mews, and it was here, in 1879, the Salvation Army had their first headquarters before moving to their new Citadel in Adelaide Road, which was opened in 1883.

1880-1890

Due to the fast development now taking place, we will try and take things one decade at a time. The population - 6,650 in 1880 - increased to 8,500 by 1890. Until 1885 Sir George Hamilton was still our Member of Parliament but, in 1886, Southall was transferred to the Uxbridge Division 1885-86, Mr O.C. Coope (Unionist), he died November 29th, 1886 and a Mr Frederick Hartland (Conservative) served until 1909, 23 years.

There was still very little change along the Oxford Road. The stage coaches had ceased to run but there was still quite a lot of private carriages and farm carts. With premises at the Red Lion a postal service had been started. A Mr W. Hayes was appointed Post Officer with a salary of £90 per year. He had 21 children and, eventually, had to apply for Parish Relief to help keep them. In 1887 Mr H. C. Hanson was appointed Post Master and opened the first shop as a Post Office at the corner of Featherstone Terrace and Featherstone Road.

In 1882 a 20 ft. square corrugated iron but was built by Mr C. Brown (builders of North Road) as a sub-station to accommodate one sergeant and six police constables. Before this Southall was policed from Hanwell. When The Elms in the High Street was purchased, Police Sgt. Hudson moved in and, eventually, it was the site for a permanent station.

The rateable value of the whole district of Southall and Norwood in 1871 at Michaelmas was £22,344. This had increased by 1885 to around £35,000.

In 1883 came the disastrous fire at the Southall Park Asylum in which 4 people died and, on 17th August 1887, fire completely destroyed the Southall Coffee Tavern (on the corner of Beaconsfield Road and The Crescent). The proprietor was a Mr J. Jarvis. At this time Southall had only a manual Fire Fighter. Seven fire engines arrived but nothing was saved. Many newly-formed societies who used to meet there lost all their property. The site lay derelict for several years until the Central Hall was built. At the same time as this fire there was another small one at the St Marylebone School.

In 1885 Mr C. N. Abbott started a small newspaper The Southall News. It cost one halfpenny a copy with advertisements at one shilling (5p) per inch. Estimated circulation of 500 copies. There was always plenty of local news and the workings of the Uxbridge Vestry and Board of Guardians fully reported. Here is a sample of some of the adverts. Cottages to let Featherstone Terrace 4/- (20p) per week.. Tea 2/- (10p) per pound — G. Newell Market Place who also would supply Pudding Fruit 6 pence (2½p) per pound, large Lemons 1/- (5p) per dozen, Oranges 30 for 1/-, Bacon 71/2d (4p) per pound. G. Lowe (Hortus House) Potatoes 2/6d (12½p) per bushel, Plums 3/6d (17½p) per bushel.

- J. Harris, Norwood Green, Hams at 6d per pound, Butter 1/- pound, Cheese (best Cheddar) 8d per pound. Flour 3/-d (15p) half bushel, Tea from 1/4d (7p) per pound.
 - H. Kerswell, 3 Market Place, Boots ladies and gents 2/6d per pair.
- T. Haines, 9 Denmark Terrace, The Green, Meat delivered home from 4d per pound.
- E. Marsh, Purveyor of meat, 1/2 High Street, Mutton Legs 5d per pound, Shoulder and Loins 41/2d per pound, Neck and Breast 3d per pound.

Mrs Neave, 6 High Street, Papers delivered by 8.00 a.m.

- H. Tompkins, No 3 The Pavement, Haircutting 6d, Shaving 2d.
- P. Bell, Southall Green, Cottage with large garden, to rent 5/- (25p) per week.

Abbotts, Fairlawn Hall, Gooseberries 5/- per bushel, delivered. W. Cuthbert, decorator, work wanted 6d per hour. Mr Abbott himself took full advantage to advertise all types of goods. On the 7th September, 1887, Mr Abbott sold out to a Mr W. H. Wheeler, who carried it on until it ceased publication on January 11th, 1888.

Houses and shops were being built. In the High Street the Abbott family were developing the right hand side with a block of eight very good shops, 'Sunnyside'. Hambrough Estate had started, with Herbert and Alexandra Avenue. Builders in the village were Hansons, Peter Bell, Kirby, Phillips, Brown, E. Plaistow.

In 1883 the Havelock Road Cemetery was opened but the chapel was not built until 1896 by C. Brown, and opened 1st May. A Mr William Thomas came to occupy the Manor House in 1879 and he took a great deal of interest in local affairs. It was in the winter of 1885, due to the extreme poverty caused by the brickfield workers not being able to work because of the very very cold winter, that the Thomas family provided one-penny dinners for up to 100 children daily. After 12.30, when all the children had been served, adults could have the remainder. These finished on the 26th March, 1886 — about 10.000 dinners served.

At the rear of the Manor House, let into niches, are two symbolic figures. These had not drawn attention until recently. A representative from the Victoria and Albert Museum came in 1982 and his report was that they are of the 'Pala Period' AD 750 to AD 1150 made probably in Eastern India — Bengal or Bihar. The theory as to how they got there is that someone residing at the Manor House went to India, either with the army or as a missionary, and brought them back but they were not suitable to be in the house, so they had them installed in their present position.

EARLY CHAPELS

The *Baptists*. First meetings were held at the Coffee Tavern in 1886. When destroyed by fire in 1887 they lost all their property. After several meeting places they purchased the site in Western Road, and the church was built in 1889. It was rebuilt in 1907 and can seat 300.

A *Methodist Chapel*, built at the corner of Cambridge Road and South Road in 1883 was opened by Lady Ellis. It was demolished in 1962.

The *Primitive Methodists* had a chapel built in 1884. This was in Western Road adjacent to where the Southall Football Ground is now. It had steps up to the

entrance and had a meeting room under the chapel. This room was rented by the Education Committee in 1887, for £20 per year, to make room for 40 children who had been transferred from Heston due to changes in the boundaries. The Headmistress was a Mrs Eugenie Thomas. It started 2nd May, 1887. The total accommodation was 130 and the cost of the teaching staff £120 per year. This chapel was pulled down in 1960.

The *Barn Mission* started their meetings at the Coffee Tavern in 1886. They lost all their property in the fire. Mr Baxter, Southall Green Farm, loaned them a barn for meetings in 1894. Later they moved to premises in Norwood Road opposite where their new church and meeting hall, opened 27th April, 1921. Yet again in 1935 they had the Barn Mission Memorial Church built. This commemorates all those who have passed on and had done splendid work for the mission. It is now the Southall Evangelical Church. Pastor, A. G. Imbrey.

FORMATION OF SOCIETIES

The South West Middlesex Bible Society branch at St Johns School, 1877. Meetings 6.00 — 7.30 p.m. on Saturday

Freemasons. The Jersey Lodge No 2163. Consecration Thursday, 23rd September, 1886. They also lost all their goods when their meeting place, the Coffee Tayern, burned down.

Southall Philanthropic Society, formed 26th January, 1887. Mr F. Quinion Secretary, Mr Rouse Treasurer. Meeting place, the White Hart.

The Rate-payers Association formed in 1886.

Ancient Order of Odd Fellows. New Lodge started on Tuesday, November 16th at the Black Horse, High Street in 1886.

Southall Cottage Garden Association. 1886-88. The attempts to keep this association going seems to be an uphill task, for in the Southall News December 21st, 1887, Mr Abbott stated that, due to lack of support and funds, those interested should consider amalgamating with the West Middlesex Horticultural Association.

In 1882 the allotment Act passed in Parliament. This act was called 'The Allotments Extension Act of 1873'. This led to the first applications for plots on the Southall Charity Commissions land in Western Road (where now stands Featherstone Road School) to be in by September 21st, 1886. Rent to be 1/- (5p) per rod. The two wardens in charge were Mr R. C. Martyn and Mr John Minter.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

On June 20th, 1887 Queen Victoria celebrated her Golden Jubilee. A few weeks before this a committee had been formed to raise funds to finance the town's celebrations. The grounds of 'Shepherds Haw', now Southall Park, was loaned, £127 subscribed, and a great deal of goods donated. 1,200 children had tea. Sports of all varieties carried on till 8 o'clock. Then a torch-light procession through the town to Norwood Green, where a huge bonfire was fired at 10.00 p.m. by Mrs Robinson, and the festivities continued until midnight. When the fund was finally closed it was £3 in

hand. This was handed over to St Johns ladies sewing group to help them make clothes for the needy.

A Mr W. Delotte, who later had Hill House built and was a very charitable gentleman, donated enough money to have six almshouses built in North Road, Mount Pleasant. These are still there today, and have recently been modernised.

Another event to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee was the gift of four acres of land of Park View Road and High Street to be the site of Holy Trinity Church. The Revd Henry Mills came as Vicar designate, and started a move to build a new church in place of the corrugated iron one which had been on loan from Ealing Ruri-Decanal Association and had been in use for 18 years. A meeting was held at North Road School on 4th February, 1887, and a subscription list was opened, headed by Mr Delotte £500 plus £15 annually; Mr W. Pearce £100; Mr A. Henderson £105—in all £1070.0.4d

Mr Gibson proposed, Mr W. Pearce seconded that the church be built. Mr Pearce did not see the church built — he died 8th August, 1887. Mr J. Lee Hon. Architect. It was to be mostly of rugged stone to seat 500. In the plan a bell tower was proposed but this was never built. The site was set out by Mr C. Abbott and Mr Norman. Revd Henry Mills preached his first sermon on Sunday, March 24th, 1886. In 1886 the Vicar, Revd H. C. Hodge, left for Shanghai leaving Revd Mills in charge.

The church was built in 1890 — four stained glass windows; reredos, carved oak pulpit, and choir stalls were presented by Mr William Welsh, consecrated by the Bishop of London. The Vicarage was built in 1894. The living was £415 and Vicarage Gross yearly. In 1887 there was transferred from St Marys Church, Norwood, a bequest given by Robert Hampton of 13 1/- bread tickets to be distributed to the poor of the Parish after Christmas morning service. Registers start from January 31st, 1891.

The iron church was taken down and re-erected at the end of what was to be West End Road and was the start of another Parish, St George's. Mrs Mills died 8th August, 1901 and Revd Henry Mills died 25th April, 1917.

Growth

Quite a lot of shops were built between 1885-90. Along the Uxbridge Road on the left hand side 8 between Herbert Road and Beachcroft Avenue; 9 to Oswald Road and 22 to Hambrough Road. In Denmark Road (King Street) on the left hand side 11 to the Black Dog. Houses were being built on the steam field estate and York Road (Clarence Street), Dudley Road, Spencer Street. Adelaide Road commenced 1890.

In all these roads, as was the vogue in those times, some shops were included. Kingston Road is one of the oldest in the town, constructed by Hansons, Builders, all the houses on the right hand side are in pairs except for the first eight: all alike, bay-fronted with round arched porches. All houses being built now were connected with a sewer, running water and gas.

Between 1880-90 one or two more beer houses came into being: The Beehive, Mount Pleasant; The Prince of Wales, Western Road; Havelock Arms, Denmark Road; Wolf, Norwood Road. In later years they all became full licenced.

There were still 7 farms in Southall: Dormers Wells, Waxlow Manor, Sparrow, Southall Green, Glebe, Hortus and Langdons. Also a large fruit plantation at Mount Pleasant.

Miscellaneous Recordings between 1880-90

Bostock and Wombwells Circus came on Monday, February 15th, 1886. Tickets 1/- and 6d.

8th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers paraded to Norwood Parish Church for service. Revd J. L. MacDonald, Rector.

Mr J. Dunn, Headmaster Norwood Bridge School — his salary was £110 per year — Mary Roberts articled as a Pupil Teacher 1886

Abbott Family

On the 19th June, 1886, the wedding of Stephen Abbott to Elizabeth Shapland of Brighton.

At Vine Cottage, birth of a son to C. T. Abbott 20th July, 1886.

At Fairlawn Hall, the death of Julia J. Abbott, eldest daughter of Mr Walter Abbott of Hanwell on 10th September, 1886.

Sport

Around 1880 a committee meeting at the Red Lion resulted in the formation of the Southall Football Club, joining the Great Western Suburban League. They played at the Red Lion field and changed at the Red Lion. The history became very confused, for another football club, Southall Athletic, also came into being. Records show that matches were played at Station Field, Dodds Field, White Hart Field. On the 8th July, 1886, the AGM of Southall Football Club was held at the White Hart. Mr Reeves, Chairman, and Mr Basley, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer. On the 13th March, 1887 they staged the Grand Final West Middlesex Challenge Cup, playing Uxbridge Crescents at Dodds Field. The team - Craddock (goal), Daniels and Basley (backs), Saunders, Lowe, Ayres (half-backs), Strickland, Hutchings, Langley, Revening, Coales (forwards) - won 1: 0.

Cricket: Norwood Green Cricket Club was formed in 1872. After 20 years at the AGM held in April, 1894, reports showed that it had become very well established, and most of the local gents were either players or on the committee. This success continued right up to 1975 when, due to changes in the Norwood area, a gradual decline has set in and, with the loss of Mr Askew - President — and Mr Bill Lewis — Treasurer in 1979, in 1982 it is having a job to survive.

Golf: At the end of 1889 the West Middlesex Golf Club was formed and the Brent Valley Golf Course laid out. It is one of the most natural courses in the country, and occupies nearly 200 acres, 18 hole course, nearly 5 miles round. It sweeps round

Dormers Wells, Greenford to Hanwell Church, to the club in Greenford Road. Despite several fires and numerous break-ins, it is still going strong in 1982.

In 1887 it was reported in the Southall News — 'The death on Monday, 14th April of Mr J. Nicholls (aged 75).' When a young man he was a good athlete. On one occasion he ran as link man in front of the Mail Coach from the White Hart to High Wycombe, a distance of 20 miles, carrying lighted torches to guide it through the fog. He was gardener to Mrs Lawes whose house occupied a large area between South and Avenue Roads.

Wages

Mr W. C. Hall, Headmaster of St Johns School, a rise from £120 per year to £135 from 24th June, 1887.

The Clerk of Norwood Schools Board (part-time), salary raised to $\pounds 40$ per year.

Cleaners: Norwood Bridge School 8/- (40p) per week. North Road School 7/6d (37½p) per week, St Johns School 6/- (30p) per week, 1886.

Rates in 1887 1/10d (9p) in the pound.

Major Unwin at Norwood Hall October, 1887.

Work started on The Subway 26th November, 1885, also the widening of Station Approach on the north side.

Prices

Tenders accepted for coal for school at 16/9d (84p) per ton.

Rose trees 3/- (15p) per dozen.

Seeds, all types, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d per ounce'

Rents

House to let in Kingston Road 6/6d (32½p) per week. Dudley Road 5/6d (27½p). York Road 5/- (25p). Mount Pleasant Cottages 5/-. Adelaide Road 6/- (30p) and shops to let at 15/- (75p) per week, including rates.

1890-1900

This decade will show how the industry and the standard of roads and house building set the pattern of Southall for at least 50 years.

The population in 1890 was 7,300 and by 1900 it was 8,500. Excluding the large houses, residences built in South Road were mainly for the upper class, most of whom had servants. This was followed by Osterley Park Road, Lady Margaret Road and Avenue Road, all with a better class of house.

On the left hand side of Norwood Road were - first, two old cottages (Kingston Villas), then Ossulton Villas. These were three-storey and some of the residents kept servants who lived in the basement. In number one a family by the name of Ham came to live in 1889. Mr Joel Ham was 'Clerk in Charge' for the building of Norwood Green Police Station, which was opened in 1890. His son, Ernie

(more later), left a legacy of paintings of Southall which are in the possession of Ealing Borough Library.

Denmark Road (King Street) was gradually developing into a shopping centre, but there was still a blacksmith's forge on the Swan corner. The St Johns Hall was built in 1892 by. Hanson, to hold 200. A proposal to build a public hall on the Featherstone Road corner was rejected and along came the London Co-operative Stores building, and later the Western Road corner.

In 1893, a site of 68 acres adjacent to the railway, was purchased and a start made on what was to become the largest margarine works in the world, Otto Monsteds. The architects Bird and Whitenburgs of Manchester, and the first contract worth £300,000 went to A. & B. Hansons. A private road was made to the works, and a railway siding constructed. This meant an extension of the foot bridge by 20 yards. The first margarine was produced December 1894. The formal opening of the factory by the Earl of Jersey on 20th March, 1895 was followed by a dinner and ball for all employees. About 30 Danish staff came with the firm and settled in various parts of the town. Much more detail about the 36 years of the works in the town can be found in *The Maypole and Southall Green*, published in 1980 by myself.

With the increasing population more schools were needed and, in 1891, the first Featherstone Road School was built on a site which cost £175. Mr Dunn was Headmaster from 1892-1902. This was a boys' school and the number of pupils in 1894, 263. Miss Nightingale was Headmistress 1902-1931. The caretaker in 1894 was Mr Tilley at 13/- (65p) per week.

North Road Infants' School was built in 1892. Headmistress Mrs Dunn, with 112 pupils. This was pulled down in 1979.

Dudley Road School, built 1897 on a site costing £200. This was a girls' school. Later it became an infants' school. At the same time a smaller building was built which was a cookery and woodwork centre. Although not built until 1910-11 the land for the Western Road School was purchased in January 1896.

Two private schools were in being. Southall High School run by the Revd R. H. Stubbs, MA in 1890. Fees - under 12 years, 6 guineas (£6.30p); over 12, 8 guineas (£8.40p) per year. Mrs Amos Dixon (Board School) Norwood Green, which had dwelling house, offices, stables, yard and garden, also small orchard. Rateable value in 1894 was £35 per year.

What is now the Southall Hospital was built in 1894 for a Mr T. Watson. He was a Cartage Contractor with yard and stables at Mount Pleasant. It got its name 'The Chestnuts' from a large horse chestnut tree which stood in the Green. Mr Watson was the father of Mr Horace Watson, Estate Agent and Builders with a shop in The Green, and Builders Yard in Hortus Road. Another Cartage Contractor, Mr George Stacey, lived in Beresford Villa at the end of Beresford Road where he also had yard and stables. There was plenty of work for both contractors with so much development going on and, as yet, no lorries and very few cars.

In the early 1890s a Mr A. Barnes started a Horse Bus Service between the Three Horse Shoes and Hounslow — fare 2d. A trace horse used to pull the bus over

the station bridge. It was taken over by a group of Southall business men and became the Southall and District Bus Service. Four buses and fourteen horses were all stationed at Mr E. W. Tapping's yard in Western Road.

Mr Thomas was still resident at the Manor House and 'The Barn' was always in great demand for local events. It was due to his great interest that the ailing Southall Cottage Gardens Association began to thrive. He became President and Mr G. Gibson, Secretary. They held their meetings at 'The Barn' and it was his influence with the Earl of Jersey that Bixley Field allotments came into being. The land was on the right hand side of Havelock Road, east of the church path to the canal. After being ploughed up and manured, 10 pole plots were pegged out and the cost was 9d (4p) per pole. This was in March 1894.

The Association held its first Show on the 23rd August, 1894 at The Barn . This was such a success that, at the AGM held on 28th February, it was reported that membership had grown and there was a balance of £3 cash. The date of the next Show to be on 31st July, 1895. This was held on Park Field, which was where Villiers Road and Villiers School now stand. They had a 100ft. marquee and four other tents. There were Trade Displays, both professional and amateur classes — examples of quantities for classes: 20 beans or peas; 4 cabbages; 6 potatoes, beetroots, carrots. No floral art but Table Arrangements. No entry fees. All prizes were goods. There was another society formed in 1895 by the Southall North Road Allotment holders, Mr Lester Secretary, calling themselves 'Self Help'. They held a dinner at the Red Lion on Monday, 22nd November, 1897 — cost 2/6d (12½p) per head. Their guests were Mr Gosney and Mr Martyn.

The 6th Annual General Meeting of the Norwood Conservative Association held on 28th February, 1894 at The Romans, Southall Green.

A sport which did not last long was Whippet Racing. This took place at the Southall Cricket Club Ground which was sited in a field at the bottom of Longford Avenue, bordering Dormers Wells. Southall Whippet Association, President Lord Charles Innes Kerr. The first meeting was Wednesday, September 5th, 1894. Meetings held once a fortnight.

Civil Administration

Our representative in Parliament was Mr Frederick D. Hartland (Con.) MP for the Uxbridge Division from 1886-1909.

By an order No 26598, dated 16th January, 1891, Southall-Norwood, with boundaries up to Brent Bridge - including Hanwell Asylum - comes under the control of the Southall-Norwood local board.

By Local Government Board Order No 31372 dated 30th September, 1894, 178 acres (part of the Heston and Isleworth District) was added to Southall-Norwood. The population then was around 7,300.

In 1894 Mr Thomas of the Manor House presented the first ambulance to the local board.

Elections took place in December 1894 for the first members of an Urban District Council. *East Ward*: Messrs C. T. Abbott, T. Haines, B. J. Hanson, H. Lee, F. Rouse and W. T. Thomas. *West Ward*: H. Avery, W. Freemantle, T. B. West, G. Gibson, W. W. Houlder and R. C. Martyn. They met for the first time on the 8th January, 1895 in a room over Burns, the outfitters in the High Street. Mr W. W. Houlder elected Chairman and the name of 'The Southall-Norwood Urban District' confirmed. The first Clerk, Mr A. Lawrence Holder; Surveyor advertised for and Mr Howard R. Felkin appointed. Medical Officer of Health, Dr D. Windle. Mr G. Gibson became Southall's first County Councillor in 1895. Miss Staniford offered the site of 'The Romans', Southall Green for a Town Hall for £3,000 in May 1895. This was not accepted.

In 1896 the Earl of Jersey gave the site at the corner of High Street and Lady Margaret Road for the new Council Offices to honour Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. Plans were submitted and tenders were invited on the 9th April, 18 96. The tender of Mr C. T. Kealey of St Albans, £3,543, was accepted. To this was added another £200 for alterations to plans. It was opened by Lady Jersey on the 8th November, 1897. The editor's father worked on the site for the contractors.

When in 1889 the Police Authorities decided to build a Police Station at Norwood on the Police Pound, the local Government Board opposed the site, wanting it to be sited in Adelaide Road, but the Police had their way and the station was opened in 1890. They transferred the Pound to behind The Wolf and it became the job of the landlord to look after what animals were brought there. Before the station was built Police used to come from Heston on duty and, if it became necessary, used the cells which had been constructed in a house almost opposite. The rates levied on the 23rd April, 1895 were 1/4d (7p) in the pound.

Trams

There had been for some time a move to get the trams which, by 1898, had reached Hanwell. Before this, in 1870-71, a Bill before Parliament had authorised a tramway from the Red Lion (Northcote) to Shepherds Bush, to the Southall, Ealing, Acton, Shepherds Bush Tram Company; but this Company was in liquidation in 1875. The first ground to bring trams to Southall was broken on the 3rd January, 1900. Reed Brothers contracted for the work at a cost of £5,500 per mile. Southall Council stipulated that the London United Tram Company lay wood blocks for a specific distance each side of the rails, and that they have the use of the tram standards for street lighting. The Brent Bridge had to be widened and strengthened. The first trams came to Southall in 1901. Lord Rothschild started the first through tram from Ealing. They turned at Haddrells Corner, Herbert Road, Costing £1,000 each, they had knifeboard wooden seats inside and up open-air stairs, slatted two seats with middle gangway. At the end of the journey it was the conductor's job to reverse all the upstairs seats and, with a long pole with a hook, take the power arm from the overhead wire and put it on the wire again at the other end of the tram. The driver was at the mercy of the weather, with only a cover over his head. The next section to Uxbridge began in 1903 and, eventually, reached Uxbridge in the middle of 1904.

Fares, Shepherds Bush to Uxbridge — 8d (3'/2p); Southall to Uxbridge -3d (1½p); Southall to Shepherds Bush 5d (2p). Workmans Return to Shepherds Bush or Uxbridge 4d (1½p); ticket to be obtained by 8.00 a.m. These the conductor dispensed from a board and had a punch (bell punch) which stamped a hole at the appropriate place in the ticket. In 1906-7 it was proposed that a tram route be made to connect Southall to Hounslow, via South Road, Norwood Road, Norwood Green, Heston, Lampton Road. But mostly due to the very many conditions specified by the Southall Urban District Council, it was decided that it would not be a viable proposition and the scheme abandoned. The fares would have been — Southall to Hounslow 3d, Southall to Norwood Green, 1d and Norwood Green to Hounslow, 2d.

Progress 1900-1910

By 1900, with a population of 8,500, we now have a railway and tram service. Also a Head Post Office and Sorting Rooms was built at the corner of South Road and Beaconsfield Road. Head Post Master Mr H. C. Hanson whose house was in Beaconsfield Road. Also there were sub-Post Offices in the High Street, Uxbridge Road, Denmark Road. A great many houses were being built and several industries came

On the Glebe Estate a large tract of land on the south-west corner of the district had natural facilities for industrial purposes with rail and canal access. Messrs Gosney and Baxter were responsible for the development Early firms included Electric Traction Co. Ltd., Scotts Emulsion (1900), Phonopore Telephone Co. Ltd., Rhubastic Ltd., Sanders Tube Works moved from Notting Hill to Gordon Road in 1901 and Avery and Vincent opened a joinery works at Hartington Road in 1902.

As the population increased so the need for another school. In 1901 the large Featherstone Boys' School was built for 500 boys. The first Featherstone School became a girls' school and Mr Dunn transferred as Headmaster to the new one. He retired in 1904 and Mr West became Headmaster. The motto of the school 'We Seek — We Find'. Mr Albert Smith (more later) became the first caretaker (living in the school lodge), a post he held until retirement in 1932.

We now have a new King - Edward VII - and in his honour Denmark Road changed its name to King Street in 1902. At each of the Council Meetings plans were passed for more development. Roads were taken over and more street lighting sanctioned. Plans for the 'King of Prussia' (Victory) and a Dairy (Dorset) where now the betting shop is at the corner of Dagmar Road were submitted and approved. The names of builders around that time were Baker Brothers, W. Gibbs, H. Watson, Clements (Wompy). Several of the old cottages were condemned and already it was becoming clear that the water supply and sewage were inadequate. The South Western Water Company were asked, and sank an artesian well on the site where stands the water tower. This was built in 1902 by A. & B. Hanson for the South Western Water Company at a cost of £8,500. Its castle-like facade is 105 ft. high and is on the right hand side, just inside the Gas Factory Straight. It conceals a 250,000 gallon water tank in the top and steam pumps. The pumps had the job of keeping the tank full, this

ensuring enough downward pressure of water. It went out of use in 1968 — it is a listed building. It was sold, with some land, in 1977 to the Water Tower Co-operative Housing and a report in the Gazette in December 1981 says that work will begin to provide housing for single people and childless couples. Conversion to commence in February.

The beginning of the Catholic Church in Southall Green came when Mr Thomas of the Manor House, allowed a Catholic Priest from Hayes to hold mass in the Barn' on Sunday mornings. He later donated a plot of land next to the Manor on which was built a small church (St Anselms). This carried on under Father Buckle and Father Ward until the new St Anselms was built (more later) when the site became a school.

1895-1910

The Bricklayers Arms in Western Road was built in 1898. On the sign display the motiff - 'In God is all our Trust'. In 1895 the Prince Albert, an old beer house on the left hand side of the Gas Factory Straight, closed down and Mr Freemantle gave a dinner, to announce to other local pub landlords, on 11th February, that he was moving to the newly built Railway Hotel (the 'Glasshouse') in the South Road. The Plough, North Road, was built in 1896 - Elizabeth King, landlady.

Up till 1895 only nine men were employed by the Urban District Board on the roads. This was increased to twelve in 1897. With street lighting on the increase, the council requested the Gas Company to provide two lamp-lighters. Their job was to ensure the lamps were alight. The lamp standards were 11ft. high with a square shaped glass box on top which contained the burner and two mantles. A clock device regulated the pilot for lighting up time. An iron bar was provided on which to rest the ladder for maintenance.

Schools

Four more schools became necessary. On January 14th, 1904 Sir Ralph Littler, CB, KC, officially opened Clifton Road School. It was very modern, built to hold 800 pupils. It cost £9,500, and was a two-storey building, each floor having a central hall 64 ft. by 28 ft. and seven classrooms but no phone or electricity until 1950. It actually opened September, 1903 — Miss Beck, Headmistress downstairs (Infants) and Miss Wilson, Headmistress of the Girls upstairs. On January 12th, 1904 the staff and scholars of Norwood Bridge School were transferred to Clifton Road. Thus one school opened and another closed. Mr Monk was caretaker.

An adjacent school - Talbot Road - was built in 1907. Originally for boys it merged with girls to form a Junior Mixed School. The Headmaster was Mr R. R. Elias with a staff of eight. He retired in 1933. Over the years many changes have taken place — it became a Special Backward School at one time and in 1980 became a Special Language School. Caretaker — Mr Shaw.

Southall County School (Villers), Boyd Avenue, was built in 1906-7 at a cost of £15,115. The first Headmaster was Mr Pollitt. When opened only three free

scholarships were granted to each of the senior schools. All the rest were fee paying. Built at the same time was a Woodwork and Cookery Centre which was also used by other schools. The caretaker's quarters were on top. The first caretaker was Mr Albert Perkins who employed me when I was 9½, doing errands for 1/- (5p) per week.

Tudor Road School was built in 1906-7 and opened as Tudor Road Infants on 8th April, 1907. Miss A. Woolford, Headmistress, with six staff. Built to take 250 pupils, it had gas lighting until March 1952, and a telephone was installed November, 1948. Many of the children were transferred from North Road School. Mr Colman was caretaker for ten years.

In 1904 the old White Swan, which was at the end of Pluckington Place, closed down and licence transferred to the present White Swan which had been built at the junction of Adelaide and Norwood Road, taking the place of two small cottages and a blacksmith's. The brothers A. & G. Stanley were licensees. They had a great reputation as cyclists and one of them used to ride a penny farthing bicycle. A bowling green was constructed at the side, where the Southall Bowling Club used to play.

In 1903 eight very well built shops came into being on the right hand side of King Street between Dagmar Road and Pluckington Place. The leases were granted so that only one type of trade was carried on per shop. Thus, Quinions (Furnishers), Simmons (Confectioners), Owen Barnetts (Fruiterer), Hoopers (Butcher), King and Hutchings (Gazette Office and Stationers), Keevils (Hosier), Heaths (Bakers) with a bakery at the rear. Except for a few years the King Street Sub Post Office has been in this block of shops.

Beverley House on the left hand side, next to the Black Dog, was built for Mr Ben Hanson. Just inside Hammond Road, on the right hand side, a small Gospel Hall was built in 1901. The area of Hammond Road had been brickfields. When housing development commenced the standard of building was very poor.

Between 1902 and 1905 a great change took place in the Uxbridge Road. Old Leggatt's Smithy and cottage were demolished; South Road widened and what still is the best block of shops erected 1904-5 — twelve between South Road and Herbert Road and three in South Road, the first of which was the National Provincial Bank; the second Arnold and Co., Tobacconists and the third Eastmans and Sons, Dyers and Cleaners. Today, in 1982, the bank is up for sale but Arnolds (there for over 40 years) is still a tobacconists. The first two of those in the Uxbridge Road became known as 'Butlers Corner' — Mr Scott was manager. A Men's Outfitters, it had a rather unique shop front which had an entrance from both sides with doorway in the middle covered from the front with an independent showcase. Sainsbury's came next, this was built purposely for them and had living accommodation above for staff — a housekeeper was employed — the staff entrance being an iron staircase at the rear.

The other shops were first occupied by United Dairies, Home and Colonial Stores, Hallam (Corn Chandler), Drug Stores, Pridous (Stationers), Hutchings (Butcher), Shellshears (Ironmongers), Haddrells (Furnishers). In 1902 three shops were built on the right hand side between Lady Margaret Road and Greenford Avenue. These became Evans (Paper, Tob.), Fletchers (Butcher) and Talbots (Off

Licence). These were to be followed in 1903 with three larger shops on the corner of Lady Margaret Road. The corner one was Francis Waklings (Estate Office) with Rustons (Solicitors) and Blowers (Dentist) above. Another block of nine shops were built on the right hand side between Northcote Avenue and Saxon Road. The first of these was a Bakers with bakehouse at rear and the last, the Standard Wallpaper Company. For a good number of years tenants in the others came and went frequently

Over The Green things were also moving. On 8th September, 1906 the Working Men's Club moved into the Chestnuts, with 350 members. The Southall Norwood Public Library was built on the left hand side of. Osterley Park Road, on land given by Messrs Baxter and Gosney, at a cost of £4,000. The gift of the Andrew Carnegie Trust. The foundation stone was laid by Lady Jersey and the opening was 26th July, 1905 by James Bigwood, Esq., MP Chairman of Library Committee, Mr G. Gosney, Books numbered 2,338, Librarian Mr W. L. Coltman.

Two shops which stand out quite differently from all the others on the right hand side of King Street were built in 1901. One was a bank - Woodbridge, Lacy and Company - and the other was Dr MacDonald's Surgery. The bank - No 8 King Street - became Barclays and in 1909 moved to the corner of Bridge Road when these premises were built. The King Street shop became an Off Licence, a Mr Coulthurst traded there for over 50 years, and it is still an Off Licence today, 1982. On the bend of Featherstone Road is the Territorial Drill Hall, built in 1901. It has housed the Middlesex Yeomanry, a Company of the Middlesex Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Company (RE), this was until 1937 when, due to lack of space for transport, they moved to the new Drill Hall, Uxbridge Road — it had now become a Furniture Depository.

At the corner of Waltham Road and Western Road was a small house and pig farm. The owner got into financial trouble and Mr Gosney purchased the mortgage. Part of the land is where the Baptist Church now is, and in 1908 Dudley MacDonald purchased the rest for £545. Belmont House was built in 1909 by Mr Peter Bell and, after being occupied for a year or two by Dr Vergo, became the Residence of Dr C. W. Seccombe in 1916, and the practice was carried on in the family name until 1981 when the house was sold to become an Elderly Asian Rest Centre.

In 1900 the Southall Volunteer Fire Brigade was formed, Mr C. N. Abbott being the first officer. They had a very primitive hand-drawn manual which was housed in a shed behind the Town Hall. In April 1901 a Fire Station was built on to the right hand side of the Town Hall at a cost of £175. The firemen recruited mostly from Abbott Bro. staff, and training began with a horse-drawn fire engine. When a fire occurred a maroon would be set off to summon the crew, who would dash to the station, put on uniform and then often have to wait while the horse was brought in from where it was working at the time. So you can imagine that, although great efforts were made, a good deal of time was lost before they actually got to the fire. Although I cannot remember these teething troubles I have good cause to remember their later efforts.

Holy Trinity Hall, Lady Margaret Road, was built by C. Brown in 1905. It was always in demand for social events, it being the only hall available at the time. Holy

Trinity Men's Club used the upstairs rooms. Alas, in 1982 the hall has been sold to our Asian friends who must have had a lot of work to do to it for it was in a very bad state due to lack of repairs.

St George's Church was built in 1905-6 and consecrated and opened 1906. It was formed out of the Parish of Holy Trinity, and is situated on the right hand side of Tudor Road. Funds for the church came from the sale of St Georges, Billingsgate, and the pulpit and organ screen are from that church. The Living is the gift of the Dean and Chapter of St Pauls and the Crown, alternatively, with net value £730. This meant the old iron church was again taken down and it finished its useful life as a canteen at Eastman's Dye Works, Acton.

Mr S. W. Abbott had a nice house built on the left hand side of Uxbridge Road (The Chestnuts) in 1904; and Vine Cottage in Park View Road became, for a period, a Nursing Home and, later, the residence of Mr Bleckfeldt, the Chief Chemist of Otto Monsteds. Also built about the same time, another nice house 'Melrose' for Mr Paton, retired Headmaster of Marylebone School.

At the rear of land bought in August 1904 by the Methodists, on the right hand side of South Road, Sunday-school buildings were erected in 1906. This is where the Kings Hall now stands.

The provision of a park or recreation ground was a major item on the early Council's programme. In 1902 Mr Baxter offered 12 acres at £325 per On the Steam Field Estate. This would be where Scotts and Balfour Road are now. The offer was not accepted. The present Recreation Ground, formerly known as Bills Charity Land, was bought in 1902 and came into use in 1903 The Lodge was built and Mr Harman appointed as Keeper. In 1909 Southall Council purchased Southall Park. This had been the scene of the tragic fire and was originally Shepherds Haw, residence of Mr Merrick, covering 26 acres. The Lodge was built and Mr W. Perkins appointed as Park Keeper. Later a bandstand was erected and sited on the right hand side of the main path at the rear of the Red Lion. In 1910 another field of about 3 acres was added on to the east side which brought the park to where Green Drive is today. The Uxbridge Road frontage had nice looking iron railings with entrance gates. Alas, these had to be sacrificed during the Second World War. There are also entrance gates at Boyd Avenue. There was a clear view of the railway from the park and, on 12th May, 1910, a fair number of local people gathered to watch the train bearing the coffin of King Edward VII to Windsor. On the Coronation Day of King George V and Queen Mary, the Council provided a children's party in the park. This was on the 22nd June, 1911. After games and a good tea, each child received a medal to commemorate the event.

There were two football clubs in 1905-6. Southall Football Club turned professional for one season only -- 1905. One of their first matches was away to Glossop in the FA Cup. The first news to come through was Southall leading 1 - 0 but, when the final result was given, Southall had lost 11 - 1. As a club they did not start in the 1906 season. The other club, Southall Athletic opened the present Western Road Ground on 17th September, 1905 with 300 spectators. The two clubs amalgamated in March, 1906 and commenced to play in the Great Western Suburban League in 1907.

By this time another Southall farm had been swallowed up (Southall Green Farm), also Emfield House had been demolished, and Church Avenue made. Elmfield Market and four shops between The Victory on its left hand side - the Corner Shop, Butlers, Men's Outfitters. Four shops on its right with what was to be the Labour Exchange on the corner. Sad to relate here, Mr Richard Cleeve Martyn, one of the first Councillors elected December 1894 and Chairman 1897-8, died 11th February, 1900 at his residence 'Woodlands', North Road. The Council placed a Memorial Stone on his grave in Havelock Road Cemetery in recognition of his service to the Town.

Mr R. W. Baxter had 'South Lodge' built. This is where St Anselm's Church is now and it faced south - thus its name. Also built were premises for the Southall Social Club adjacent to South Lodge on the right hand side of The Green. These are still there today but house an Asian Religious Body. Another large house 'The Grange' was also near there.

Hortus House had been pulled down and Hortus Road made. It is a cul-de-sac and, at the bottom was built the Co-op Bakeries. Barclays Bank and Watsons Estate Office, with rooms over the top, were built in 1908-9. Three more large public houses came - the Northcote Arms in Northcote Avenue, Mr Jack Gerrard Licensee. This took the licence from the Black Horse in the High Street which closed. The Beaconsfield Arms in West End Road which took the licence from the Blue Boar, canal side, which also closed; and the rebuilt Grand Junction Arms, canal side, closed the Kings Head.

On the left hand side of the station a road leading down to the Goods Depot became the Coal Wharf. A siding had been constructed and coal trucks unloaded. There were several Coal Merchants — Barnes Brothers are the oldest established and are still in business in Regina Road. Others were Belcher and Gibbons, Balltrops, Cornwalls, Lillishalls, Whitehouse. Most had small order offices at the side of the road.

1900-1910

As I stated earlier, the period between 1900 and 1910 did more than at any other time to shape the town for the next 30 years. The Chairman of the Councils responsible, with 11 other Councillors — 6 from each ward were:

Mr G. Gosney 1901-1902 Mr T. W. Penny 1902-1903 Mr R. W. Baxter 1903-1904 Mr C. T. Abbott 1904-1905 Mr H. C. Hanson 1905-1906 Mr J. H. Willis 1906-1907 Mr W. E. Eburne 1907-1908 Mr H. E. Willis 1908-1909 Mr P. J. Hanson 1909-1910

Town Clerk - Mr Lawrence Houlder; Town Surveyor - Mr Reginald Brown; Medical Officer of Health - Dr Dr Davenport Windle.

Progress

The Otto Monsted Margarine Works had gradually enlarged and more men were employed. In 1910, at a cost of £14,000, A. & B. Hanson built the Works Club, or Institute, on a site at the right hand side of the works road and adjoining the Church Path. Built to a Danish design, it was the canteen and leisure centre for the employees (more later).

On the right hand side of The Green the first Southall Cinema 'The Gem' was built and opened in December, 1910. It was just a barn-like building with long knife board seats. Silent films, of course, accompanied by a piano. One show each weekday evening and a children's matinee Saturday afternoons. Tickets 3d and 6d, matinee Id. It was very popular and queues waited to get in. Mr Murch was Manager. It was rebuilt in 1932 but, alas, in 1982 — after a great decline in cinema attendances — it is very dilapidated and up for sale.

Industrial Development

At the side of 'The Gem' a road had been made and a small industrial estate came into being. This has housed Goldway Bros. (Wholesale Grocers), Galloways (Patent Medicines), Dillaways (Welders), Voltas (Cleaning Fluids), Southall By-Products.

At the foot of the station bridge, on the right hand side, a road was made leading to the Western Iron Foundry (later le Grand Sutcliffe) — Artesian Wells Engineers. These were on Mr Baxter's estate. Near the Gas Works in White Street Aitldnsons and Whiffens Chemical Works, Naylors Varnish Works, Jonson Londalls (Submersible Motors), John Lines and Sons (Wallpaper Factory), Rhubastic Tyres — all these have now gone. At the rear Hartington Road Avery and Vincents Joinery Works, established in 1902.

On the north side of the town, Wiggins and Sankeys had a large Builders Merchants business at Hayes Bridge. Three large Cartage Contractors – Staceys (Beresford Road), Chiltons (Mount Pleasant), Builders Cartage and Moores (General Carriers), Hamborough Road.

As we move into the next decade with a population of 8,500, brickfields were gradually disappearing and roads and houses taking their place. Motor cars were becoming more frequent. Two more banks — Midland at the corner of Adelaide Road and Barclays, corner of Avenue Road — and two garages established.

Sounds

What up till 1900 had been a quiet little village now began to resound to progress. The trains with their shrill whistles, the clanking of the trams along the main road, the works' hooters, Gas Work's siren, Abbotts and school bells all became recognisable and you could set your clocks by them. All the churches had single bells but, by 1982 by means of new technology, St Johns have been able to achieve the sound of a carillon. Other more vocal sounds came from tradesmen calling their wares around the streets. The 'Coalman' with his horse and dray - he would deliver to your

cellar at about 1/1d cwt. 'Baker' delivering quarten loaves for 3½d. 'Milko', either with a horse-drawn float or hand barrow, coming round three times a day, serving from a churn or hand can and measuring your requirement straight into your jug, or leaving cans on your doorstep. Greengrocers would also come round, each with their own vocal efforts. The Muffin Man with his bell, and tray on his head. The Fishmonger with his 'Winkles, all fresh'. Dicky Duffel with his watercress. Wild Rabbit Joe, with rabbits each end of a pole on his shoulder, shouting his presence. The 'Rag-Bone' man doing his best to get something, and would probably give children a windmill on a stick for jam jars etc. As yet the motor car had made very little impression although they had horns. Cyclists had bells. But, as yet, the aeroplane had not arrived.

On the corner of Regina Road and Pluckington Place is the winter quarters of Beaches Fair family. Since 1900, after their rounds of fairs and fetes, all the equipment would be repaired and redecorated. It used to be all horses at first but, gradually, it has modernised with caravans and electricity. The Beach family were well respected and did quite a lot for charity. Most have died out now, but one still remembers the noise of the hurdy-gurdy –the large steam engine driving the roundabout, and the napalene lights, the swings and coconut shies — Southall's very own fair people.

1910-1920

Southall is still in the Uxbridge Parliamentary Constituency, and represented by:

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1910 -1911 J. Bigwood
1911- 1915 Hon S. T. Mills (Killed in action 1915)
1916-1918 Hon Arthur Mills (these were the sons of the Baron of Hillingdon)
1918-1922 Hon Sydney Peel
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Mr P I Hanson

Chairman of the Southall-Norwood Urban Council:

1910-1911

1710 1711	IVII I . E. Hunson
1911-1912	Mr W. J. Clements
1912-1913	Mr H. Harries
1913-1914	Mr G. S. West
1914-1915	Mr J. J. Wilson
1915-1916/7	Mr Culley (Labour)
1917-1918	Mr Harries
1918-1919	Mr A. T. Cantwell (Labour)
1919-1920	Mr G. Groundswell (Labour)

The Town Clerk was still Mr Lawrence Houlder; Surveyor, Mr Reginald Brown until 1919, Mr C. G. Else 1919-1920.

By this you will see that the Labour Party was gradually coming into the town's affairs. The Labour Party had formed a club with a club house just off the

Uxbridge Road, in 1921, and were gradually gaining members. Mr Whilesmith was the first Secretary and the HQ was a tin hut purchased from Hayes Arsenal. The present premises were opened in June, 1930. Mr Hamblin was Secretary for 21 years. The Labour Club of 1982 is proof in itself of progress made. Now known as Southall Labour Hall Club, it has parted company with the Political Labour Party which now has its Headquarters at the old Co-op Hall at the corner of King Street and Featherstone Road.

During the period 1910-20 the population increased from 25,000 1910 to 29,000. This again made necessary more schools. An addition to Tudor Road School made provision for 200 boys with Mr Reed (Gaffer) Headmaster in 1910. Western Road Girls' School, which was officially opened 27th October, 1911, with Miss Rixson as Headmistress, was built on a site on the right hand side of Western Road which had been purchased by the School Board in 1896. Mr Rolls was the first caretaker

By 1915 Beaconsfield Road School had been built but was not used as such until after the First World War.

Between 1915-16 part of the old North Road School was pulled down and a new one built at the rear, facing Meadow Road. This came into use after the summer holidays. Due to the war teachers were in short supply and Mr Bunce, the caretaker, had been called to the Services so the senior boys were often called on to do a great deal of the cleaning and maintenance.

In 1910 a then model bakery was built on the right hand side of the Uxbridge Road on the corner of Tudor Road, for Prices. Bread was retailed at 3½d for a 2lb loaf. Before an Act of Parliament was passed which stipulated that a loaf should weigh 2lbs, a loaf could be any weight. To comply with the law, until methods were changed, if a loaf was weighed and found light a piece of bread was added to make up. As the author remembers, this piece rarely reached home! In 1981 this bakery still exists but in the hands of Rank Hovis and MacDougall Group. The bakery closed down and, at the end of 1982, plans have been approved to build a four-storey hotel on the site.

Fires

By 1910 Southall Voluntary Fire Services had been gradually improving. They now had a Steam Horse-drawn Engine, and had as Chief - Mr Harry Willis and twelve trained men. Their services were very frequently called upon.

On January 31st, 1912 Robinsons Flour Mill at Norwood Bridge was destroyed by fire. Although great efforts were made to save it and plenty of water was available from the canal, nothing was saved of the mill, but Mill House was saved.

Nearly three years later on November 27th, 1914 a large Drapers Stores (Endicotes), situated at the corner of King Street and Western Road was destroyed by fire.

Again, about three years later, John Lines Wallpaper Works, situated on the Glebe Estate, Western Road, was burned down on the 2nd September, 1917 loss of £30,000.

Religious Progress

In 1909-10 the new St Johns Church was built on the right hand side of the Church Avenue on land which had been Elmfield House and purchased from Mr Gosney for £700 from the Bishop of London's Fund. Architect, C. J. Miller; Builders, Steven Bastow and Co., Bristol, at a cost of £8,800. It could seat 750. It was consecrated by the Bishop of London on 26th October, 1910.

The first meeting of the Congregationalists was held in a room of Mr H. Waton's Estate Office in 1911, but they purchased a site at the corner of Villiers Road and Park Avenue in 1912 and re-erected a corrugated iron church, brought from the Baptists, and services commenced with the Revd H. Lea Pla as minister. The church was opened on June 5th.

The Wesleyan Mission had received a very go-ahead new minister, Revd Broadbelt, in 1914 and he started to raise funds for a new hall. He was very successful, two of his benefactors being Eastmans of Acton and Ranks Flour Millers of London. What is now known as The Kings Hall' was built at a cost of £12,500 on land which they had purchased in 1904. It was opened on October 11th, 1916 by Sir Charles Wakefield, Lord Mayor of London. It is a very spacious building with entrance hall leading to the main chapel; round in shape with upstairs balcony. At the front, the organ and raised dais for choir, tip up seat. The caretaker's flat was over the entrance hall. Attached at the rear, besides small offices, was another small chapel, also two recreation halls. They organised a splendid choir under Mr Abbott, organist. The first caretaker was Mr Ayres. As soon as it was possible the committee at the hall organised concerts for Saturday evenings and some of the best brass bands and stage personalities engaged to entertain. Also, cinema shows for children Saturday afternoons for one penny. Over the years the accommodation at the rear has been used by the post office for extra sorting offices at Christmas-time and by the Technical School for classrooms. The ministers used 61 South Road as their Rectory.

Recreation

In 1911-12 two more cinemas were built. 'The Empire' on the corner of Northcote Avenue and the Uxbridge Road. Patterned on 'The Gem', it was a great attraction for a time but soon had competition, for 'The Palace' was built on the right hand side of the South Road by A. & B. Hanson, to hold' 300. 'The Empire' closed in 1916 but The Palace' was rebuilt in 1928, again by Hansons, to a design by Mr C. Cole, architect. It became a listed building on the 19th September, 1980. Before this it was taken over by our Asian friends and renamed 'The Liberty' in 1976. In 1982 it has become redundant as a cinema and plans are being made to turn it into an indoor market.

There were several bowling greens in the town and, in 1910, Southall Bowling Cup was inaugurated with a match between Southall and Jersey Greens were also at the White Swan, Northcote Arms, Plough, Norwood Green.

Southall Football Club had a very successful season in 1911, winning the Middlesex Senior Cup, Middlesex Charity Cup and West Middlesex Cup.

By 1910 Scouting had spread all over the country. The first Southall Troop, Lady Jersey's Own, was formed that year (more details Appendix 3) They were followed by troops at St Georges in 1911 and Holy Trinity in 1912. They all come under the, then, London Diocesan Boy Scout Corp

In 1913, in the Recreation Grounds, an Open Air Swimming Baths was built. 120 ft. long and 30 ft. wide, with water depths 6 ft. to 3 ft., 40 dressing boxes and attendant's room and layatories.

As stated earlier, Otto Monsteds had provided an Institute for the employees, and they encouraged every kind of sport and recreation. A small golf course had come into being on the right hand side of the Uxbridge Road next to the Park.

Civil Administration

For the first time in the history of Southall all four retiring Councillors Messrs J. H. Willis, W. E. Eburne, H. Harries and G. S. West — were re-elected' unopposed in 1911. What was to be a very good thing for the town, Mr Scarsbrook sold the Manor House and $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land to the Council on July 22nd, 1913 for £6,100 (more of the Manor House later). Forced into local Government Board enquiry which lasted five days, on December 19th 1913, the Council were ordered to erect 50 houses, but this scheme was subsequently held up owing to the war.

By permission of the Council, the Annual Competitions of the National Fire Brigade Union (South Midland District) were held in Southall Park, May 20th 1913. The official opening of the Conservative Club at Fairlawn Hall by Mr W. Joynson Hicks, MP for Brentford Division on January 19th, 1914.

Roads in the town were now getting a lot better and paths were paved and all houses were on main sewage. Dustbins supplied and emptied regularly. There was plenty of work, and the railway had started to run cheap excursions.

But what a great change was to come with the outbreak of the First World War on August 4th, 1914.

Norwood

Before proceeding further, maybe reference should be made to the Norwood area which, in point of fact, is a much older Manor than Southall. I have already recorded how the Manor of Norwood and Southall came under the Church of Canterbury. How St Mary's Church came to be. When the area was leased as two Manors, a Manor was possibly built adjacent to the church in what are now the grounds of Norwood Hall. However, no trace of this remains.

In 1481 John Peke, Master of the Ironmongers Guild, was Lord of the Manor of Norwood. In 1484 Thomas Grafton succeeded John Peke but, at some time within the next ten years, Robert Shoredycke — who already held the Manor of Southall at Dormers Wells - gained possession of the Manor of Norwood. Thus the link-up again of both Manors. The Awsiter family who bought the Southall Manor House in 1601 may have moved there from Norwood Manor House, but still retained a great interest in Norwood church, for in 1612 Francis Awsiter had a gallery erected in Norwood

Church. Such galleries were frequently used for the church orchestra and choir. In 1730 Joseph Biscoe became Steward to the Awsiter family and could have come to live in Norwood Manor House. He died in 1750. His son, Elisha Biscoe, had the school built but did not live in Norwood for long.

I have described the school previously but here are more details of how he left the school provided for. In his Will, when he died on 7th November, 1776 he left 16/a year for each child at the school for the Master and Mistress, £30 for each child for the provision of vitals and education per year, and £1 per child each Easter for clothes. The school closed down in 1954. Another benefactor of Norwood Church was Christopher Merrick who, in 1638, gave a new pulpit, a cushion and a pew for the minister. It was to his son, Francis Merrick, who was then living in Shepherds Haw (Southall Park) the Charter for Southall Market - on the 11th November 1698 — was granted.

Around The Green which was originally about 11 acres, are now very few survivors of the substantial residences built from the sixteenth century off onwards. Just off The Green on the south side is The Cedars, which had been known as the Dowager House. This has been kept in good repair. It takes its name from two splendid cedar trees in the grounds.

Norwood Hall still survives, now known as 'Unwins Estate' and has a very long history. The Norwood Rectory stands just off the road and Woodbine Terrace and Norwood Terrace lead to the old Plough. On the north side are two flat-fronted houses - The Friars and The Grange. There were several old cottages, Woodbine and Archway, then Birch the bakers with yard and bakery. A pair of cottages completed the north side. Alleyn Park Farm, which had quite a lot of land was on the west side and Bridge Hall, formerly the home of Mr Justice Spencer. But its final use was a hostel for men, opened during the First World War.

Just in The Green area two very old houses - 198 Norwood Road and the Priory. Let us now come into Norwood over the old canal bridge. On the left hand side almost on the bridge is The Lamb, built about 1830, a beer house with stables for barge horses and garden on canal side. It is recorded that Susan Wells and a Mrs Fletcher were licensees. In 1896 the rateable value was £13.0.0 per year. Mr William Wells had a dwelling-house butting on the canal. This, with stables and cowsheds, garden and two small meadows, had a rateable value of £17.0.0d per year.

Harewood Terrace, a row of 29 cottages built in 1876, lead off on the left hand side with Harewood Wharf at the end. Maws Stores and a small sweet shop are on the left of Wolf Green. Six more houses follow with one, Hibernia, a larger house which housed the village constable, and has two police cells built in. Next two thatched cottages, Rusticum; Frogmore and Gladstone Cottages, then Holly Lodge Laundry. The six almshouses were built in 1688 and rebuilt in 1814 by John Robins.

On the right hand side from the bridge, a road leads down to White House (The RSPCA Clinic), but was originally the home of Henry Dobbs who started a Vitriol Factory. He died in 1843. Houlders Chemical Company started here before moving to White Street. Lower down the same road was the home of the Goddard

family. They later moved into White House. The (Lorival) Battery Factory took over. Cullis Brickfield came next, but these gave way to Wolf Field allotments. Here there is a small green (Wolf Green) with Wolf Lane leading to The Wolf public House and stables, with the old public water pump on the green. In between 1875-99 the Licensee was Mr E. Daniels and the Brewers, Clutterbucks. The Lewis family had the licence for over 70 years. Four houses built in 1906 come next.

On the right hand side of Frogmore Green the Police Station was built on the old Police Pound in 1890. The Pound was moved to behind The Wolf. Frogmore Mansion which, in 1823, was occupied by a Mr Thomas Walton - he had a large estate stretching as far as the canal and, with stables, barns and gardens, had a rateable value of £69.18.101/2d.

We are now back at the green. The character of the area derives not just from the buildings but from the fine old elm trees which had been planted to a pattern some 200 years ago and with the pond (or Dutch Canal) in between them. Leading off to Heston on the left hand side, Willis and Henmans Dairy Farm, and going off past the church and Plough, Tentelow Lane (formerly Norwood Lane) with old Court Farm on the left and other cottages with White House and Christie Hansens Works on the right.

The lands of Osterley Park follow to Windmill Lane. We are now at the Three Bridges. Opposite is a large farm (Trumpers) which had its own Trumpers Halt Stop on the Brentford Branch GWR. The old windmill which once supplied bread to the area was sited nearby.

What has been written so far about Norwood briefly describes the area as it was at the outbreak of war in 1914.

War 1914-1918

The actual Declaration of War came about 4 o'clock on Bank Holiday Monday, August 4th, 1914. In those times there was no such thing as radio or wireless, and the news was spread over the country by telephone and newspaper.

The police had the job of delivering Calling Up Papers to reservists. The Local Middlesex Regt. Territorials were in camp at Seaford doing their annual training and, immediately, were sworn in for war service. There were only very few German nationals in the town and these were interned.

There was no such thing as Air Raid Precautions for, what aeroplanes both sides had were, as yet, not suitable. The Germans had Zeppelins — airships, one of which had been seen flying over the area early in May on a pleasure trip.

For the first few months no change was noticeable — one exception being that the public house on The Green changed its name from 'The Duke of Prussia' to 'The Victory'.

Gradually the local factories changed over to the war effort, Abbotts making ammunition boxes and hospital furniture. Ticklers Jam Factory and Kearley and Tonge received large army contracts. Women were gradually taking the place of the men who were volunteering. At the beginning of October the Royal Garrison Artillery, on its way to France, were billeted on the town for the night. The large guns were drawn into the market and the White Hart yard.

Although some things were getting in short supply, Christmas was very much as usual.

Early in 1915 the Marylebone School evacuated its pupils and was fitted out as an Australian Military Hospital. Hospital trains brought the wounded in. A great many had lost at least one limb. By the end of 1915 the newly built Beaconsfield Road School was also used as part of the hospital, and was connected at the rear by a covered way. There was always around 800 patients and staff. They became a familiar sight in the town. They were paid much more than our troops - from 6/- (30p) per day and, despite their handicaps, found their pleasures with quite a lot of the local people.

In November the Government accepted the offer of the Otto Monsted Institute for use as a Military Hospital. This was soon made ready, and the first wounded arrived in March. The hospital was under the direction of Dr Chill and Mrs Wentworth Taylor, Matron; it had a voluntary staff of VADs. From the time it opened until February 1919, 3,302 patients were treated; 2,508 were brought straight from France, and there were only four deaths. On Thursday, 23rd November, 1916, King George and Queen Mary paid a visit to the hospital and, later, had a tour of what was now the Maypole Margarine Works, under the guidance of Sir Charles Watson, Chairman of the Company, Money was always generously given and, when the hospital closed the surplus of £2,000 was divided equally between the local councils for hospital purposes.

Early in 1915 several Belgium refugees came to the town and were accommodated in South Road and Norwood Road, and the children went to local schools. Over in Osterley Park there was an Army Camp, also a Prisoner of War Camp. Stationed there at first was the ASC (Army Service Corps), and a familiar sight was solid tyred army lorries with drivers under instruction. Later the camp was taken over by Portugese troops. The German prisoners of war helped on farms and several used to go by lorry to a workshop at Mount Pleasant repairing boots. At times football matches would be arranged for them on Norwood Green.

With appeals from the Government, more and more land was being cultivated. Parts of the parks were turned into wartime allotments, and people were encouraged to keep pigs, rabbits and chickens.

As more men volunteered for the army, women began to take over most jobs. In 1915 a huge complex came into being just on the Hayes border of Cranford Lane — this became known as 'Hayes Arsenal'. It was a shell filling factory and women were drafted in from many places. The nature of the work turned the skin of some of the young munition girls yellow, so they got the nickname 'Canary Girls'. They were supplied with extra milk. Alas, there was to be a tragedy for, in September 1917, an explosion killed 28 women and injured several more.

Up to the end of 1915 army service was still by volunteering. 'Kings', *Southall Gazette* proprietors, loaned their two shops for a recruiting drive for the Middlesex Regiment; about 80 men joined up and, before leaving the town, were given a Civic Reception and bid God Speed by the Chairman of the Council. In less than three months 80% were either killed or wounded. In the churches almost every Sunday during the war the name of someone killed was read out and several major disasters commemorated.

The Brentford branch of the GWR was closed down except for military use. Food was becoming in very short supply and people began to queue for meat and groceries. This continued until 1917 when ration cards were issued.

Conscription came in 1916 and all men between 19 and 43 — later 48 —had to register. Although no bombs were dropped in Southall, aeroplanes were now being used and air raids began. When the alarm was received police would ride round on bicycles and use a rattle.

On April 25th, 1917 the Vicar of Holy Trinity Church for 27 years, Revd Henry Mills, died and, with the local clergy and choirs in procession, was buried in Havelock Road Cemetery. At various times there were military funerals at the cemetery — besides British, some German and Polish servicemen.

It became quite apparent that there would be a lot of local girls leaving for Australia and there were quite a few weddings of Australians to English girls. The Southall people did a great deal of social work for all branches of the Services.

At last the Armistice came and the town seemed to accept the end of the war very slowly. There was no celebration as, for quite a number, it was the beginning of hard times to come. Many of those who had been drafted into the town went home, whilst others had taken up residence. It would take time before the factories could get back to peacetime production, and this meant unemployment. Women began to give back their jobs to men coming back, but this was not always easy.

Early in 1919 the first steps were taken to form branches of the British Legion and the Old Contemptibles. A meeting was held at The Romans and they began to function in August. A hut at the rear of The Romans became the Club House; Standards were purchased and these were paraded at all appropriate occasions — the first time being when, in 1922, the Town Memorial was unveiled. Major White and Captain Bridges were very active officers and, together with Mr W. Bousfield, helped the branch to have the present Headquarters built in 1936/37. The builders were E. Plaistow and Sons. Captain Bridges carried on as Secretary until 1946. When in 1971 the Legion became the 'Royal' British Legion it was the Southall Branch Golden Jubilee and a new Standard was dedicated - Mr C. Mort the Standard Bearer – and the old Standard laid up. Mr Mort is now the Branch Chairman in 1982. Gradually, as must be, the Old Contemptibles passed on and they faded out in 1954.

During the Second World War a great deal was done to entertain all servicemen and their families, also use was made of their hall for classes in Civil Defence and First Aid. The Home Guard also received training there.

The Australian Hospital finally closed in April 1919. At the presentation ceremony of a captured German gun by the Australian Government, it was stated that, whilst the hospital was in operation, it had dealt with 20,000 cases.

Peace celebrations were held in Southall Park on July 10th, 1919. Things were beginning to get back to normal and, after Lt Quartermaster R. Martin acting for the Australian Government disposed of all surplus hospital property, the site was offered to the Southall Council for around £28,000 but they turned it down. In 1920 it was bought by the Catholic Authorities and became the St Josephs Girls' School with

Sister Mary Baptist the Superintendent. Meanwhile, staff and scholars who due to the war had been combined with Tudor Road School, at last - under Headmistress Miss A. Woodford and two staff Mrs Rigg and Mrs Jones - transferred on April 12th, 1920 to Beaconsfield Road Junior School. 140 children at first, increased to 200 within the year.

What had been a derelict site after the Coffee Tavern fire in 1887 was at last built on to become the Central Hall at the corner of Beaconsfield Road, with a caretaker's flat and offices over the entrance. It was always on hire for various functions. The Southall Brotherhood used to meet there. In later years it became a Bingo Hall with Betting Shop offices in the front. In 1981 the hall itself had become a Snooker Centre.

1920-1930

Southall is still included in the Uxbridge Parliamentary Constituency and the Hon Sydney Peel (Coalition Unionist) was our MP until 1922 when Commander C. D. Burney (Unionist) was elected. He served until 1929. A list of the Chairmen of the Southall Urban District Council from 1920-30 is as follows:

1920-21	Mr L. Jenkins
1921-22	Mr F. Snoden
1922-23	Mr W. G. Pope
1923-24	Mr G. H. Willis
1924-25	Mr J. Culley
1925-26	Mr A. Chard
1926-27	Mrs B. Chard (First woman)
1927-28	Mr F. W. Moss
1928-29	Mr F. W. Moss
1929-30	Mr C. Hutchings

Clerk to the Council — Mr A. Lawrence Houlder until 1924, and Mr Herbert F. Burwell to 1935. Surveyor, Mr J. B. Thomson 1920 to 1952. Medical Officer of Health, Dr Davenport Windle.

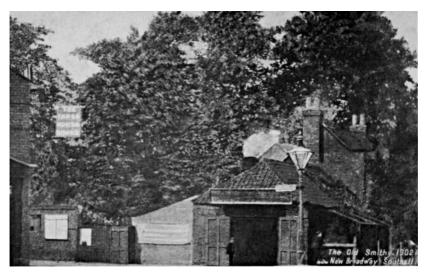
The Brentford branch of the GWR was again opened for passenger traffic on April 12th, 1920.

On Friday, January 9th, 1920 the 25th annual party of the employees of the Maypole Margarine Works was held with 1,100 employees having a good time. During the evening two bronze tablets were unveiled by Mr Otto Monsted. One was to commemorate the visit of King George and Queen Mary, the other to honour those employees who had been killed in action.

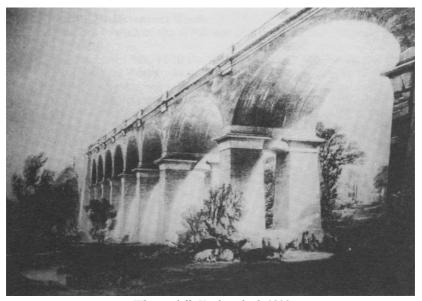
In 1920 the Council started to implement the order requiring them to provide council houses. A. & B. Hanson were contracted to build eight houses in Norwood Road, right hand side, to cost £420 each. These were occupied in August 1921. Another Southall farm was about to disappear — Etheringtons, North Road, was purchased and, together with an allotment site, began to be developed as a Council House estate.



St. Mary's Church,1790



Leggatts Forge, 1890



Wharnecliffe Viaduct, built 1838



Western Road, 1890



Part of old North Road School



First Featherstonr Road School, built 1890



First Salvation Army Headquarters



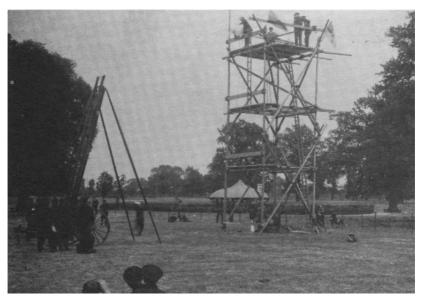
The Chestnuts, now Southall Hospital, 1930



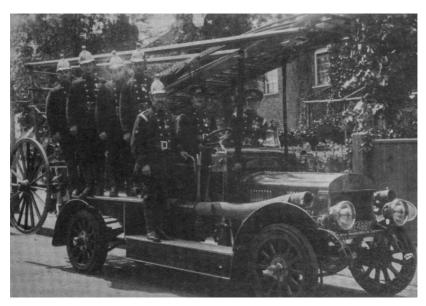
Rear view of The Chestnuts, The Green



Southall's first motor ambulance



Fire Brigade's competitions, 1912



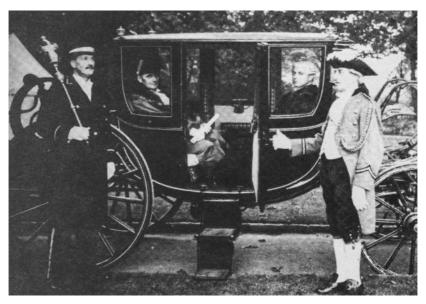
First motor fire engine, 'May', and crew, 1914



Captured German guns, 1919



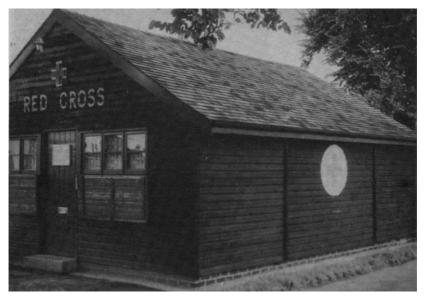
British Legion outing - Featherstone Hall in background



Charter Day, 1936



Digging for Victory, 1942



'Grren Door'- Red Cross HQ, 1956-72



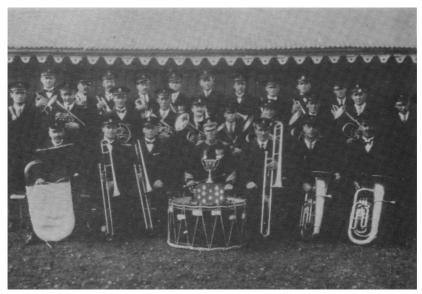
St John Nursing Division,, 1939



Mayor D. Neighbour with HMS Boreas plaques



Annual cricket match - Mr Llewis, 'The Bat', and Mr Clements



The Gas Works Band, 1934



The British Legion Band



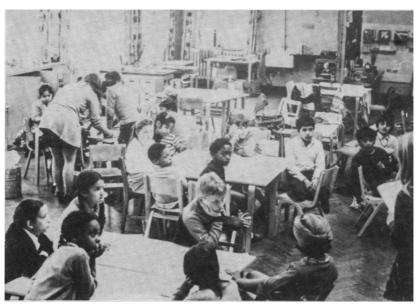
The Church Lads Brigade Band, 1912



Barn Mission - the Girls Life Brigade Band, 1957



Presentation at Beaconsfield Road by the Mayor and Mayoress, 1970



Beaconsfield Road School, 1970



'Waffers' retirement party



Featherstone, Freemasons Lodge



Mayor Dormer and Mrs Tomlinson at opening of Tomlinson School, 1952



 $Red\ Cross\ Centre, formerly\ Information\ Centre,\ South\ Road$



Garping Terrace, Western Road, 1950



Croxley Cottage, Mount Pleasant, built 1830

In February, the Featherstone Road School Monument Memorial to old boys who fell in the war, was unveiled by Field Marshall Sir W. Robertson. Each church had its own choice of War Memorial Scrolls installed and dedicated.

In Southall we were aware that things were not too good in Ireland but it came as a shock that Senn Fein sympathisers attacked Councillor J. Culley whilst he was at work in Southall Station Signal Box on the night of June 16th, 1921. Although badly treated he managed to prevent any interference with the signals.

A brand new school, St Anselm's Catholic next to St Anselm's Church, was opened on August 20th, 1921.

The Council began to seek suggestions as to the form of a Town Memorial. After much debate it was decided that a Cenotaph be erected. This would be on a site in Southall Green where the small cottages attached to the Manor House had recently been pulled down. Iron railings had been put up and a niche made to accommodate the Memorial. On April 8th, 1922, with suitable ceremony, it was unveiled by our MP - Hon Sydney Peel.

Before the Council started to build houses in North Road, Mount Pleasant had always seemed to be a small village on its own. Separated by fields, it had its own sub-Post Office, pub (The Beehive), two small general shops, and laundry. 'Hill House' was at the start of what was known as Muddy Lane which did go through to the Ruislip Road, Greenford and well lived up to its name. Leading off on the right hand side was Dormers Wells Lane, with a large allotment complex on the left hand side and, further round, Dormers Farm (Ewers) quite near to what was the home of Mr Harry Rowntree, the artist. With the golf links on the left and Southall Cricket Ground on the right, the lane joins the main Uxbridge Road. The population of Southall-Norwood in 1922 was 30,261.

Schools were frequently in the news. A Schools Dental Service started in 1921. The County School was already overcrowded and had to transfer two classes to Beaconsfield Road School September 1st, 1922. In 1922 the Headmistress of Tudor Road Junior — Miss Woodford -- was granted only £39 instead of the £91 asked for to provide a year's materials, so the staff and parents organised sales to help out.

Sport

In May 1924 Featherstone Road Football Team won the Daily Telegraph Cup. The school was always to the fore with most sports. The Council purchased Top Locks Playing Fields for the use of the schools; it had already been encouraging sport by providing tennis courts and bowling greens in the Southall Park and Recreation Ground, and at the Manor House gardens.

In 1927 Norwood Cricket Club celebrated its Diamond Jubilee. A Charity Cricket Match was played each year since 1900 between The Wolf and The Lamb public houses' customers on The Green - the prize being a 6ft cricket bat engraved with the winning side's name, which would hang in special brackets outside their pub. Although a new bat was made in 1938 the match fizzled out in 1963. Now, in 1982, with new landlords in both pubs, it is hoped that the match will be revived and, again, raise money for charity.

Southall Football Club, then in the Athenian League, had four very successful seasons, but the climax came in 1924-25 season when they reached the final of the Amateur Cup, meeting Clapton on Millwalls' Ground on April 18th - but lost 2 - 1. Junior football was much to the fore with quite a lot of Works and Youth Club teams in the four Dauntless Leagues.

There were three fishing clubs Southall, Working Men's Club and the Northcote - and they competed annually for the Southall Championship Shield. They were all affiliated to the London Angler's Association and used to compete in their competitions each year, but success did not come before the 1981-82 season, when they won the Championship. Southall beating the Duke of Wellington AC at Walton on Thames.

Industrial News

In 1922-23 a new Telephone Exchange was built in Cambridge Road - Contractors W. Halse (Woolwich) - and commenced to operate October 20th. Also, A. & B. Hanson built the large railway siding (Shipping Dept) on the left hand side of the Maypole Road. It was a splendid example of bricklayers' craftsmanship and was built to a winning design.

Kearley and Tonge and Le Grand-Sutcliffe had extended their premises and the Crown Cork (Apex Company) had taken over the old Phonophone ompany's factory at the end of Scotts Road.

At the end of the war a huge sale of army surplus, which included lorries, took place at Slough. Mr Webster and Mr Cross each started a cartage business in the town with lorries they had purchased. Mr Cross had a yard in Sussex Road and is still in business today, 1982, with a large business on the left side of the Uxbridge Road.

Late in 1925 it was announced that the Maypole Factory was to close. This was a great shock and came about due to changing business methods. After assessors had surveyed the factory it was found that it would be too costly to convert into the 'pre-packed era' and it occupied too much ground. The company gradually phased itself out over the next four years, dealing very sympathetically with its employees and finally closing in 1929.

By a strange turn of fate a site was bought in 1925 bordering on the left hand side of Windmill Lane, with the main GWR on the north side down to the canal on the south side. In 1926 the London General Omnibus Company's building staff began the erection of the AEC factory. This was the year of the General Strike — May — and after a short delay work was restarted; Mr S. Sharrod (General Foreman). The first part took about one year to build, unfortunately two men were killed and three seriously injured during the process. The Associated Equipment Company, which manufactured bus and motor chassis, moved from Walthamstow and, until its staff could find housing accommodation, employed several coaches to bring its staff to Southall each day. Production started at the end of September, 1927. At its peak and after great extensions (Wimpeys built a large extension in 1960 costing £430,000) it employed over 2,000 people. In 1961-62 it was taken over by Leylands and, in 1978, was closed down. The site was bought for a Great Western Industrial Park and, after clearing most of the buildings, a trading estate will develop.

Town Development

In 1924 an extension to Havelock Road Cemetery was consecrated by the Bishop of Kensington.

The new Norwood Bridge was opened on July 25th, 1925. Also in 1925, despite great efforts to save it, part of the west wing of the Manor House -which included the Clock Tower, together with the old Tithe Barn (over 360 years old) which had been the focal point of social meetings and, for a while the meeting place of Catholics for mass — was pulled down to make way for road widening in The Green.

At a meeting at the Kings Hall on May 13th, 1925 a Southall Hospital Committee was established. A new motor ambulance was already in use.

In 1926 the site of the Hortus Road Cemetery was purchased from the Maypole Company for £3,274. The Southall Station bridge widened at a cost of £21,700. Primitive Methodist Church (Western Road) celebrated its Golden Jubilee May 1926 (this was pulled down in 1960).

The Manor Way Council Estate was started in 1927. The new Southall Police Station was built in 1927. This was pulled down and the present one built 1975-76 - a fortress-like building, it was opened by Sir Robert Marks, QPM, Chief Commissioner, 25th November, 1976.

In March 1927 extensions to the Conservative Club included the Fairlawn Hall. This has been a great asset to the club.

The Salvation Army opened their No 2 Southall Citadel at the corner of Hambrough Road and Uxbridge Road. The Baptist Church extension opened in December 1928. HRH Princess Victoria opened the Parochial Hall in Allenby Road, Mount Pleasant, on October 12th, 1929. In November 1929 the Bishop of Kensington opened St Mary's Parish Hall, Norwood Green.

Southall was expanding rapidly. Land which had been used for timber storage on the right hand side of Norwood Road was developed to form Witley Gardens and Norwood Gardens. Several large houses were built in the Norwood Green area. In 1929 there came what was to be the biggest housing estate. Wimpeys of Hammersmith had bought Waxlow Manor Farm with 138 acres of land. During the next four years they built over 700 houses on what is known now as the Waxlow Estate. They built the roads and houses very quickly, putting the houses up for sale from £425 each, with £25 down as a deposit. Other developers were — Mr Guy who built Dormers Avenue and Waxlow Crescent on Hill House Estate; Browns of Chiswick, Stanhope Estate at the end of Allenby Road, and Bycrofts both sides of Lady Margaret Road. Most of these houses today, 1982, are selling for between £27,000 and £30,000.

The total rateable value in 1927 for the whole of Southall was £172,212.

The population, approximately 32,300 in 1927.

By the end of 1929 radio had come into being and most houses had a radio set and aerials began to appear on the houses. Near the Iron Bridge a large new garage had been built to cater for the increased motor traffic.

1930-1940

For Parliamentary Representation we are still included in the Uxbridge Constituency. Our MP until 1935 - Lt Col. J. T. Moore Brabazon (Con.); and until 1945 Col. J. J. Llewellyn (Con.). Population 1930 - 38,500. 1940 - 53,000.

Chairman of The Council

1930-31	Mr W. J. Spencer
1931-32	Mr J. A. Saxon
1932-33	Mr J. A. Saxon
1933-34	Mr C. F. Collins
1934-35	Major A. T. White
1935-36	Mr W. Garrod (Charter Mayor)
1936-37	Mr F. B. Hamblin
1937-38	Alderman G. Pargiter
1939-40	Alderman G. Pargiter

Clerk to the Council till 1935 Mr Staley Brooks. Surveyor, Mr J. B. Thomson and Medical Officer of Health, Dr Smithard.

In the early 1930s Southall, like all industrial centres, was hard hit by the recession. Despite the fact that there was road and house building on a large scale there was not enough work. There were large queues at the Labour Exchange in the King Street. This was made worse by workmen from the west of England and Wales coming into Southall in search of work. The Council started several jobs to create employment. The widening of Norwood Road which meant the filling in of the Norwood Green Pond in 1930; the making of an artificial lake and the re-siting of the bandstand in 1932; the conveniences at the Town Hall and the purchase of two houses in Shackleton Road to allow Lady Margaret Road to go through to Greenford.

Several people who had served the town well for a great number of years passed on - Revd Frank Roberts, Vicar of St Johns for 30 years, died on the 11th July, 1934; Mr J. J. Wilson, former schoolmaster and Council Chairman, died 23rd September, 1931; Mr Pollitt, first Headmaster of the County School, died 25th January, 1931 and Sir Benjeman Gotts, Secretary of the Middlesex Education Committee, died February 1933. Several more retired - Mr H. E. Burwell, Clerk to the Council for 44 years, in 1935; Miss Woodrow, schoolmistress for 28 years; Mrs Jones on the 30th October, 1936 after 39 years as a teacher (she was my first teacher at North Road School, then Miss Varney).

A great transformation took place in The Green between 1934 and 1936. What was locally known as 'Welsh's Folly' - otherwise Featherstone Hall, Dr Bailey's Private Asylum - was pulled down and A. & B. Hanson built the Dominion Cinema. It was right up-to-date with a splendid organ, ballroom upstairs with a cafeteria. It was officially opened on October 14th, 1935 by the late Gracie Fields. Thank goodness she cannot see it today - 1982. Shut down and dilapidated, plans are being made to pull it down.

Also in 1934 the oldest house in Southall - The Romans - was pulled down. No date can be fixed as to when it was built but it was there in the 1500s, Cardinal

Wolsey, who was a member of Henry VIII's Council, stayed there with a family named Lanfier. Childs, the banking family, who, by marriage came into the Earl of Jersey's family, came to live there, the last one being Ruth Child Romayne, a relation of Agatha Childs who occupied the Manor House opposite for a while. On December 1st, 1896 a Miss Hannaford died there; she had done quite a lot of good work both as a teacher and social worker for St Johns Church. In 1894 the Norwood Conservative Association held its 6th AGM there. The rateable value of the house, garden and sheds in 1896 was £27.0.0d. It is not quite certain but it seemed that a Major A. T. White could have resided there until it was pulled down. He took a great deal of interest in the town and was Council Chairman 1934-35.

In 1935-36 another cinema, The Odeon in the High Street, was built. After showing films for some years it was turned into a Bowling Alley and, for about three years, had a good club atmosphere, but falling membership eventually forced closure and now, in 1982, it is a furniture and household fittings stores.

On October 24th, 1931, a Greyhound Stadium was opened on the left hand side of Havelock Road. For several years it had a good attendance with three meetings a week but, gradually, it began to get a bad reputation and, eventually, closed in the sixties. It was sited where the Havelock Road Schools are now.

The town was still rapidly expanding and in 1933 the Catholic authorities sold part of the land of St Joseph's School on the right hand side of South Road, and Wates then built the housing estate - St Joseph's Drive, Beatice Road.

Two more blocks of shops were built each side of the Uxbridge Road. On the south-west side of the town a large estate was being developed by the General Housing Company. This was the Glebe Estate, stretching from Western Road to the railway - Derley Road, Greenland Crescent and all that area.

The old White Hart in the High Street was pulled down in 1934. Set well back from the road it still serves its purpose on Market Day, but now it has room for cars in front, not coaches at the rear. Several more public houses were rebuilt and all now are fully licensed. In 1935 two more were built - The Scotsman in Scotts Road and The Seagull in Lady Margaret Road, followed by The Lady Margaret in 1937.

Between 1933-35 the Middlesex County Council constructed the new Greenford Road and, at the same time, shut the entrance to the old Greenford Road under the Iron Bridge. To make the entrance to the new road they had fill in and reinforce part of Springdale Dip. This left a large hole on the right hand side. This is where the Greenford Hotel now stands. It had to be built on concrete stilts and rafts.

In 1935 Labour took control of Southall for the first time, appointing a Labour Councillor Chairman on all committees. An addition was added at the rear of the Town Hall at a cost of £555 to accommodate increasing staff. Dr E. C. Smithard became the first whole-time Medical Officer of Health.

After much delay, the two houses and piece of land in Shackleton Road were purchased and this allowed Lady Margaret Road to go through. The first part of the Quaker Oats Factory, The Mill, was built on the west side of Glade Lane in 1936, and the large part of the factory was started on March 27th, 1937.

Two parks were opened on the north side of Southall, Durdans Park of nearly 25 acres and Jubilee Gardens. A Branch Library, costing £10,000 to build and equip, and other buildings and works there cost another £13,000. Also, on July 24th, 1937 Lord Faringdon officially opened Southall Municipal Sports Ground at Spikes Bridge. This has a splendid running track with dressing-rooms, showers and cafe.

In August, 1937 the Borough purchased the West Middlesex Golf Course. Both County Councillors, Mr J. Scott and Mr G. Pargiter were re-elected. Mr E. Hamblin, Councilor, opened the new Odeon Cinema on the 16th August, 1936. Mr Alfred Hanson, who had been valuation officer of the Rates Department for years retired September 30th, 1937.

On the night of 29th October, 1937 fire destroyed the Metropolitan Film Studios in Gladstone Road. These had been going for some years. Among other films made there, most of comedian Will Hay's were produced there and in them it was easy to pick out places in Southall used on location.

A tragedy occurred in The Green on the 28th November, 1937 - Mr George Waddington was knocked off his bicycle and fatally injured. He had been a Councillor for a number of years and had served on many committees. He had many business interests in the town. His wife also had served as a Councillor.

On March 6th, 1934 the Southall Norwood Gardeners' Association was formed at a meeting in Beaconsfield Road (this is now the Southall Horticultural Association with a membership in 1982 of 500). An extension to the Southall Technical College was opened by Mr Alfred Clark, Chairman of Electrical and Musical Industries Limited, on November 30th, 1934 and Mr Harry Rowntree opened Dormers Wells School, built at a cost of £30,000, on December 7th - Headmaster, Mr Eburt.

What a difference now in 1936 when coming into Southall from the Brent Bridge. The road is wider and in good condition. There is no change on the left hand side to the Iron Bridge although a large new Nursing Staff Home has been added at the asylum and, on the Iron Bridge, there is a large advertisement which points the way to AEC, makers of London's buses. On the right hand side is Brent Meadow with adjoining Wharncliffe Allotments. Houses facing the main road are part of the Whamcliffe Estate being developed. Next comes the Hanwell Bus Garage. This was built in 1924-25 to take 120 buses and extended in 1930. It was not until July 12th, 1950 that the name was changed to Southall Garage. In November 1924 all buses terminated previously at Hanwell Broadway, came on to the new garage.

George Cross, cartage contractors which started in Sussex Road, has now established a new business next to the garage. A small coffee stall brings us to the bridge. On the left hand side we now have the Iron Bridge Garage, built for Mr Charles Abbott. It was totally equipped to do all car repairs and servicing and dispensing of petrol at 1/3d (61/2p) to 1/6 (71/2p) per gallon. The Allied Building Estate has built the houses facing the main road to Green Drive and back to the railway, with Lyndhurst Avenue, with the water mains down the middle and railway arch at the end. After the park the next change is that the old Market House has gone

and, in its place, well set back for road widening, the new Odeon Cinema and three shops.

There are now shops to Hambrough Road and the No 2 Salvation Hall.

Under the Iron Bridge on the right hand side is now the new Greenford Hotel with the Greenford Road leading off on the right. The entrance to the Greenford Road under the Iron Bridge was sealed off, and a Timber Yard established there.

Although the West Middlesex Golf Course follows down to Dormers Wells Lane, Mr Abbott had found room to have a Service Garage built. Down in the hollow - the house 'Springdale' - Mr Abbott has established a Social Club and Tennis Courts for his garage employees. Also, on the verge, is one of the old pumps which used to supply water for the water carts.

A large house now stands at the corner of Dormers Wells Lane and the Uxbridge Road. Longford Avenue had several large houses. Wimpeys have built now on the old Red Lion field and, in order to get planning permission, had to demolish two houses in Burns Avenue to create access by making Waverley Road. You then find 'Melrose' and Mr S. A. Abbott's 'Chestnuts', Holy Trinity Rectory and Church carrying on to the new police station, rebuilt, standing back from the road, but the old shops have gone and the new offices of Abbotts (now 'Abbess') are in their place.

The rebuilt George and Dragon with the 'New Hall' still on the pavement edge brings us to the Town Hall (Council Offices) with Fire Station attached. It now had a glass canopy and conveniences.

Lady Margaret Road now goes right through to the Ruislip Road, Greenford. It is the longest road in Southall. There are now shops until we reach Tudor Road. Two new roads, St Georges Avenue and Dane Road. The remains of Southall Valve Factory destroyed by fire causing £10,000 damage in October 1931 brings us to Hayes Bridge.

Bus Transport

As I have mentioned previously, two Southall companies did start to run horse buses from Southall to Hounslow between 1904 and 1913 but these were withdrawn because they were not financially successful. Although the first motor buses came into use around 1908, the first buses came to Southall on Wednesday, 14th April 1923, when route 17B - London Bridge to Southall Town Hall — came into existence, and on Sundays, 12C - Hither Green to Southall Town Hall fare 1/7d (8p). These were operated by the LGOC but they sparked off a rush of what was termed 'Pirate' buses - Cambrian, Eclipse, Commonwealth, Kings, New Era - all independent operators. Their routes extended into London — Liverpool Street to Southall Station, 17L and 170B; Forest Gate to Southall Town Hall, 17C; Cambrian, Liverpool Street to Norwood Road, 286, Barking and Norwood Road, 223. Cambrian final route was the 549 Stoke Newington to Southall, Western Road, before they were purchased by the LGOC on January 25th, 1926.

The rebuilding of the Station Bridge 1925-26 forced a lot of the buses to turn at the Railway Hotel. On January 27th, 1926 route 120, commenced from Southall to

Feltham, and this route is still in use today, 1982, but now terminates at Hounslow Heath. As the Wolf Bridge had also been rebuilt double decker buses came into use in December, 1926. In 1925 the 'pirates' decided to amalgamate and form the London Public Omnibus Company. This company was eventually taken over by the LGOC in December, 1929. This was the year that the first buses to use the Greenford Road commenced with route 247, Kings Cross to Hanwell Garage.

In 1933 the London Passenger Transport Board came into being and, as Southall has grown, the bus services have been routed to cater for the new estates, so today we have five bus routes - 105, 105A, 195, 232, 120 which serve Heathrow Airport, Hayes, two routes to Hounslow; the Waxlow Estate to Greenford and Yeading. None go further into London than Shepherds Bush. Route 83 - Golders Green to the new King Edward Hospital, and route 92 - Southall Garage to Mount Vernon Hospital via Greenford Road actually operate from Southall but away from the town. Of course we have the buses 207 which serve the main road to Hayes, Hillingdon and Uxbridge. Also the Green Line bus coaches are routed through the town going to Gerrards Cross and High Wycombe. The 89 night bus to London Bridge terminates at Brent Road -- a one and a quarter hour service.

Industrial Growth

In 1932 Angus Watson came and occupied part of the Maypole Works which had been empty since 1929. They used the institute for office purposes. About the same time a large piece of land, which had been orchards and playing fields, at the rear was sold to the Canadian firm Quaker Oats who built a large works. This has been extended several times and, in 1982, is the area's largest employer. A large fire in 1980 destroyed some warehouses but these have been rebuilt and Prince Charles visited the works on April 29th officially to open them. Several other firms moved in using part of the Maypole's ground - Steel Radiators, and the Cramic Engineering who had expanded from Western Road; United Elastic Limited; Malga Creamery. After three years Angus Watson gave way to Poulton and Noel who, again, made way for Batchelors Peas these were all in the Lever Brothers group of companies. Norwood Farm Dairy had established a depot bottling milk and distributing centre in Havelock Road.

By 1936 all horse transport had gone and most business people had their own motor transport. Two of the largest motor transport contractors were Moores Furniture Removals and H. Brands who were also Scrap Metal Merchants. Sims and Bowdens, special furniture makers, came to Scotts Road. Two big Builders Merchants, Broads in Park Avenue and Wiggins and Sankeys at Hayes Bridge. Wimpeys had established a large depot in Lancaster Road. There were four laundries, Holly Lodge, Frogmore Green; Corbiere, Oswald Road, Scotch Thistle, Regina Road and the largest Southall Economic, Norwood Road. They have all now closed, the last to go was the Southall Economic in 1973 after 48 years. During the Second World War they had the contract for the laundry of all the United States Forces stationed in the area.

A great many Southall people used to work in Hayes. There were several large factories there - HMV, Nestles, British Electric Aolean Piano Works to name just a few. Also, on our southern border, Heston aerodrome was taking shape but, as yet, aeroplane noise hardly noticeable. It was here that Mr Neville Chamberlain landed from his visit to Hitler in Munich and waved the signed agreement pledging 'Peace in our Time' on 31st September, 1938.

Like the rest of the country Southall became aware that another war was a possibility and, at the end of October, 1938, orders were issued for everyone to attend at various centres to be fitted with gas masks. They had been brought from London stores by the St John Ambulance Brigade, just enough for all to be registered for size. Also, in 1938, a start had been made on a new Civic Centre. Having purchased part of the St Joseph's School on the right hand side of South Road, a start was made on a contract worth £83,000, by Dove and Co.; a very extensive cellar complex had almost been completed when the work was stopped by the outbreak of war. These were used by the ARP.

A telephone system was installed and manned 24 hours a day ready to deal with any emergency. Stocks of various kinds of tinned food and gas masks and first aid equipment was accumulated. These cellars were all that was built, for, after the war ended, the plan was scrapped and they were sealed off for several years but, in 1981, plans have been approved for them to serve as a nuclear bomb fall-out shelter. The whole site is now occupied by the new Hambrough School, opened in 1981.

In 1935 it was costing £81,493 a year to run Southall. Besides this £96,466 went to the Middlesex County Council and to the Police £15,083. The town's loan indebtedness was £828,759 - £17.15.1 d per head of the population. This was more than double what it was in 1925. The rateable value of the district was £338,376 and a penny rate produced £1,370. The net amount raised by the rate of 10/4d in the pound was £169,880, equal to £3.12.9d per head of population. This compared with £3.0.6d in 1930, and the net expenditure was £193,381.

Town Affairs

The population in 1938 was 51,560 and the rates were 12/3 in the pound.

Mr T. G. Tickler, whose Jam Works were renowned for the First World War 'Plum and Apple', had himself done great service in the town and had been a Parliamentary candidate, died on January 19th, 1938, aged 85. Also, on the 26th December, 1938, Mr R. W. Baxter died at South Lodge, aged 82. The Baxter family had lived in the neighbourhood for well over 150 years and Mr R. W., together with Mr Gosney, had quite a lot to do with how Southall developed. He was a Councillor for several years and Chairman of the SNUDC 1903-4.

The Council passed tenders for new relief Northern and Southern Sewers costing $\pounds67,\!410.$

The new Head Post Office and Sorting Houses at the corner of Beaconsfield Road and South Road were opened on July 6th, 1938 by Sir Walter Wormersley, Assistant Post Master General.

In December, 1938 a very different kind of retirement took place. 'Dolly', a faithful old dray horse who had served the Council well for over 17 yearss, was sent to well earned Green Pasture to end her days.

Dr Glass, the first woman appointed Medical Officer of Health, took up her duties on April 1st, 1939 and served until 1956. In February 1939 a proposal to build a Crematorium off Glade Lane was passed by the Council. The war cancelled this.

Lady Margaret Road School was built in 1938 at a cost of £60,000, and officially opened on March 15th, 1939 by Mr Gerald Barry, Editor of the Daily Chronicle.

Mr Alfred Hanson, Rating Officer for over 22 years, died on February 24th, 1939, aged 63. Another Council employee, Mr J. Stearnes — Havelock Road Cemetery Curator for 20 years - died on April 1st, 1939. He was a at Churchman and Chairman of Southall Football Club.

Southall Becomes a Borough

Members of the Urban District Council collected all the relevant statistics and these were presented to the Inspector appointed to consider the claim to Borough status. This was granted, one of a few granted before King Edward VIII abdicated.

The business people came forward - and the Mace was presented by the AEC, Mayor's Chain by Gas, Light and Coke Company; Mayor's Chair by Quaker Oats Company; Mayor's Robes by Mr H. Tickler and the Deputy Mayor's Robes by the Earl of Jersey.

Mr George Cressey stage managed the Charter Celebrations which were held on September 24th, 1936. Alderman Forrester Clayton, JP, handed the Charter to Charter Mayor, Mr W. Garrod; Deputy Mayor was Mr C. P. Abbott, Mace Bearer, Mr Bird; Town Clerk, Mr Staley Brookes. Celebrations carried on during the next week with a Service, which should have been held in Southall Park on Sunday, September 27th but due to bad weather was transferred to the new Odeon Cinema, conducted by the Bishop of Kensington.

The name 'Norwood' was dropped but survives still as the better part of the town south of the canal. One of the first official duties of the Mayor was to open the new stand and club rooms on the west side of Southall Football Ground on Saturday, October 10th, 1936, when Southall played Chelsea Reserves. These were later destroyed by fire.

In November 1936 the trams, after 34 years, were replaced by the then up-to-date trolley buses. These had the great advantage of being able to drop the passengers on to the path.

Several changes were also taking place in the Norwood area - a local gentleman presented the piece of land at the rear of Frogmore House and the Police Station (now Wolf Fields) to compensate for the loss of common land taken from Frogmore and Norwood Green for road widening. This is now well maintained with tennis courts and bowling green. The two thatched cottages (Rusticum) have gone and a large Rusticum Garage is on the site. Two factories have been built just over the

bridge on the right hand side. Some cottages have been pulled down and Wimborne Avenue and all that area, which had been the grounds of Norwood Hall and stretched back as far as Tentelow Lane, was bought by Warren and Woods. The houses built are of a very good type of residential property with plenty of garden area. The roads are all named after places in Dorset.

On the right hand side of the green the land, Alleyn Park area, was bought by the General Housing Company and Thorncliffe Road put through to North Hyde. At that end of the road is now a large school, which comes under Hounslow Borough.

Norwood Green Residents Association celebrated its Golden Jubilee in 1982. A fine booklet with the title *A Story of Norwood Green* was published, dedicated to Mr Whitney Willard Straight, CBE, MC, DFC, who was President of the Association from 1951 until his death on the 5th April, 1979. The family lived at 'The Aviary' in Windmill Lane and at all times took a great interest in Norwood Green activities. The booklet, with a wonderful number of old photographs, was the work of Miss May Barnett, helped by the Library.

1939-45 War

When the Second World War was declared on Sunday, 3rd September, 1939, like the rest of the country, blackout regulations came into being and police and, later, Air Raid Wardens made sure it was carried out. Already auxiliaries for the police and fire service had been recruited. All business premises had to organise fire watchers and all roads made their own arrangements to safeguard their homes. Gas masks had to be carried but, thank goodness, they were never required. Major Lewer was appointed Chief of all emergency arrangements.

Reinforced air raid shelters were built in various parts of the town and, as they became available, Anderson Shelters were distributed so that individual households had them in their gardens. Much later the new Morrison Indoor Shelters came. Southall expenditure on ARP during the year up to March 31st, 1940, which included the first seven months of the war, was £111,328.15.7d.

At the outbreak of the Second World War all schools were temporarily closed until safety arrangements were made. If the schools had cellars, these were reinforced, if not, some classrooms were prepared as air raid shelters. After the first shock of the war receded and, due to what became known as the 'phoney period' - September 1939 to September 1940 - a very quiet time, schools carried on almost as usual, each doing practice in gas alert drill, and when the air raid siren sounded perfecting the quickest methods of getting the children to the shelters, and keeping them suitably occupied while they were there.

A sad tragedy highlighted the voluntary evacuation of children. Four children from Clifton Road School, who were on their way to relatives in Canada; were drowned when the evacuee ship City of Benares was torpedoed and sunk by the Germans.

Several premises were taken over for ARP work - Crosbie House, Osterley Park Road; The Grange and the St John Ambulance First Aid Station in The Green;

the Manor House and grounds; Vine Cottage, Park View Road which was used as a half-way house for bombed-out people from London in 1941; Hartington Road Hall was used as a Communal British Restaurant.

It was in 1940 that the seed was sown resulting in the formation of a detachment of the British Red Cross in Southall. They combined with the St John Ambulance packing parcels for prisoners of war at the Drill Hall in Featherstone Road. A classroom at Featherstone Road School was converted to a kitchen in 1943 and, before the end of the war, over 900 children from all schools south of the Borough were being fed.

The rates were increased by 3d in 1939, to stand at 12/6d (62½p) in the pound. The Maypole Institute plus 2.83 acres of land were purchased for a Community Centre May 1939. On May 25th, 1940 the Institute became the Headquarters of the ARP, moving from The Grange.

By 1940 the war was beginning to make itself felt. Several people had been fined for breaking the blackout. Rationing had begun and Councillor Hutchings had been appointed meat allocator. Wartime allotments were made of all spare land and Mr B. Gale, Parks Superintendant, in co-operation with the Southall Horticultural Association were giving lectures and demonstrations on how to cultivate them. Air raid sirens sounded from both Police Stations and another one was erected next to the police box at the corner of Western Road. The Council bought the Southall Football Club Ground in February 1940 at a cost of £5,060.9.0d.

The population in 1940 was 52,400. Rates 14/- (70p) in the pound, despite which the Southall Loan Debt was £984,509. Mr W. Staley-Brookes resigned from the office of Town Clerk after five years, with an appointment to Walsall and Mr M. Lindsay Taylor took his place. Mr S. E. Hewitson became the first full time Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade at a salary of £350 per year. This was on the retirement of Mr Albert Smith who had served the Brigade for forty years. Several presentations were made to him, including a gold inscribed wrist watch from the firemen. Councillor G. Reed died on the 27th March, 1940. He was the retired Tudor Road schoolmaster.

Each week the local Gazette featured weddings of servicemen marrying whilst on leave, and, as in war, casualties began to be published, one of the first was Lieutenant Burridge, son of the Mr E. J. Burridge (Southall's Relieving Officer for several years), killed in action.

In the first four months of 1940 the town's National Savings amounted to £124,620. But it was not all gloom - all organisations were doing their best to boost morale. Parties and concerts were held and the new Locarno Dance Hall and Skating Rink in Gladstone Road, which had taken the place of the old Film Studios, became very popular.

In May 1940 the town again welcomed Belgium refugees - 250 arrived and found a warm welcome. The Mayor started the 'Spitfire Fund' at the beginning of September and when the fund closed £728.13.3d had been collected. An appeal for all the scrap metal was made and the three German guns which had been presented to the

British Legion, and the one presented by the Australians, were given over to be made into war weapons.

The Council gave permission for people to keep rabbits and chickens and themselves set up a pig farm at the old sewage site at Wyke Green. Another was started by Mr G. Robinson at the old Martinware factory in Havelock Road which he had purchased.

The DFM awarded to Leading Aircraftsman K. G. Richards was the first Honour to come to Southall.

In November Alderman F. G. Smith was elected Mayor for 1941.

Just over the border the North Star in North Hyde Lane closed 29th May, 1940 and the newly built North Star opened on the corner of Thorncliffe Road and Heston Road.

The first London bombing was on the 24th August, 1940 and the London Blitz on September 7th, 1940. The sound of the air raid sirens became more frequent and, on the night of September 28th, bombs dropped at North Road School causing damage, shutting the school for six weeks. On 15th October a bomb fell on an outside shelter at Tudor Road School causing a great deal of blast damage, but no casualties, which closed the school for six months.

A large hut had been erected in Southall Park, adjacent to Green Drive, which was used for fire bomb disposal practice. This hut was to be known later as the Green Door, becoming the HQ of the British Red Cross, Southall Section in 1956.

Southall had one or two very important targets for the German bombers and how lucky we were that most of the bombs dropped were near misses. One of the targets was the Hanwell Viaduct. This was guarded against saboteurs and was narrowly missed by bombs which fell, one on the golf links and one in the Uxbridge Road. The AEC escaped but near by bombs dropped on Hanwell Asylum boiler house and another at the end of Green Drive.

In 1941 bombs dropped in Cambridge Road and destroyed Woolworth's and some shops in the High Street. It was thought that the big gasometer was a guide for the bombing attacks on the gas works. Had the railway bridges been hit, Bailey Bridges were on hand for erection.

There were several daylight raids, one of which caused damage in the Lady Margaret Road and another enemy aircraft came low enough to spray the area with bullets.

In 1944 the Germans were using what became known as 'Doodlebugs' (a flying bomb). On a Sunday afternoon in June 1944 one fell and destroyed the old Rectory at Norwood. Another, on August 29th 1944, destroyed a number of houses in Adelaide Road. Several more ordinary bombs and incendiaries were scattered about the town. They were very effectively dealt with by the ARP. Casualties were very light, but there was some loss of life.

1942 with the townspeople getting used to the air raid sirens, every effort was being put into the war. An order was made that all iron railings were to be made available and that all waste paper be collected. The Council had served over 100,000

meals in the Borough Cafes, and this was to be increased by opening more halls so as to be ready to serve 1,400 per day. Mr F. J. Lever was appointed Assistant Chief Warden, salary £300 per year. On the 9th January, 1942 Councilor Harry Willis died, aged 78. He was a Councillor for twelve years, Chairman 1908-9. He served in the Fire Brigade for 20 years, becoming Chief after retirement of Mr Abbott. He was a builder and well connected with the Kings Hall.

The Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor and Mrs Amos, launched a Warship Week, March 21st to 28th, the object was to raise £400,000 to adopt the destroyer Boreas. They organised a procession through the town with the Royal Marines and Life Guards Bands taking part. Petty Officer D. J. Morris, DSM, the town's first naval man to be decorated, opened the fund. By the end of ten days £477,174 had been donated and, with the ship adopted, funds were collected for comforts for the crew. Up till April 1942, 250,000 parcels for prisoners of war had been despatched by voluntary workers of St John and Red Cross Committee.

The Council passed plans for a dairy and sterilisation plant for the Norwood Farm Dairy in Havelock Road, where now stands the Temple. The Brentford branch closed on the 4th May, 1942 and, since that time, has only been used for freight. Also in May 1942 the first mention in the Council Chamber regarding prefabricated houses. Featherstone Terrace was declared a clearance area.

At the end of August all men born in 1893 had to register (48 years old). Milk rationing was introduced. There were 2,379 allotments and more were planned. Southall lost the chance of having its name put on military tanks - they fell short of the National Savings Target. Alderman Dave Neighbour was elected Labour Mayor for 1943.

1943

By this time the town had settled down to war conditions. On the 31st January, at a meeting at the Kings Hall, the plaques were handed over completing the town's adoption of HMS Boreas. Vice Admiral Gordon Camphill, VC, accepted on behalf of the ship. The town's one is still on the right hand wall of the Town Hall.

On February 1st the Fairlawn Hall was taken over by the Fire Service.

The total rate income was £700,382. Rateable value of the town £419,320. Rate 14/2d. A penny rate would produce £1,599.

Councillor G. Harris died 15th February. Councillor for six years, Councillor, J. Hill, died 4th May. He was on the Council for 17 years. He was in business as a newsagent both in Regina Road and Western Road. The MOH, Dr Grundy, was called up to the RAMC in April.

Great efforts were put into a 'Wings for Victory' Savings Drive and £532,805 received. More and more local men reported killed in action and news received that several were prisoners of war. Several more honours had been won. Lieut. G. M. Jensen had won the George Medal.

After 30 years service with schools, Miss Alder retired as Headmistress of Dormers Wells Senior Girls School. Councillor J. M. Sturgeon was elected Mayor for 1944.

1944

Our MP was still Col. J. J. Llewellyn and the rates were still unchanged at 14/2d in the pound.

The HMS Boreas was transferred to the Greek Navy and renamed Salamis and, late in the year, Southall adopted HMS Duckworth.

Schoolchildren were still being evacuated and casualties and honours were in every edition of the Gazette. The main War Saving event was the 'Salute the Soldier' Week. This was opened by Major-General J. Buckley on Saturday, 1st April and, in eight days, the target of £500,000 was exceeded by £37,369. This would be enough money to fit out a Brigade of the Middlesex Regiment. The Plaque to commemorate this achievement was handed over by General Sir Charles Bonham Carter at the Kings Hall on December 2nd. By the end of 1944 Southall War Savings were nearly £5 million

The hospital committee purchased 3½ acres of land at Norwood Green for a new hospital, with the idea of the present one becoming a maternity wing, but this has never been carried out.

Mr C. Butcher retired as Head Postmaster after six years at Southall, 41½ years service with GPO Mr W. Pursey was his replacement.

Mr E. J. Burridge, 32 years Relieving Officer for Southall, died on 3rd October, aged 67. County Councilor J. Scott elected Alderman and Mr W. Haigh elected County Councillor in his place. On June 6th Mr W. W. Unwin of Norwood Hall died, leaving Estate valued at £153,759. On December 22nd the County Council bought Norwood Hall and 19 acres of land at a cost of £13,000.

The St John Ambulance purchased a new ambulance at a cost of £800. Miss F. M. Gibbs, a founder member of the Nursing Division - secretary for 18 years - was created a Serving Sister of the Order of St John. She was Treasurer of the joint organisation of Red Cross and St John, dealing with prisoner of war parcels.

The Annual Cricket Match on Norwood Green in 1944 resulted in a win for The Wolf and raised £18.10.0d for Southall Hospital.

Receiving an urgent order from the War Ministry the Cramic Engineering Company feared that, due to shortage of labour, it could not be done in time, 33 boys from the Technical School volunteered to help and the job was completed.

Seven flying bombs in all hit Southall, killing two, injuring 80 and damaging 3,482 houses.

At the request of the Council, representatives of several Women's Organisations went to the Tate Gallery to inspect a prefabricated home and were most favourably impressed. In December Southall was allocated 200.

Councillor Marks, F. G., appointed Mayor for 1945.

Mr Gale, having retired as Parks Superintendant, Mr Collier was appointed, with Mr Morse as Deputy. With Headquarters in Havelock Road they were responsible for the re-laying out of the Manor House grounds after the war. Both did a wonderful job with making flower beds in the parks and laying out several new sports arenas. When amalgamation with Ealing took place in 1965 they both took

sections of the new Ealing Borough open space to look after under Chief Supt Mr Hilton and retired in 1968.

On January 19th, 1946 the death was reported of Mr C. C. Stone aged 76. He had been general foreman for A. & B. Hanson for several years and had supervised the building of several of the most important places in the town, one of which was the Maypole Railway Siding, Bridge Road, which gained high awards for its excellent brickwork.

Alderman W. H. Hopkins appointed Mayor 1947.

1945 was to see Southall become a Constituency and, on the first polling day - July 5th - the 78,652 electors cast their votes:

Labour	Mr Walter H. Ayle	37,404
Conservative	Col. G. G. Baker	13,347
Liberal	Lt-Col. Wakefield	7,598
*****	201000	

With a Labour majority of 24,000.

Our County Councillor, George Pargiter, was elected MP for the Spelthorne Division.

The war was still taking its toll of local men. News came through that several men who had been prisoners of war in Japanese hands had died, and others lost in bombing raids over Germany. But at last came Victory. Germany had surrendered and there was great celebrations on VE Day, May 8th, with a Town Service in Southall Park on the 20th May - 4,000 in attendance. These celebrations were repeated with much more enthusiasm when, with the Japanese collapse, VJ Day arrived. Street parties, firework displays, and a big show in Southall Park. Local men began to arrive back from POW camps and publication was given to who had been awarded honours. Several Military Medals. DFC to Pilot Officer William Bentley; DSC to Lt. P. Hughes, son of Revd Hughes, Kings Hall; DSM to Telegraphist E. J. Peart.

Gradually all the auxiliary services were disbanded, each holding its own party. It was disclosed that the POW Packing Centre had despatched 924,878 parcels.

Other local news - The County rate increased 1/0½d in the pound, and local rate up by 1/4d in the pound. Three ex-Mayors expelled from the Labour Party for refusing to abide by group decisions. A start made to get prefabricated houses erected on the Golf Links Estate. Thanksgiving Week total £351,748.

First mention of a school on Western Road allotment site. Borough election - Labour win 10 out of 14 seats. General George Carpenter, Chief of the Salvation Army, visited Southall on the 14th January. Two men who had served Southall and Holy Trinity Church passed on — Mr F. Webster, Stationmaster for twenty years, died on the 13th March and Mr E. Curwell, Town Clerk, died 12th November. Both were Church Wardens. Mr Ernest Ward appointed Southall Stationmaster replacing Mr W. Holmes, appointed temporarily during the war. Alderman F. E. Gardener elected Mayor for 1946.

During the past two years the town had got used to having American servicemen around. With a big hospital at Northolt and the Heston Airport so near;

they behaved themselves well and, of course, several married local girls. Children who had been evacuated returned home and, gradually, food and clothes rationing finished. Norwood Hall, which had been bought by the MCC, was turned into an Old Peoples' Home and remained so until 1956.

After the war ended the Norwood Green Residents' Association called an Extraordinary General Meeting on the 23rd July and took up from where it left off, its main object being to look after the interests of the residents. By this time there was only one farm left in the Southall area, Snells Farm, Dormers Wells, and this was gradually losing its land which was being taken to erect prefabs.

Around about now the Air Ministry began to make plans for a new London Airport, and Heston Airport was thought to be suitably placed. Plans were drawn up to greatly enlarge this and the Ministry began to buy all the land required. This included all Cranford village but, as we all know now, this plan was dropped and London Airport built on land about three miles away. With the coming of the airport a great change started in Southall's population.

Council doings seem to dominate 1946. Financial matters were a continual source of worry. Losses on Borough Cafe Meals, Market Garden and Piggery amounted to nearly £3,000, but the sale of 2,000 tons of salvage raised £7,400. Education cost £231,090 - this was £31.9.0d per head for 7,350 children. The school leaving age had been raised to 15. 850,000 school meals had been served. Mr Tom Shaw was appointed Borough Treasurer. Rates go up again by 6d in the £. Two tenders for houses were accepted - £1,303 each for 36 houses on the Holly Lodge Estate and £135,622 for 100 houses at Dormers Wells. In May the first tenants, Mr and Mrs L. Fuller moved into the first prefab, on the Golf Links Estate.

'Victory Week', organised by the Council, with a grand opening in Southall Park, was sadly spoiled by rain. This continued most of the week and only indoor functions were held.

The Mayor raised £392 for the YMCA; at the County Council election Councillor J. Lowe and Mrs E. Jackson elected; and at the Borough elections, the Labour majority was reduced by one. Three former Councillors died - Mr C. Moss, aged 47, chairman 1927-29, and ex Alderman C. Hutchings, Chairman 1929-30 - he had served 20 years on the Council. Both were butchers. The other was Mr Holmes, aged 82, Councillor for three years. Mrs Amos, Mayor in 1941-42, resigned after eleven years as a Councillor.

The Council, after a very great deal of opposition, passed a motion to introduce a 'Closed Shop' for employees, to come into effect March 31st, 1947. Mr J. Silvey, an ex-Southall policeman who became the first adult Crossing Controller, died at the age of 74. Other news - Outside air raid shelters were being demolished. Rusticum Cottage, Frogmore Green, which dated from 1580, and thatched, was pulled down. Most of the old timbers were sold for £1,000 and shipped to America.

In the battle for The Bat, between The Lamb and The Wolf on August Monday The Wolf retained The Bat. This raised £21 for hospital. Mr Percy Reading, a Southall man, broke the world non-stop walking record on the 15th June, covering 129 miles 749 yards in 24 hours.

Miss N. Lewis, Founder member and First Lady Superintendant Ladies Division St John Ambulance, made a Serving Sister of the Order of St John in April, 1946. The Salvation Army celebrated its 60 years in the town - coming in 1886. Cromwell Film Corporation have reopened Gladstone Road Studios. Osterley Park has been presented to the nation by the Earl of Jersey.

1947 came in with very cold weather. There was skating on the canal and Golf Links Pond - this lasted until nearly April. There was still almost 100 items on points. The County rate was up from 8/4d to 11/8d, which meant that Southall rate had to be raised by 4/-, making 20s in the pound.

Other Council news - 2,260 tons of salvage made £8,908. Mr Lindsay Taylor, Town Clerk (appointed in 1940), resigned and Mr J. S. Syrett from Feltham took his place. The first permanent council house built after the Second World War was opened on the Holly Lodge Estate on Wednesday, 28th May. Several more prefabs had come into use, including a new aluminium type which was to prove a great success.

Mr J. Culley, JP, MBE, died in April, aged 68, first leader of the Labour Party on the Council and three times chairman. On a brighter note Mr and Mrs Chard, both JPs and long serving members of the Council, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary, and two Councillors married - Alderman Hamblin and Mrs Ellen Jackson and, in doing so, became Deputy Mayoress. At the Council elections Conservatives gained four seats from Labour.

The Boreas destroyer adopted by the Borough had now gone out of commission and the Comforts Fund was discontinued. The cost of education was still on the increase, rising from £29.15.0d to £35.5.0d. Double British Summer Time was still in operation.

Other town news - In January a fire at LeGrand Sutcliffe caused £10,000 of damage. The Southall Chrysanthemum Society, which had been formed as a breakaway group from the Southall Horticultural Association, held its first meeting on the 19th January and had 60 members. Over the following years it was very successful but, changing conditions and dropping membership, forced a full turn of events and, in 1982, it became amalgamated with the Horticultural Association. Something else also has turned almost a circle. During the year the GWR had built a hostel for its long distance drivers and single employees. Not long after the railways became British Rail the hostel closed down. It stood empty for several years during which time it was vandalised almost to the point of being unsafe. Eventually, in 1976, it was bought and repaired at a cost of more than it cost to build and is now 'Martin Court' with 18 flats.

Captain J. J. Bridges retired as British Legion Secretary after 14 years and Mr Bill Garrod (Charter Mayor) retired from the Salvation Army Insurance Branch after 32 years, and Mr J. S. Orwin retired from being manager of the Southall Labour Exchange after 25 years - he became well known in the early 1930s when there was so much unemployment in the town. The Duchess of Kent paid a visit to Southall on June 24th — Alexandra Rose Day. The Scouts of the District held a Jamborette at Western Road Football Ground on Saturday, 21st June - 21 countries were represented.

The Wolf again won the Bat on The Green. Two Presentations – Southall Toc H Branch were presented with its 'Lamp' by Mr W. Haigh, JP in memory of his son killed in the RAF in 1942. Mr F. K. Taylor of the Northcote Arms presented a Mace to the ATC Bagpipe Band. On July 5th the new memorial organ was dedicated at the Kings Hall and the same evening a grand organ recital was given. Kings Hall Missionary, Miss Gladys Stevenson, was given a fond farewell before returning to the far east. She had been in Japanese hands throughout the war. Dr C. W. Seccombe, who had done such a lot for the district, died on 16th December. He had been temporary Medical Officer of Health and Divisional Surgeon to the St John Ambulance Nursing Division and had been made a Serving Officer of the Order of St John of Jerusalem by the Queen. Councillor A. T. Dane was elected Mayor for 1948.

1948

The town had not had a very good year in 1947. Rationed goods were still in short supply. Housing was still a big problem and the rates very high. This was mentioned by a Councillor who stated that in 33 years the rates had gone from 8/- to 20/-, but some relief was soon to come, for the County cut its rate by 1/2d in the £ and the town rate for 1948 was cut to 18/- in the £. In February Dr E. Grundy, MOH, resigned and his place was taken by Dr M. Glass who was already well known and liked in the town.

At the end of January the town Information Centre was opened next to the Kings Hall in South Road. This was later closed and used by the British Red Cross until demolished. Their new headquarters has been built on the same site. Great efforts were being made to get bus services in the North Southall area and several meetings and petitions had so far had no results. On the 6th May the second portion of Hortus Road Cemetery was consecrated by the Bishop of Kensington. Deputy Town Clerk, Mr J. L. Betteridge, died on 28th July. He had served the Council for 17 years. Mr W. J. Spencer (my last schoolteacher) died 24th October. He was at North Road School for twenty years, Councillor for seven years, Chairman 1930-31, Headmaster at a school at Harrow. Captain J. J. Bridges, who retired from Secretary of British Legion last year, died on 6th February, aged 76.

On Sunday, 18th July the Labour Club held a Memorial Service, and a plaque was unveiled to commemorate members who were killed in the Second World War. Later, on the 13th November, at the Southall Grammar School (Villiers Road) three plaques, with the names of former pupils who had been killed in the war, were unveiled by Under Secretary of State.

The Inauguration of Norwood Green Horticultural Section on the 1st February, 1948. The Wolf again won The Bat. St Johns old school was demolished June 1948 and the Revd D. J. Morey came as Vicar to St Johns in September.

A businessman in Southall for over 40 years, Mr H. Keevil and his housekeeper were killed in a car crash in May. His shop in the High Street had a front canopy and was known as the Jersey Farm Dairy. He took a great deal of interest in the town's affairs. There was a fair amount of unrest among the workers at the AEC and several token strikes were held. Mayor for 1949 - Councillor Hamblin.

On entering the Manor House on the right hand wall is a wall panel, the names on which are in themselves a history of what must be the oldest institution in the town. Formed in 1902 as a local Tradesmen's Association, the first President was Mr W. G. Beckett, with Mr Rowe Secretary. Mr Beckett had a drapery business in the High Street, thus was the beginning of the Southall Chamber of Commerce. The 58 names on the board reads like a Who's Who of many who have shaped Southall over the past 80 years, for named are ten builders, seven works owners, 26 of the very old established tradesmen. These have all been past Presidents of the Chamber, some of whom have held office for two or more years. Only two women have been in office-Mrs G. W. Taplin 1965, and Mrs M. E. Hilton 1975. What the board does not show is the Secretaries and Treasurers and, among these, have been Mr Rowe - Secretary for ten years, Mr F. C. Loaring - Treasurer for twenty years; Mr E. A. Weeks - Secretary for thirteen years. It was February 1937 that the name of the Southall Chamber of Commerce was adopted.

Over the years the Chamber has had its meetings at various places but a breakthrough came in 1970. When in 1965 the Borough of Southall was incorporated into the Borough of Ealing, the Manor House - which had housed several Council Departments - became redundant and remained empty for several years. In 1968 Mr Harold Hallett, who had retired after several years as warden of the Southall Community Centre, became the Chamber's new Secretary and he had ideas of a permanent headquarters so, with the permission of the Chambers Executive started to negotiate with the Ealing Borough for a lease on the Manor House. After many months success came and, on June 27th, 1970, the Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs Crook) formally handed over a lease at a nominal rent.

Work was put in hand to get the building fit for use and the Chamber added its own furnishings. Thus it came about that the Southall Chamber of Commerce, which must be the oldest organisation, is now housed in the oldest house in the town. Over the years the Chamber has at all times kept the tradesmen's welfare in mind and reported anything that they wished to improve in the town to the proper authorities. One such - in 1909 members felt that the GPO were not giving enough facilities. There were only four deliveries a day - the last one being at 8.15 p.m. They wanted a fifth but the GPO could not grant this because there would have had to be 50,000 letters a week, not 30,000. What now in 1982? Only two, nothing after 12 noon! The first letter addressed to the Council complained that the streets were not being watered enough. The tradesmen of King Street said that they were obliged to expose goods and keep their doors open be it ever so dusty please, more water carts.

The social side has always been catered for and, at the Manor House, they have a Conference Room which serves for Executive Committee Meetings and social events. Mr Gilbey is the present secretary.

List of Presidents:

1902-05	W. T. Beckett	1951	R. J. Ramsey
1906-07	E. Cheal	1952	W. Wilson
1908	W. C. Talbot	1953	C. W. Cook
1909	E. Cheal	1954	A. E. Smith
1910	W. C. Clements	1955	G. A. Phillips
1911	T. J. Hallam	1956	J. Edkins
1912	C. Thomson	1957	A. Green
1913-18	W. Haigh	1958	C. W. Crook
1919	H. S. Naylor	1960-61	J. R. Gray
1920-22	R. J. Puge	1962	H. C. Clark
1923	W. A. Rowe	1963	J. Hilton
1924-27	B. J. Hanson	1964	B. S. L. Sargent
1928-29	C. Thomson	1965	F. G. Rosier (Dec'd.)
1930	C. Wadham	1965	Mrs. G. W. Taplin
1931	C. Hutchings	1966	P. L. Bolding
1932	F. Cooper	1967	S. J. Evans
1933	D. Easton	1968	A. H. Barber
1934	P. G. Soulsby	1969	D. J. Sinclair
1935	H. W. Welsh	1970	B. Bass
1936	P. Hopkins	1971	H. E. Meak
1937	F. Cooper	1972	H. G. Hallett
1938	D. Clifford Evans	1973	A. A. Hurst
1939	H. Baker	1974	R. H. Freeman
1940-42	C. Quinion	1975	Mrs. M. E. Hilton
1943	W. J. Brown	1976	A. G. Jennings
1944-45	S. C. Cutland	1977-78	J. S. Beeston
1946	F. S. Honey	1979	A. T. Frost
1947	W. O. Wood	1980	D. Casey
1948	E. W. Ward	1981	D. Spires
1949	S. Sabel	1982	R. J. Kew
1950	F. J. Richards		

Help for the Old Folk

What a long way we have come in 1982 from the 'Bad Old Days' when all, or nearly all, old folk had little to look forward to and, if relatives could not or would not look after them, would finish up in Poor Law Care. Things have gradually been improving since the First World War. Pensions have gradually increased (most insist by not enough) but no one need be in want. In Southall, as in most places, it was the churches which used to run Mothers Meetings and Thrift Clubs. Over the years the Council and Social Services have done a tremendous job. Special OAP bungalows and still more are being built in Havelock Road. Three splendid homes - 'The Limes' Bridge Road, 'Martin House' Swift Road and 'The Cedars' Norwood Green, and

Eventide Home, Telford Road which was privately subscribed for. Meals on Wheels and regular visits from the Nursing Service tend to those who are housebound, and some are lucky enough to have a holiday at the seaside at one of the Council's Holiday Homes. Also there are two OAP Workshops, one in Feather-stone Terrace and one at Spikes Bridge, where easy little light jobs are done, and a small amount earned -- but the main object is to relieve boredom. But the old people have not been slow in organising themselves. The churches now run OAP Clubs in the afternoon — 'Silver Threads' Community Centre, 'The United Old Folks Club' held on Mondays at the Working Men's Club Salisbury Road, 'Old Folks Club' held at Adelaide Road Depot, St Anselm's Old Folks Club held in St Anselm's Church Hall, Baptist Church 'Leisure Club' Western Road, Salvation Army Old Peoples Club on Thursdays at Citadel Adelaide Road. Most try to be self-supporting and a great many ways are used to raise funds. A cup of tea is a must and the organisers try to find talent to entertain. One person who should be mentioned — Mrs Doris Hicks (nee Marwood) — who was one of the first to organise a club. For 27 years she ran the United Old Folk and ten years the 'Salisbury Road Club'. She was blessed with a strong contralto voice - a member of the Kings Hall Choir for 50 years - so she was able to entertain. She died in January 1981

The BRCS run a disabled Club and the Hard of Hearing also run a Club. Both at the Community Centre.

There are, of course, more Women's Clubs - Southall and Norwood Women's Guild, the 'Friday Club' at Youth HQ Park Avenue, but this is a general club. Since so many of our Asian friends have settled in the town they have formed clubs of their own and organised a meal service at the Temple in Havelock Road. So what a turn round! If they wish and are fit, there is no need to be lonely. Home helps are laid on by the Social Services, whose job it is to keep the house clean and do some shopping. All clubs open to men and women but the men also have their own clubs, Working Men's Club, Fairlawn Hall Conservative Club, Labour Hall Uxbridge Road all these three are in the headlines now and again because, due to their rules, Asian membership is not allowed. Not clubs, but provided by the Social Services - a Workshop for the Disabled The Albert Dane Centre Western Road, the new Clinic in Featherstone Road and another in Northcote Avenue, two social services buildings in Bridge Road, Speech Therapy and Nursery School in North Road. I have not troubled to itemise the opening dates of the above but no doubt that will be revealed as you read this book through.

Catering for the Young

From about 1912 the Scouts Movement in Southall has done quite a good job training young boys and girls to be good citizens. From the original first three troops other troops were formed. The 6th Southall (Trojans) was formed in 1933 by Mr and Mrs Frank Bluett, and used to meet at Mount Pleasant Hall. This troop was formed to cater for boys on the Waxlow Estate. There were other troops at the Kings Hall, Norwood Parish Hall, St Anselm's and Salvation Army which was known as the 10th

Southall. So great was the interest that there was a waiting list for some troops. Summer Camps were held and a great many useful subjects taught. Then came the Cubs and Brownies, aged from 8 years. What a lot of dedicated people were those who came forward as leaders. Over the years, through sheer hard work, they have managed to get their own Headquarters in Cranleigh Gardens, and now the Trojans have their own Headquarters in Allenby Road on land leased from the Borough. This was opened in October 1975 by Mr T. Bluett who had started the troop and was now District Commissioner.

As always, some of the old faithfuls have passed on and those left have found, to their regret, that several troops have lapsed due to lack of leaders. But, as long as Scouting goes on in the town, the names of Mr and Mrs F. Bluett, Mr and Mrs Crews and Mr and Mrs W. Vale will always be remembered.

Doctors

Southall has been served very well with its doctors. The earliest I can find are Dr Parrot and Dr Fenn. These were in the district around 1870. Both used to drive around in a small pony trap or arrive on horseback. In the 1890s came Dr MacDonald, who set up practice in Denmark Road (King Street). He did his rounds on a three-wheeler (trike). A very tall man, usually wearing a bowler hat, he displayed two sides to his patients - the best one to those able to pay! He was joined in 1896 by Dr Jabey Davenport Windle. He was an extremely qualified man with a string of letters after his name, also a surgeon. He had one son and three daughters, he instituted what became a payment scheme whereby families paid 6d (2½d) per month, which would cover them if the doctor had to be called upon. He used to do his rounds on a bicycle. He was, for a time, MO Health, and practiced from the same address in South Road for 34 years, being followed by Dr Cronin.

A Dr Hart came in 1906, three houses away. Again, a very qualified man, a Salvationist, a little eccentric; and still further on came Dr McKenna.

As the population increased so more doctors came. Many of the older residents have painful memories of treatment meted out by these doctors, when they had to have minor operations or limbs set, stitches put in, because of the primitive methods in use at that time. Doctors used to make up their own medicines.

I do not pretend that the doctors named now have come and gone in this order, but here are those most remembered - Dr Wynn Wernick, Dr Sinigar, Dr Galloway (he met a sad end), Dr Shanks, Dr Virgo, Dr Seccombe (Senior), MOH, and his son, Dr John Seccombe, both of whom did years of valuable service with the Southall Divisions of the St John Ambulance, Dr Turner, who had a great way with children - all these had their surgeries in Western Road. With their surgery in Norwood Road came Dr Crawford, Dr Shepherd, who has done wonderful service for the scouts and British Red Cross, Dr Moore (she also met a tragic death), she was followed by Dr Andrews, another lady doctor.

With their surgery in Osterley Park Road came Dr Brooks - he also was Divisional Surgeon to the local SJAB - Dr Fox, Dr Pragnell, Drs Mr and Mrs Calacco.

Dr Hector Smith worked from his surgery near Top Locks. His great interest in local history resulted in several valuable items which he found being placed in museums.

Dr Olive who, with her father, lived at 'Grove House', North Road. Both took a great interest in the Southall Horticultural Association.

A great change has come which has done away with the doctors being 'on call' night and day. This has come about by Group Practices. One of the first of these was started in Lady Margaret Road by Dr Ginsberg. Now there are better hospital facilities and home nursing visits.

Other doctors have been - Dr Bailey and Dr D. Newman at Featherstone Hall, and Dr Grundy, MOH and Dr Glass, MOH. Southall has also had several dentists most of whom served the town for several years. Mr Blower at the corner of Lady Margaret Road; Mr Dunken, Uxbridge Road; Mr Yerbury, Dental Surgeon, and Mr Green, South Road; Mr Linthwaite, King Street.

Mr T. Salter, MPS, FSMC, a chemist and pharmacist, had shops in the High Street and Southall Green; and Boots the Chemist had shops in Southall 72 years first next to the Labour Exchange, 15 King Street, later moving to the corner of Hammond Road taking over Timothy Whites, they also opened a branch in Uxbridge Road but this one closed in 1980 and, on August 7th, 1982 Boots ceased trading in Southall when the King Street branch was closed.

There have been several nursing homes - Vine Cottage, Park View Road; Vine Cottage, Norwood Green; Frogmore House, Frogmore Green and Harley Nursing Home; also Southall District Nursing Association which finished in 1948 with the introduction of the National Health Act.

In the early 1950s Southall was a very industrial town with almost full employment. There was a vast increase in motor traffic and traffic lights had been installed at the High Street crossing and Western Road. There was still a great demand for council houses and a large new estate was built on the left hand side of Havelock Road. It was being built in 1953 and the roads are named after members of the successful Mount Everest Expedition whose conquest to the summit was reported on the day of Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation - Hunt, Hillary, Tensing, Gregory.

In June, 1950 Dr Charles Hill (the Radio Doctor) formally opened the new St John Ambulance Headquarters in Hartington Road. The hall belonged to St Johns Church but, after being used as a Borough Cafe, was purchased by the Brigade and, with a lot of voluntary work and a great deal of fund raising by the members, became the local Division's Headquarters. Most unfortunately, Supt Mr Jack Taylor, who had been the founder and backbone of the Men's Division, died in 1949.

More and more aircraft were to be seen and, of course, this was to get a deal worse due to the fact that about three miles away the new London Airport was being constructed. This was providing a great many jobs for local people.

In 1950 Hanwell Asylum became St Bernard's Hospital and a complex of single storey wards were built on the Windmill Lane side. These were given names instead of numbers - Ellis, Daniel, Clyde, Connelly, Adelaide. Great strides were made for the benefit of the patients. Dr Bernie was the Medical Officer in charge with the total number of patients around 1,800.

Southall had by now a very improved bus service. After great efforts services had been provided for the Waxlow Estate, the 105 going through to Shepherds Bush via Greenford.

A block of shops were built on the bend of North Road leading round to Mount Pleasant and more allotment land was taken away and blocks of flats erected in Allenby Road. By this time Mount Pleasant had lost its individuality and the only thing keeping it rural was Snells Farm in Dormers Wells, the last one in Southall. In Beaconsfield Road the Southall Technical College which had been opened April 13th, 1928 with Headmaster Mr Holroyd, and already enlarged twice, was still having to use rooms at the Kings Hall for lectures. Many firms in the district were sending apprentices there on day release. Tickler Jam Works closed down and the Crown Cork Company took over the site to extend their works. Their employees had a very successful social club adjoining the factory. Another firm which had greatly expanded was the Cramic Engineering Company who now had a large works on part of the old Maypole site.

There was still a police box on the corner of King Street and Western Road, and the Council did a good job in turning the little piece of green there into a nicely laid out garden with seats.

The population of Southall in 1951 was 55,896 but, for some reason, this declined to 54,900 by 1955.

Mayors of Southall 1950-55 were:

1950	Alderman F. C. Gardener
1951	Councillor Lye
1952	Councillor F. G. Smith
1953	Alderman T. Lowe
1954	Councillor J. G. Dormer
1955	Councillor P. J. Love

In 1951 Woolf Rubber Limited opened a factory at Hayes Bridge. Finding it hard to get local labour to do what was a very dirty type of job, a member of the firm went to India and recruited labour from there which resulted in what has turned out to be a disaster for Southall. An extract from an article published by Southall Environment Project in 1980 states that 'since 1950 the make-up of Southall's population has changed dramatically. By 1970 its numbers had increased by well over 10,000 and was now a very multi-racial. 'Now, in 1982, with a population of 83,000, 65% are of Asian origin.

In August 1950 Mr J. B. Thomson, MICE, FRSH, retired after 42 years service. He joined the Southall Norwood Urban District Council as assistant surveyor. After war service he returned to Southall and, in 1919, was appointed Engineer and Surveyor. During his years of service he supervised numerous housing schemes and new municipal buildings which had cost ratepayers over £900,000. He was honoured by being made a Freeman of the Borough. He was a great worker for the Royal Society of Health, and Guide Dogs for the Blind. He was 75 when he died. His successor as Borough Surveyor was Mr S. F. Thorne.

Norwood Hall (Unwins Park) which had been purchased by the Middlesex County Council and was used as an Old Peoples' Rest Home, was in 1956 transformed into a Horticultural College. Under the supervision of Mrs Perry, VMH, it was gradually developed with large greenhouses and show plots. The hall itself was used as lecture rooms and Administrative Offices. When Mrs Perry retired Mr J. Warren became Principal. In 1975 Mr K. Spackman took his place and he retired at the end of August 1982 after 26 years at the college. It is open to visitors several times a year.

Entertainment in the town in the fifties was very plentiful with four cinemas doing well and the Southall Community Centre now being made full use of - the Warden, Mr Harold Hallett, was a very live wire and good organiser, dancing, whist drives, concerts, the 'Gay Nineties' Club for old tyme dancing Saturday evenings and several societies also using it as their Headquarters. Four licensed clubs - Working Men's, British Legion, Labour and Conservative — all with large membership, each well organised, always arranging social events.

At the end of June Mr Charlie Collins, who had been a Councillor for several years and Chairman of the Council 1933-34, died. He had taken a great interest in town affairs. President of the Local Ambulance Division, also of the Southall Horticultural Assoc.; also on 22nd September, 1953 Mrs E. Hamblin (formerly Mrs Jackson), Councillor, died.

Between 1950 and 55 more and more public services were being provided, Old Peoples' Bungalows built and more Leisure Centres provided, but these had to be paid for and the rates each year increased. In 1953 21/- in the £, and in 1955 23/8d in the £. Perhaps this should be explained suppose the rateable value of a house was £100, then the owner would have to pay 100×21 /- in 1953 and 100×23 /8d in 1955.

Some of Southall's Old Faithfuls

Perhaps now may be the time to place on record some of the good old tradesmen and shops which from now onwards will gradually disappear. They will be in no sort of order but each will bring back its own memories. Cutlands, Ladies Milliners and Drapers - they had three shops in the King Street, always selling good quality materials which seemed to be priced at the odd three farthings. The assistants were always helpful and, when a purchase was made, the bill and money was placed in a round box which was attached to a rail, the assistant then pulled a cord and this sent the box on its way to the Cashier, who would return it the same way with the change and receipted bill. Mr Cutland and family took a great interest in town affairs. Platts Stores, again with three shops in the King Street - the good old-fashioned grocers. Everything served over the counter by assistants in white coats and aprons, weighing up most things and patting up the butter and displaying whole cheeses and sides of bacon and, outside, large boxes of eggs. Their premises today are occupied by 'Fine Fare' - grocers, yes, but what a different atmosphere! London Co-operative Society Limited -with four shops in King Street and one in Featherstone Road. They first opened at the corner of King Street and Featherstone Road with a grocers, shoe shop and butchers, over which was a small meeting hall. After Endicotts was burned down they had shops built at the Western Road corner. They also had a shop in the High Street for a few years. And, of course, if you became a member, you were always reckoning up how much 'Divi' you had to come.

Butlers, Men's Outfitters - with shops in King Street and High Street. Selling nothing but the best - what service they gave! Mr Scott, Manager, became a County Councillor and Mr Rogers, his right hand man, will be well remembered. Palamountings - the Odds and Ends Shop, always in a muddle but it was odds-on that what you wanted would be found. Cogswells - corn merchants, three steps to get in. Again, most things were weighed from bulk and, if you wanted hay or straw, you were sent out to the warehouse at the rear. Father and sons took a great interest in town affairs. You could always find, by smell, Bromleys and Mullingers Fried Fish Shops. Bromleys in Adelaide Road and Mullingers in Featherstone Road. Both family businesses with always a good supply of fresh fish.

A haircut meant a visit to Mac Smart, Norwood Road, Cass, and Westons, Featherstone Road, H. Tompkins, High Street; Ted Earthy and Chapmans, Uxbridge Road - whilst waiting for a haircut or shave you got all the local news, also the form of horses worth backing and, in most cases, could leave your bets to be picked up. One could go on - butchers Moss and Hutching who were Councillors; Willis and Raymonds Dining Rooms where you could get a good meal for 1/- (5p); away from the main roads were dozens of corner shops. What a service they gave - and it will never be known how much credit, termed 'putting it on the slate' was given during hard times. Most now have had to close, unable to compete with the supermarkets. Even Sharps, the Undertakers, were well known for the very sympathetic service they gave, also finding time to interest themselves in Southall Football Club. Quinions Saddlers and Leather-merchants in the High Street, a very old family business. Cyril Quinion was for a time a Councilor, also Freeman City of London. Frank Avery bakers, High Street was one of several brothers well known in the town.

The two brothers Jiggins Butchers, in the High Street, with the slaughter house just on the right of Avenue Road behind the shop. Chaplin's Oilshop, and 'Penny's Stores' (Ebdens) Off Licence, now waiting to be pulled down to extend Police Station.

A very old business still going in 1982 - Bradbury's, Jewellers, High Street. My, how many wedding rings were bought there. Lastly, one must not forget the Pawnbrokers, Harris, at the top of Abbotts Road and in the King Street. To some of the older residents these formed a vital service on a Monday morning.

1957

It had been a fairly mild winter and most local organisations were flourishing. On January 18th a new Court of the Independent Order of Foresters was inaugurated with a ceremony at the Community Centre; Mr V. Baker was installed as Chief Ranger. Southall Chamber of Commerce raised over £1,000 for hospitals. The Southall Norwood Angling Society released over 6,000 coarse fish in the canal and another 3,000 followed later in the year. Southall Photographic and Cine Club were

very active and were holding very interesting monthly meetings. Both Junior and Senior Football Clubs were doing very well and the Football Association presented Mr W. G. Smith with a gold medal for fifty years service to the Middlesex County Association. Southall Conservative Club celebrated its 44th birthday. Revd G. S. Gilbert retired from St Georges Church after 28 years, he being the first vicar of the new church.

Schools

With the opening of the new Senior Roman Catholic School in Springfield Road, Hayes, it made way for Senior Scholars from St Anselm's to attend there. In June Tudor Road School held it's Golden Jubilee. Mr Ebbutt retired as head of Dormers Wells School after 25 years as a teacher. Proposal plans were put forward for a new Grammar School to be built at Norwood Hall but, despite a lot of meetings for and against, it has never been built. The first meeting was held to find ways of educating the increasing number Indian children.

Council News

New Town Hall site in South Road to be a temporary car park. This lasted 25 years. Although the housing committee reported £6,000 rent surplus, fears were expressed that, due to the ever increasing cost of building council houses, rent would eventually be raised 2½ times, what an understatement that turned out to be! £151,000 was allocated for houses to be built in Havelock Road.

The result of Council elections — Dormers Wells, J. N. Ward (Con.), Northcote, F. R. Day (Lab.); Glebe, P. G. Southey (Lab.), Hamborough, Mrs . W. Jones (Lab.), Waxlow, J. Barrett (Lab.); Norwood Green, W. J. Lamb (Lab.). This was the first time Norwood Green had returned a Labour member. Mrs I. Cavell, JP, elected Mayor for 1957-58. The County rate up 1/6d and the general rate up by 1/8d to 16/6d in the £. This year was the 21st anniversary of Southall becoming a borough and several events took place to mark the occasion. A proposal was put forward that the Charter Mayor, Mr W. Garrod, be made a Freeman of the town - regrettably it did not find support. Another suggestion which was never carried out was for a commemorative clock to be placed on the Manor House and, although a Mr F. W. Dean who had bought the old original Manor House clock for scrap and had restored it, offered it to the council, it was refused.

The town was in a very festive mood and held a glorious August show with a 3/4 mile long procession which included American bands. The Scouts held a weekend Jamborette in the park and raised over £100 for charities. For the first time the schools sports were held at the Municipal Sports Ground, Spikes Bridge.

Battle of Britain week brought forth its usual social activities. Pointing the way to the growth of the coloured population 500 celebrated Indian Independence Day in the park and the setting up of the Indian Workers' Association on Sunday, 18th August.

A clearance order was made for 21 houses in Featherstone Terrace, and a very old block of flats 9 - 15 The Crescent which had been built in 1880. The old Gem (The

Century) closed down on Saturday, 17th August but not for long. It was reopened with Indian films being shown within a few months. At the end of September Cutlands Limited, drapers, in the King Street closed after 72 years.

Mount Pleasant Hospital was changed from Isolation to Care for the aged sick. The first mention of efforts to start Southall's Eventide Homes - a registered company was formed: Chairman Councilor Lye, Secretary Mr H. Armstrong, but in 1958 Councilor Lye was replaced by Dr Shephard as Chairman and Lady Daphne Straight became President. This later resulted in the home being established in Telford Road. Prince Philip visited the AEC works on the 26th November. The Southall Community Centre was becoming very popular, Mr Carslake was Chairman, Mr J. Mashford resigned as warden at the end of November and Mr Harold Hallett appointed to take over February, 1958.

Other items during the year: Miss V. Wilks, Headmistress of Western Road Girls' School retired after 40 years as a teacher. The Lamb again won the Battle for the Bat. The first quads ever born to Southall parents (all girls) came in June at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London to Mr and Mrs Phillips of Norwood Green. Revd Stanley Harrison (son of Mr Lew Harrison) who had already won the George Cross during the Second World War, was awarded the OBE, again for saving life.

A record sum of £26,000 was paid out by 'Slate and Loan' Clubs at Christmastime. These were mostly organised at various pubs and clubs. Money was paid in throughout the year, most having their own set of rules. This was a very popular way of saving for Christmas. Alas, sometimes the custodians of the money did not live up to the trust placed in them and defaulted, only to be brought to Court on embezzlement charges.

1958

During most of 1958 the Borough Council seemed to have a very full programme. The first of the blocks of flats being built on the right hand side of the Uxbridge Road, 'Hamblin House', was occupied. £6,955 had to be spent on a Relief Sewer. Plans to erect prefabricated houses on the left hand side of Bridge Road did not meet with the Council's approval. For the first time ever the Council made a direct appeal for loans of £100 or more at 6½% interest. Alderman Marks resigned after 21 years Councillor. In March the rates were increased by two-pence in the pound to 16/8d. The Council election results were — Dormers Wells, C. B. Cripps (Con.); Hamborough (2 seats) S. T. Steel and C. J. Pollard; Glebe, Mrs M. C. Griffiths (Con.), Waxlow, E. J. Shell (Lab.); Northcote, J. Haigh (Lab.); Norwood Green, H. J. Mee (Lab.); Mayor of Southall 1958-59 Councillor Johnson Haigh. One of his first duties was to present Medallions to 18 former Mayors, this included Mr W. Garrod, Charter Mayor.

In the Gazette on December 13th a photo was published of the proposed new Southall Town Hall — showing what it would look like. It was thought that the easing of the money situation would allow for the building to take place in 1959 at a cost of between £350,000 - £400,000. There was a great deal of adverse criticism of the plan.

Alderman Gardner resigned as Secretary of the Southall-Hanwell Labour Party, after 30 years, in April, 1958. Mrs D. Ashall, Headmistress of Beaconsfield Road School, died on Janury 17th, aged 57, a teacher for 36 years.

National Service still in force and young men born in 1939 had to register. National Deposit Friendly Society opened its new office in the High Street, paying out in 1957 £4,200 in benefits. Woolworth's branch in King Street opened Thursday, 27th February, 1958.

Revd W. G. Genner, leaves St Georges after 18 years -- just before the church celebrated its Golden Jubilee. The first full time Chaplain at St Bernards was the Revd W. Bennett.

A big fire in South Road on 12th January caused £20,000 worth of damage.

The Pride of Murray Band was still very active and there were several romances and weddings among its members. Borough Band also still in being, conducted by Mr F. Oaten. It was in attendance when the Annual Inspection of the Western Area of the St John Ambulance Brigade took place at Ealing Common in May — over 500 members on parade.

With its new Warden, Mr Harold Hallett, the Community Centre has become a hive of activity with a great increase in membership. The Indian community are making good use of it. Unfortunately, already unemployment among the Indian community is on the increase.

A bus strike which lasted nearly a fortnight came in the middle of May. Traffic lights were installed at the junction of South Road and Beaconsfield Road and Park Avenue. The five old shops between the George and Dragon and the school passage demolished to make way for Abbess House.

Over 3,000 had a good time at the AEC Sports Day, and Norwood Green Show Day and the Annual Park Show were both a great success. Miss Patricia Dalwood was Southall Carnival Oueen.

On July 11th at the Albert Hall, St Johns Church Lads Brigade Handball Team won the CLB Handball Final. The Kings Hall celebrated its 42nd birthday, and the Nursing Division SJAB its 34th birthday with presentations to Mrs E. Wilmot and Dr Seccombe.

School News

A proposal to move the Secondary Technical School to Featherstone Road was rejected. Headmaster North Road School for 20 years retired and Mr J. Manders retired from Headmaster of Southall Technical College after 10 years.

Mr Percy Jones appointed new Head Postmaster from 25th August.

At about 8 o'clock on the morning of September 2nd a crippled Viking airliner crashed on houses in Kelvin Gardens on the Waxlow Estate, killing the three crew and four others, including a baby. Eight others were injured. It ploughed through one house and three more had to be pulled down. Wreckage was scattered over a large area. Great praise was given for the wonderful way everyone gave help, and a fund, opened by the Mayor for immediate help for the victims, raised over £1,000 in less

than a week. At the inquest it was revealed that the plane was carrying spare aeroplane engines and had been on its way to Blackbushe Airport.

On Sunday, 21st December, the BBC recorded Gardeners Question Time from the Community Centre.

During 1959 the town did not produce anything of much importance. The Council had to put the rates up again by 1/6d (7½p), making 17/2d (86p) in the pound. They opened Old Peoples' Homes in Langdon Place.

All through the year the Education Committee gave a great deal of time to the vexed question of Grammar or Comprehensive Schools. They also sanctioned an extension to the Technical School.

On Easter Monday, Alderman J. Lowe died at the age of 79. He was Mayor 1952-53. Results of the Borough Elections were: Dormers Wells, F. C. Errington (Con.); Glebe, Mrs I. Cavell (Lab.); Norwood Green, F. R. Rockhill (Con.); Northcote, E. Ward (Lab.); Hambrough, C. J. Pollard (Lab.); Waxlow Manor, J. A. Woodruff (Lab.); Councillor T. Steele elected Mayor for 1959-60. Southall MP George Pargiter, elected Chairman of the Middlesex County Council.

For something that has yet to take place — the MCC purchased the Barclay Bank at the corner of High Street and Avenue Road for road widening. They also allocated part of Brent Meadow for permanent allotment.

Brian Gibbons, who was very badly burned in the Southall air disaster trying to save life, was awarded the George Medal, which he received from the Queen on July 7th. He also received £25 and a Bronze Medal from the Carnegie Hero Fund.

Other Items

Plans passed for Further Extensions at the AEC.

St John's Church celebrates its Golden Jubilee.

The Borough decides to close its piggery.

Southall Football Club Secretary, Mr Ken Gower, resigns after ten years.

Plans for 'The Limes' at Bridge Road, costing £82,800, and the site in Telford Road chosen for the 'Eventide Homes'.

On Saturday, June 27th, due to Labour troubles, the Gazette combined twelve local papers and published Middlesex County Press but, by July 11th, it had come back to a combined Middlesex County Times and West Middlesex Gazette.

In preparation for the Carnival, Southall's First Dowager Queen - Mrs Beatrice Egerton (73) - was chosen. She was on one of the floats in what was the best carnival procession to date. Led by the Pride of Murray Band, it got to the park just in time to miss the heavy downpour of rain.

The Parliamentary Election took place early October. In support of the Conservative Candidate, the Prime Minister - Mr Harold MacMillan - visited Southall on the 28th September. The result of the election: Mr George Pargiter (Lab.) 22,285 retained his seat. Mr M. Underhill (Con.) 19,966.

1960-61-62

The Minutes of the Council show that Civil Defence was still a major factor in the Borough. Councillor J. Woodruff was appointed Chairman of the Civil Defence Committee. There was an appeal for more recruits and more money was being spent on the shelter in Beatrice Road.

Road Safety was also high on the agenda and a great many road signs began to appear. The Clean Air Act of 1956 and Smoke Control Order No 2 came into operation 1st May, 1961, and several local firms received warning notices regarding smoke nuisance.

The deaths occurred in February 1961 of Mr and Mrs Amos. She was the first Lady Mayor of Southall (1944-45). Councillor Ward was elected Mayor for 1960-61.

A Works Centre for the elderly was established at the Municipal Sports Ground. A proposal to build offices for the Parks Department on the site of the Cemetery Lodge in Havelock Road, which had been pulled down in 1958, did not take place. Also, once again, the question of providing Slipper Baths at the corner of Hartington and Featherstone Road was discussed but nothing done. The Council was notified by British Rail that work to strengthen the Station Bridge would result in part of the station being demolished. This took place in 1961 and Southall has still half a station today.

The General Rate in 1962 was 21/4d in the pound. Councillor J. Barrett elected Mayor for 1961/62. Holy Trinity Church had built a Parish Hall and Social Centre next to the Church in Park View Road and offered Trinity Hall Lady Margaret Road to the Council but, after several debates, the offer was rejected. It was later sold to 'Vishua Hindu Mandet', an Indian Religious group.

£5,000 was spent on the lay-out and improvements to Brent Meadow.

From 1960 onwards the number of new Southallians gradually increased and began to settle in large numbers on the Hambrough Estate. The price they were prepared to pay for houses encouraged the original tenants to sell. Of course they were exploited by moneyed members of their own clan and, usually, in order to pay the high rents charged one or two families shared a house. This caused the Borough Councils quite a lot of problems. By the time Southall Borough became incorporated with Ealing the number of new Southallians had reached about 45,000, and had spread all over the town.

Although officially no Ugandians were to settle, 870 managed to arrive. they began to acquire businesses and shops, and the High Street and King Street began to display all types of Asian goods and vegetables. In order to try to keep the ratio of white and coloured children in the schools, and due to, lack of places in the schools, a fleet of coaches was hired by the Education Committee to take children to out-lying schools each morning. All the various religious bodies fitted themselves in and Southall Council Minutes recall several applications of help towards accommodation for social events.

On the north side of the town, towards the end of Allenby Road, a water tower was built and several more houses, and this meant that the Church of the Redeemer was also built in Allenby Road in 1963 as an off-shoot of Holy Trinity.

The population in 1961 was 52,985. The Mayor elected for 1962-63 W. J. Hopkins, JP. Mrs B. A. Chard died on 21st January, 1968 — she was Chairman SNUD Council 1926. All property had been reassessed for rating and the rate for 1963-64 was 7/6d ($37\frac{1}{2}p$) in the pound.

The Works Centre for the elderly was established in Featherstone Terrace May 1963 at a cost of £3,000.

No 3 Smoke Control Order came into being on the 1st July, 1963. No 5 order came later in the year. Grants were made to householders towards the cost of adapting their fire to smokeless fuel.

Mr C. R. Syrett, former Town Clerk died 18th September, 1963.

The death occurred in December 1968 of Mr W. Haigh, JP. He founded the Haigh Picture Frame Factory in the old Robinson Mill at Norwood Bridge. He took a great deal of interest in local affairs and was a Councillor on the SNUD Council for some years.

The Freedom of the Borough was conferred on Aldermen J. Haigh, A. T. Dane, H. Douglas, W. J. Hopkins.

The general rate for 1963/64 was 7/6d in the pound.

The Mayor elected for 1964/65 was Alderman A. T. Dane. On the 3rd May the death was reported of Mr J. B. Thomson. He served the town for 42 years. First as Assistant Surveyor and, after war service, as Borough Surveyor for 14 years. On his retirement in 1950 he was made a Freeman.

The population of Southall in 1964 was 57,200. Under the provisions of the London Government Act 1963 the Boroughs of Southall and Acton were to amalgamate with Ealing to become Ealing Borough and become part of Greater London. Two years grace was allowed to assure a smooth take over. The last meeting of the Southall Borough Council was held on the 23rd March, 1965. Prior to the business the Mayor's Chaplain, Revd M. Rowlestone Jones - Vicar of Holy Trinity — led the Assembly in prayer. We are now a part of Ealing and older residents still feel that we are the poor relations. It only remains for me to record the major events and changes that have taken place in Southall between 1965-82.

Three purpose built Old Peoples' Homes have been opened by the Council. 'The Limes', Bridge Road; opened in November 1966; 'The Cedars', Norwood Green, in September 1966; 'Martin House', Havelock Estate, May 1977.

'Phoenix House', a seven-storey office block built in 1959-60 on the right hand side of The Green. It houses several Government Departments including that of Social Security. There has also been developed a small Trading Estate leading in from South Bridge Way.

In April 1968 a public enquiry was held regarding the proposed construction of the King Street bypass which would go between Norwood Bridge, following the line of the Church Path to Bridge Road, then come out at the Station Bridge. This was ultimately started in 1981 but by the end of 1982 was still far from finished.

The last rate to be levied by the Southall Borough for 1964-5 was 8/- in the £. Between 1965-82 the number of children so greatly increased that three large new schools were built. Havelock First School officially opened on Thursday, 8th

March 1979 by the Mayor of Ealing, Mrs Lavinia Blake; Wolf Field School opened in 1980 and Hambrough Nursery and Middle School opened June 1981. In 1980 the old Infants School in the School Passage was pulled down and a new wing was added to North Road School on the site. There were also several extensions built on to other schools.

In 1975-76 the new Police Station in the High Street was built and opened by Sir Robert Marks, OPM, Chief Commissioner, on the 25th November, 1976.

More Council houses have been built, quite a lot at the end of Havelock Road. But others have been demolished. Featherstone Terrace, and a block of thirty small flats in Dudley Road, also twenty old cottages (Garping Terrace) Western Road, all pulled down. Premises for Social Services have been built in Bridge Road, and in Western Road the Albert Dane Centre opened January 1974. This is a day centre for the disabled. A Nursery School named 'Green-fields' just inside the Recreation Ground on the 3rd November, 1980.

Our new Southallians have been very active in building new, or altering old, buildings to house their various religions. In Havelock Road 'The Sira Guru Singh' Sikh Temple has been established and plans have been passed for much larger premises. Another Sikh Temple has been opened in Oswald Road, which has cost £1 million and can seat 2,000. It is also planned to build a Sikh Library in Southall Broadway. In Montague Road an old factory has been converted into a Moslem Mosque. The Mission Hall, Western Road; St Johns Hall, King Street and Holy Trinity Hall, Lady Margaret Road have all been turned into Meeting Places for different New Southallian religions. The old Congregational Church in Villiers Road is now known as 'Granth Gurdwara' Church.

Businessman Tarsem Singh Foor has had plans passed to build a four-storey hotel costing around £3 million on the Prices Bakery site in the Uxbridge Road. Belmont House, Western Road is now used as an aged Asian Hostel for men. A Hostel for elderly Asian women has opened in Avenue Road.

1981

By this time Southall's population is over 82,000, with nearly 65% multiracial - mostly of Asian origin. The whole of Southall has become badly run down. Litter is everywhere and, what makes things a lot worse, so much today is packed in disposable containers which are just thrown anywhere. Gone are most front gardens, these have made way for cars to park. South Road, which used to be one of the best, is now deplorable. Our new citizens seem to love bright colours which shows when they decorate their houses - some very good, but not all - and add to this, the rubbish left in the front gardens has a very bad effect on our terrace type streets. Although one agrees that our Shop Act requires amending, these days it is possible to purchase almost anything in the town on a Sunday; this, despite the fact that prosecutions have been brought against offenders.

Petty crime has increased by 50% and muggings and break-ins reports fill a great deal of space in the local Gazette.

In January a £500,000 collection of Martinware Pottery, Manuscripts, Drawings and Furniture was presented to Ealing Borough by Professor J. H. Grundy. He had started his collection when he was a lad in Villiers Road.

Mr David Osen appointed Headmaster to Dormers Wells High School. The Wolf Field School was officially opened by the Mayor of Ealing, Councillor Anita Fookes. Miss P. J. Skegg Headmistress (Nursery, First and Middle Schools).

45th AGM Southall Horticultural Association, now with a membership of 653, held 29th January.

One of the oldest public houses the Red Lion is up for sale by tender.

The Dominion Cinema has been possessed on behalf of the Inland Revenue to claim £11,000 unpaid tax bills from the Indian Workers' Association.

500 tenants of Council Houses have made application to buy their houses, rents of which have been increased by 15% and another 20% will be added in 1982.

Hambrough New School (South Road) came into service on 27th April.

On the 29th April a start was made on the new road connecting King Street and Western Road via Pluckington Place. This came into official use on Wednesday, 4th November, 1981, and was named Montague Way.

On 17th May Mr S. G. Cutland died, aged 92. He had a large Drapery business in King Street for 30 years and was President of the Chamber of Commerce 1944-45. Lady Henniker-Heaton elected Mayor 19th May.

500 unemployed from the Liverpool area marched into Southall on Friday, 19th May. They were fed and accommodated at the Community Centre and Havelock Road Temple.

The Revd Phillip Wall retired from Norwood Church, after twelve years, at the end of May.

What must be the most tragic piece of history of our town happened on the night of Friday, July 3rd. There had been a feeling that tension was growing amongst the teenage Asians. This was partly caused by the incident which had occurred previously. On the evening of the 3rd July a Disco was taking place at the Hambrough Tavern and a coach load of hooligans (skinheads) from outside the town started to cause trouble by insulting the coloureds, and smashing windows. This started what was to become known as the Southall Riots. A running fight broke out between hooligans and the police, who had to be reinforced by outside police who carried riot shields. The Hambrough Tavern was burned down, 57 policemen needed hospital treatment, 26 others were taken to hospital. Dozens of shop windows smashed and £20,000 worth of damage done to Council property.

The trouble carried on for over a week. It was a pitiful sight to see nearly all the shop windows in King Street boarded up. 80 arrests were made but, whatever the reason, very few were convicted. To make sure that those arrested were given an unbiased hearing, most of the cases were heard at Hendon Court. What a disgrace to the town.

1981-82

On the 22nd September Dr Rhodes Boyson, Under Secretary for Education, officially opened the new Hamborough School, South Road - Headmistress, Mrs B. Frost. Mr David retired as Headmaster of Featherstone Road Middle School.

On the 21st October a Sixth Form Centre, built on stilts to save space, costing £125,000 was opened by Ealing Mayor Lady Henniker-Heaton at Villiers High School.

Mr Peter Coomber, retired Town Clerk, received the CBE from the Queen.

At the end of October Mr Hilton retired as Parks Superintendant, and his successor - Mr Trevor Preston. Plans to build a £3m Sikh Temple in Havelock Road have been approved.

A new building for Social Work was built and opened in Bridge Road.

At the beginning of December fire destroyed a Sports Centre and Children's Playcentre at the end of Green Drive — valued at £40,000.

Unemployed in the town at the end of 1981 was 10,495.

The worst fall of snow for 31 years occurred between 10th and 14th December. The very cold weather carried on until January 17th, 1982. On the night of January 7/8th temperatures were the lowest ever recorded in the town. The bad weather will cost the ratepayers about £200,000. Over 4,000 tons of salt were used. Southall Fire Services dealt with over 1,300 calls in 1981 - several large fires.

For the first time in its history, Southall Town Hall will no longer be used to register births and deaths.

The death, on January 22nd, 1982, of Life Peer Lord George Pargiter, aged 85. Formerly an employee of the AEC, he served as a Councillor for several years, becoming Mayor 1939-40-41. A County Councillor from 1934 to 1950, when he was elected Southall's Member of Parliament. He retired in 1966 and was made a Life Peer.

How low have we become when it was discovered that thieves have stolen the bronze statue of a soldier from the Featherstone Road School War Memorial.

On Friday, 26th February, Mr Heseltine, Environment Minister, visited Southall and inspected the Dominion Cinema area. He also came again on Wednesday, 3rd March, when he announced the Government backing for a £1.8 million scheme to turn it into a new Community Centre. He had a very stormy reception.

Top left wing MP Eric Heffer came and made a speech at Southall Technical on Wednesday evening, the 20th March.

In March the Police released figures of crime in Southall in 1981 and they were 20% up. What are we coming to?

Assault	380	-	up 66
Robbery and violent theft	199	-	up 107
Burglary	1,896	-	up 18
Auto crimes	2,583	-	up 4
Other Thefts	1,134	-	up 8
Fraud	215	-	up 15
Criminal damage	1,614	-	up 20

and the Gazette continues to report more crime each week.

Gwilym Evans and his wife, Esther, celebrated their Diamond Wedding on the 18th March. He was Branch Secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union for 40 years. They are both aged 81.

The rates have been fixed at 10% more than in 1981. How can this be avoided when such things as £50,000 had to be spent due to the flooding of the deep shelter in South Road, £33,000 had to be spent on vandalism on the Golf Links Estate, and arson at three schools has cost over £10,000?

But all is not bad - £400 was handed over by Stanhope School for the Mentally Handicapped and the Black Dog collected £250 for the equipment for a holiday caravan for the disabled and an American gentleman has given 1,000 dollars to St Bernards League of Friends.

Civic Trust awards were presented to Ealing Architects for the outlay plans of Wolf School, Southall. Early April saw the start of the King Street Bypass. A new Sikh Temple has been opened in Oswald Road. It took two years to build and has cost over 1 million pounds. It can seat 2,000. They also plan to build a Sikh Library in Southall Broadway.

Cliff Richard, rock superstar, paid a visit to Villiers High School on April 28th and gave a talk on his life, and then entertained them. On Thursday, 29th April HRH the Prince of Wales visited Southall. He opened newly built warehouses at the Quaker Oat Factory and then visited SCOPE in Western Road, and, after lunch, toured the National Industrial Training Centre in Havelock Road. He was given a great reception.

Six Southall men ran in the second London Marathon - three were sponsored. At the Council Elections on Thursday, 6th May — elected:

Dormers Wells — S. Hopkins, W. Sharma, R. Dheer; Northcote — S. Gill, H. Graham, D. Harris, Mount Pleasant -- B. Deol, S. Cheesman, S. Bird,

Glebe — D. Sohata, R. Pathak, P. Sennett; Waxlow — M. Elliott, J. Clements, G. Singh.

The 1982/3 Mayor Ealing is Councillor N. Pointing. Southall's unemployment figures 28th May were, 4,269. This increased to 4,376 in June.

A fourteen year old girl, Sammy Harris of Ellison Gardens, although deaf won a Gold Medal at the British Arts Award Contest.

In June it was reported that Clifton Road School was overcrowded. Headmistress G. Shipton stated that a Nursery Play Area was needed.

The new clinic in Featherstone Road received its first patient on 28 June. He was Steve Dass, aged 9.

The GLC have offered ¾million pounds to Southall Community Project to help the unemployed.

The BBC Songs of Praise Programme was filmed at St Johns Church on the 8th July. The congregation was made up of the combined churches.

Miss Gregson retired from North Road School after being there for 41 years. Presentations were made at a party on Tuesday, 20th July.

Bottle Banks in the town have made £5,000 for the ratepayers. A new type has been introduced 'The Bottle Bin'. This has been a step in the right direction as,

unfortunately, over the past few years Southall - like all other towns - has suffered by the fact that a lot of food and drinks are sold in throw away containers. Despite more litter bins and the threat of fines litter is found everywhere and the Council's latest Directive that after the 1st September household rubbish sacks will only be collected from the front of houses won't help. Sacks damaged by cats or dogs will spill their contents over the paths, thus creating more mess.

Looking either way from the Town Hall one can still see the tops of trees but, try as they do to get more, over 100 saplings a year planted by the Council are destroyed by vandals.

Reported on the 30th July that a Special Day Hospital is to be built next to Mount Pleasant Hospital, to cater for day care for the aged. Estimated cost £260,000.

Plans have been approved to build on the one acre site where A. & B. Hanson's yard was in Featherstone Road. This site was where the old Southall Workhouse was over 100 years ago. Developers, Walter Jamieson Partnership.

Ealing Council have made a grant of £300,000 and appointed Mr Joe Gladstone as Southall's new Sports Co-ordinator. This started at Dormers Wells Sports Centre with five specialists in rugby, football, badminton, swimming and physical training.

For over three months there has been staff unrest and walkouts at Ealing Hospital and St Bernards, seeking the settlement of a pay claim.

What has been a favourite shop with Southall people for over 60 years – F. Rowse, Household Fittings and Drapers, West Ealing, will be closing down at the end of 1982.

First mentioned by the Southall Borough Council February 1939 but postponed due to the war, the provision of a Crematorium has again been raised in Council. Formerly to be sited in Glade Green, the proposed new site is part of Greenford Cemetery.

Southall's three-day show, 28th/29th/30th August, was one of the best for years. Blessed with fine days it attracted large crowds each day. The procession of decorated floats was led by the Band of the 3rd Battalion Parachute Regiment. Plenty of side shows and entertainment. The Parks Department and the local Societies staged splendid displays, and a Firework Display ended with a profile of Princess Diana.

The same weekend the Great Western Railway Preservation Society at Bridge Road put on displays and had a steam locomotive 'The Birkenhead' taking parties down the Brentford Branch. They had over 3,000 visitors.

With the rebuilding nearly complete it has been announced that the original name `Hambrough Tavern' will be retained. Lots of other names were put forward but found not suitable due to the name `Hambrough' local history connection.

The rebuilt Hambrough Tavern was opened again on Saturday, 9th October. It cost £200,000 — it is much smaller and designed with the family and community in mind

Company Director Mary Hilton took over from Roger Kew as the new President of the Southall Chamber of Commerce. He resigned due to overseas business commitments.

The first Asian to be ordained as a deacon in the Borough at St Johns Church last June, died of a heart attack on the 5th October. He was Mr John Masih, aged 33. 700 people attended the funeral.

An appeal for cash, to replace the stolen bronze soldier from the Featherstone Road School War Memorial, had been launched.

After 37 years the Hambrough Whist and Social Club has been forced to close due to declining membership, and the fact that members do not feel safe coming out at night during the winter months. The club, started by the late Mr Syd Green, donated assets of £100 to the Eventide Homes.

The Southern Electricity Company closed its offices at the Iron Bridge, Windmill Lane on November 1st, after 62 years. They are now at Waterloo Road, Uxbridge.

It was reported on the 29th October that Southall has 4,664 unemployed.

John Skinner of St Mary's Road, Norwood Green, raised £5,000 in sponsored money for the Church of England Children's Society through running in the New York Marathon - his time was 3 hours and 6 minutes.

A start was made to demolish the Dominion Cinema on Monday, 22nd November

After breaking away from the Southall Horticultural Association 34 years ago and forming the Southall and District Chrysanthemum Society, an agreement was signed on Wednesday, 24th November, 1982 whereby they became incorporated with the SHA, transferring all their assets.

Work has at last finished on the road widening between Norwood Bridge and Frogmore Green, and a gyratory road system has been constructed at the Southall entrance to the old AEC works.

For many years there has been a company of Sea Cadets in Southall. They have had various setbacks. Their former HQ in Trumpers Way was destroyed by fire in 1979. On Monday, 17th January 1983 the Second in Command Sea Cadets visited the TS Westcott Company as they are now known at their new HQ in Tentelow Lane. Membership now thirty.

Southall Environment Project, under the Directorship of Councillor S. D. Gupta, MSc DIIP, came into being in September 1977. Its object was to enrich the quality of life in Southall. In 1982 the project is five years old. Several good schemes have been started and quite a lot done to try and clean up the town. Ninety per cent of the ethnic community in the town are ordinary people who want to be left alone to live their own lives. It is only a very small element that cause trouble with thieving and mugging. This is not helped by the large number of unemployed, both coloured and white - the figure at the end of 1982 being 4,328.

New Parish Social Centres have been built for St Johns and Holy Trinity Churches. Between 1968-78 the Ealing Borough established the Glade Lane Nursery, centralising the growing of trees and plants, and closed the Park Nursery. Unfortunately, over the past ten years several large industrial firms have either closed down or moved. The Gas Works closed in 1973; the AEC in June 1979; Cramic

Engineering 1978; Arrow Switches moved to Plymouth 1968. Several smaller firms have also closed down but, in the hope of attracting new industry, small Trading Estates have been created at the end of Hortus Road, on the Council Depot in Endsleigh Road and on the site of A. & B. Hanson's Yard in Featherstone Road.

In 1979 the first Euro Parliamentary Election was held and Mr Brian Hoard was elected to represent Western Territory of which Southall is a part.

There opened in Southall on the Southbridge Trading Estate in 1980 a small wholesale grocery warehouse. In 1981 an extension was added of 55,000 square feet, making in all 80,000 square feet. Thus, the success of the four Satterwalla Brothers who now employ 125 people and have a turnover of £12 million.

Another setback for the name of Southall - the very successful Southall three-day show will, after 40 years, in 1983 become Ealing Borough Show. Due to economy cuts the open-air swimming pool in the Recreation Ground will remain closed.

The Fire Brigade

Just as Southall gradually developed, so the Fire Brigade has gradually expanded. When, in 1900, Mr C. Abbott formed a voluntary Fire Brigade the Council built a Fire Station attached to the Town Hall and, very grudgingly, provided a manual engine, uniforms and a horse.

A great boost came in May 1913 when the Annual Competitions of the South Midland District of the National Fire Brigade took place in Southall Park. Under Chiefs Harry Willis and Albert Smith the Brigade became much more efficient and a lot more up-to-date. Motor Fire Engines purchased about 1930.

It used to be a normal sight to see Fire Alarm Stands in various streets in the town. In case of fire you broke the glass panel and pulled the alarm handle to call the Brigade but, because of many false alarms through vandals, also the telephone becoming more readily available, they were taken out of use.

A new station was built at the rear of the Town Hall and professional firemen employed alongside the volunteers. In 1950 a move was made to find a site for a new modern Fire Station. Eventually the present site in the High Street was chosen and planning permission granted by the MCC. By a strange quirk of fate, this meant pulling down among other properties, Abbott Brothers offices in which, without much doubt, the seeds for a Fire Brigade were first sown.

Today, 1982, with a staff of 52 working in four shifts with ultra modern HCB Angus Fire Engines, one pump and ladder, one pump, each carrying 201 different kinds of equipment costing approx.. £40,000 each and electric Teleprinter to record, in triplicate, all incoming calls, the alarm call will have the engine on its way within three minutes. The station has a mess-room and social room above, and the usual pole for the firemen on call to slide down for duty. Gone are the days of the fireman's nice brass helmets. Now they are made of compressed fibre.

The brigade now comes under the control of The Greater London Council.

The Local Newspapers

The first local newspaper was published as *The Southall News* and was edited by Mr C. Abbott. The estimated circulation was 500 copies selling at a halfpenny per copy. It relied on its advertisements which cost 1/0 (5p) per inch. This existed between 1885 and 1888. Mr Abbott passed over the paper on September 7th, 1887 to new editor and proprietor Mr W. H. Wheeler of the Market Place, but it ceased publication on January 11th, 1888. Perhaps this was because another paper, *The Southall-Norwood Gazette*, had come into being. This was one of a number of local papers published by Kings Printers of Uxbridge. They opened offices in King Street and High Street. The paper sold at one penny per copy and, as the town grew, so did its circulation. Under the guiding hands of Mr G. Smith, editor, and Mr E. Weeks and Mr Rigby, roving reporters, local events were very well covered. (There was a change just after the first world war to King and Hutchings as proprietors.)

When Lord Kitchener's Recruiting Campaign was in full swing in 1915 both Gazette offices were used as Recruiting Offices.

The name of the paper was changed to *West Middlesex Gazette* and a move was made to 53, South Road. On Saturday, 4th May, 1935, they issued a Royal Jubilee edition in which they gave Southall's development over the past 25 years, featuring some of the outstanding events from 1910 to 1934. Soon after the amalgamation of the boroughs the South Road office was closed and the business transferred to the Mall in Ealing. Now, in 1982, we again have the *Southall Gazette* (not one penny per copy, but 15p [2/6d]) in which, except for crime, Southall news is very sparse.

Several times rival papers have been started without much success but now, with so many new Southallians to cater for, at least three papers are in circulation, printed in their various dialects. This of course must affect the circulation, and interruptions through industrial troubles do not help, but, as can be guessed, the author is very grateful that over the years the Gazette has played its part reporting what has taken place, and thus allowed him to place them on record in this book.

The Principle people holding Office for Southall at the end of 1982:

Southall MP: Mr Sydney Bidwell (Labour).

Mayor of the Borough of Ealing (Southall). Councillor N. Pointing.

Southall Councillors: Dormers Wells: Y. S. Hopkins, W. Sharma, R. Dheer, North-

cote: S. Gill, H. Graham, D. Harris; Glebe: D. Sohata,

Mount Pleasant: B. Doel, T. Cheeseman, S. Bird; Waxlow: M. Elliott, J. Clements, G. Singh.

Borough Town Clerk: Mr Brain Collins Pathak. Medical Officer of Health: Dr Peter Briggs.

Chief Parks and Open Spaces: Mr R. Preston

Chief Officer Finance: R. J. Chalkley.

Southall Police Chief: Chief Supt Robert Hay. Stationmaster British Rail: Area Officer Mr Bell.

Southall Postmaster: Mr Butcher.

President Southall Chamber of Commerce: Mrs M. Hilton President Southall Horticultural Association: Mr H. Salvage President Southall Local History Society: Miss A. Cameron.

President Southall Football Club: Mr R. Fowler.

Southall Combine St John Ambulance Divisions: Supt B. Holloway.

British Red Cross, Centre Organiser: Mrs M. Jerden-Cooke.

Parish Vicars

St Marys, The Virgin, Norwood: Revd Neil Pollock.
St Johns, Southall Green: Revd D. L. E. Bronnert.
Holy Trinity, Uxbridge Road: Revd D. Crick.
St Georges, Uxbridge Road: Revd W. G. Morgan.
Christ The Redeemer, Allenby Road: Revd G. T. Grainger.
Emmanuel Church, Golf Links Estate: Revd Roy Smith.
St Anselm's Catholic Church: Father Antony Brunning.
Baptist Church, Western Road: Revd Boyd V. Williams.
Kings Hall (Methodist), South Road: Revd J. Parkinson.
Salvation Army, Adelaide Road: Major Rose Shephard.

As we draw to the end of 1982 and the end of this book it must be very obvious that the changes that have taken place over the course of years have not all been for the good of the town. During its early development there were those who took advantage of their positions to further their own ends - thus, by their failure to spend money, in later years found the town with a lot of bad houses, inadequate roads and sewers, which have cost the later generations quite a lot to put right. Of course one could not foresee that roads that were wide enough for horses and carts would, by 1982, be filled with cars, buses and huge lorries, and that almost every house would have a car parked outside. Gone are the days of the dust carts and dust bins, and we now have the black plastic bag and huge refuse lorries - but we also have the unpleasant sight of litter being deposited all over the town. This is mainly caused by paper from 'take-away' food and plastic and tin containers. In fact, the filthy state of the town was highlighted by Councillor S. D. Gupta (Mr Clean) in a statement issued by the Southall Environment Project - 'By 1979 the whole of Southall area has become sadly run down and neglected. Decay is so widespread that filth and squalor are beginning to be considered normal.' Most of the blame for the town's neglect was laid at the feet of the town's new residents. They were to blame because they did not know how to live in a town. In fact, the area's whole decline was mainly because of residents failing to take any interest in the town's affairs. What a change there has been in how the townspeople get their entertainment. The coming of television and the decline of the cinema now keep the older generation home in the evenings - perhaps this is a good thing for, unfortunately, a great many feel that it is unsafe to be out after dark

Another thing that makes the town so untidy is that of 'Fly Bill Posting'. We used to see the notice 'Bill Stickers will be prosecuted'. What a pity this does not apply today. Most of our old established businesses have gone and our new traders are making King Street and the High Street more and more like a huge market.

Maybe the most suitable place at which to end this book, is the Southall War Memorial, standing as it does almost in the centre of Old Southall Green, on what was part of the Manor House Grounds. Erected to commemorate Southall men who gave their lives for their country and town. Still serving a useful purpose, the old Manor House (what is left of it) has played a major part in the history of the town for nearly 450 years. It's occupiers being very attentive to local needs both morally and socially. How thankful we are that it has been preserved, together with the Manor House grounds which are beautifully kept by the Parks Department, and also there is a perpetual reminder of Southall's one claim to fame - the splendid Martinware Fountain. The grounds themselves have done their bit with a bowling green for recreation at one time and, during the last war, as emergency ARP car park.

Were it not for people who had the interest of Old Southall at heart both the Manor House and the grounds would have been destroyed, for our new Southallians have tried several times to get the grounds for a car park, and other uses for the Manor House site.

So we end up at the place from which the town spread out — let us hope that this oasis can be preserved.

O God our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come. Thank you for Southallians past And bless all those to come.

R. J. Meads

Message of Thanks on Dissolution of Borough of Southall

At a meeting of the Southall Borough Council held on the 23rd day of March, 1965, it was

RESOLVED

that the Southall Borough Council, at its last Meeting before the dissolution of the Borough under the provisions of the London Government Act 1963, desires to acknowledge and offers sincere thanks for the distinguished, loyal and devoted services, voluntary or otherwise, of past and present Members of the Council, Non-Council Members of various Committees, Officers and Employees, and also Organisations, Associations, the Local Press, Industrial and Commercial Concerns and their employees and, indeed, many zealous inhabitants, without which the manifold achievements and progressive development of Southall, particularly since its incorporation as a Municipal Borough in 1963, could not have been realised; and recognising that the creation of such a thriving and happy community could not have been attained without the foresight, hard work and personal sacrifices of all those who have participated, wishes to place on record in this Resolution its high appreciation and deep gratitude to all who have helped, in one form or another, in promoting and maintaining the advancement of the town and the general welfare of all sections of the community.

Further, the Council earnestly hopes that all concerned will strive, with their neighbours in the London Borough of Ealing and within the concept of the reform taking place in the administration of local government in Greater London, to maintain the progress achieved in Southall and to uphold the many fine traditions which have been established over the years in the locality.

This was signed by the Mayor - A. T. Dane, and Town Clerk, and the Common Seal of the Southall Borough Council was affixed.

A very sad wartime atrocity came to light which took place in France on a summer's day 27th May, 1940. Private Albert Pooley, a former Southall postman (who married in 1940 just before going to France as a Private in the Royal Norfolk Regiment), with about 100 officers and men of the regiment became cut off from the main force and surrendered to the German SS in the hamlet of Le Paradis. The men were disarmed, marched into a field and mowed down by a machine-gun. By feigning to be dead Private Pooley and a Private Bill Callagan survived and escaped during the night. They were recaptured but, because of his wounds, Pte Pooley was repatriated in 1944 and taken to Roehampton Hospital where he had a leg amputated. Whilst there he told officers about the massacre but nothing could be done for fear of the other man's safety, he still being a prisoner of war.

As soon as possible after the war Albert Pooley went back to Le Paradis and collected various items from where the massacre took place. The two men eventually proved their story. Eventually both men attended the War Crimes Trial in Hamburg and identified the German officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Frity Knoechlein, who was later hanged for the crime.

Albert Pooley and his family lived in Portland Road. He returned to work at the Post Office but was always in pain and had to have 47 more operations which included having his other leg amputated in 1980. He died in February 1982, aged 70. He was cremated and in mid June his ashes were taken back to La Paradis and placed on the Monument which marks the site of the massacre.

A book by Cyril Jolley The Vengeance of Private Pooley has been published. Bill O'Callaghan died in 1976

1st Norwood -- Southall Scouts Group — Lady Jersey's Own

This was the first troop of Scouts formed in Southall and has been in existence since 1910 — Scoutmaster was Mr Jubb, with Arthur Collins as Assistant and the encouragement of Mr Dunn.

They had a drum and fife band. They were presented with Colours in Southall Park on December 3rd, 1910. During the 1914-18 war the members did quite a lot of war work.

Between 1919 and 1927, due to numbers, it was necessary to have two meeting nights - Wednesday and Friday evenings. A piece of land was leased from St Johns Church at the end of Western Road and their first HQ 'The Hut' built. Great times were had between the wars. A Senior 'Rover Crew' was 25 strong. When the 1939 war started the crew volunteered for military service. Sadly, six were killed in action. Again the Scouts carried out quite a lot of voluntary war work but they kept up their morale by making full use of a camping site which had been purchased for them by Mr Haigh, at Stanwell. This they lost when London Airport was developed.

In 1965 the hut was burned down but everyone rallied round and the money was raised, and by 1967 a new HQ was ready. Numbers have fallen but the Troop still kept very active. They played host to a group of American Scouts in 1972. In 1981 they were again host to 14 boys and girls from Luxembourg.

A lease was drawn up between St Johns Church and the Troop which grants a 14 year tenure of the site. Now 72 years on in 1982 the troop is still going. Smaller in numbers but it has a loyal group Committee who work to raise money and give all help possible.

Rands

The first mention of a band in Southall was around 1894 when a Drum and Fife Band was formed by the younger members of The Ancient Order of Forresters. This carried on for about three years. They used to practice at the Manor House Barn.

Two Boys' School Bands - one at St Marylebone School, the other at St Mary's Orphanage, North Hyde School - came in the early 1900s. St Marylebone School Band had a uniform of dark blue, red braided suit with a pill box hat. The Bandmaster was Mr W. Wheatley and the band led the parade of children on Sundays to Holy Trinity Church, and concerts at the school until it closed down in 1914.

The North Hyde School Band gained for itself a great reputation. With a uniform of dark green, black braided knicker-bocker suit with bush hats. Under Bandmaster Dunn they were very much in demand in Southall, playing in the park, at Southall Football Ground and at parades. Mr Dunn had three sons who were bandmasters, one being the Head Bandmaster of the Royal Marines. This North Hyde Band also finished with the closure of the school.

The Gas Works Band was formed in 1886 and made its first public appearance at the party held 29th June, 1887 for Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. Under Bandmasters Gray, Sims, Goodall and Soop, it carried on and gained the contract to play in the parks in 1937 then, until about three years after the Gas industry was nationalised and due to the withdrawal of support from the works, it closed down. Quite a few of the bandsmen joined other bands.

The Salvation Army have had a band since 1885. It gained for itself a place as one of the best in the London area and, over the years, must have trained some hundreds of young musicians. They did at one time have a Junior Band. Until the traffic prevented it, before Sunday evening Service, it was the custom to form a circle around the lamppost which used to stand at the junction of King Street and Adelaide Road, and hold, an Open Air Service. Now very much reduced in numbers, they hold the service on the small piece of green at the corner of Western Road. Bandmasters have been - Mr Hill, Mr Snellings, Mr Osgood and Mr Eric Ball who wrote quite a lot of music for the Salvation Army. The present Conductor is Mr Norman Edwards.

The Maypole Military Band was first formed in 1911 and reformed after the 1914-18 war. Mr Wheeler (timekeeper) was Bandmaster. In 1923 they had an addition of six ex-army bandsmen, one of whom was Mr Alf Soop who eventually took over as bandmaster until the works closed down between 1925-29. The works also had an orchestra under Mr Wheeler's baton.

Between the wars the British Legion started a Brass Band with Mr J. Harbar as Bandmaster. Later it carried on under Mr W. Meads. Its last concert programme was given on Sunday, 26th July, 1937. It gradually faded out before 1939

After 1945 efforts were made to form a Southall Town Band with Mr Brophy as Bandmaster. Bandsmen who had previously been with other local bands joined in.

They used to play under contract to the Council in the Park and Recreation Ground. In 1962 their Secretary, Mr A. Spackman, resigned after five years. The band made an application to the Borough for a grant of £250 towards new uniforms. This they offered as a loan against the band carrying out engagements with the object of early repayment. This the band declined - they were, at the same time, seeking new members. They eventually finished when under the baton of Mr Oaten in 1966.

In 1944 Supt Taylor of No 55 Division St John Ambulance with the help of Mr J. Galvin (late Irish Guards Band) formed an Ambulance Cadet Band. Mr Galvin trained boys and girls and, at its peak in 1946, had 26 members. They played at various functions and parades. Alas, boys and girls grow up and National Service took its toll. Lacking new members it finished in 1952.

In 1946 there came into being 'The Pride of Murray Bagpipe Band'. This was formed from the local Air Training Corps. It had 24 members and gained for itself a good reputation performing at the Royal Tournament and the Lord Mayor's Show. It was always in demand. Mace Bearer was Mr Raymond Painter.

From the very beginning of youth organisations in the town each have had their bands. In 1912 the 1st Southall Scout Troop had a Drum and Fife Band, trained by Mr Dunn. St George's Scouts, when formed, started a Bugle Band which made a reputation for itself. The Boys' Brigade attached to the Baptist Church have still a small Bugle Band, and The Church Lads Brigade (St Johns) also had a splendid Bugle Band which started as early as 1912. This carried on up till 1972 when Mr Weedon, Bandmaster and Trainer, retired, moved to the Isle of Wight and could not be replaced. The girls were not to be out-done. The 2nd Southall Girls' Life Brigade attached to the Barn Mission formed, in 1950, a small band consisting of 9 trumpets, 3 side drums, bass drum and cymbals. Under Bandmaster Mr Ron Pannell and Captain Ida Dorward they achieved great success, leading parades and playing at social occasions. They finally won the GLB National Band Competition in 1957; but girls grow up and, after nearly ten years, it was disbanded in 1960.

The Featherstone Road School Band started in 1948 by Hubert Osgood with the help of Mr Downs, School Headmaster, borrowing some brass instruments from the local Salvation Army. In 1950 Mr K. Cook joined the school and in 1953 the bands first concert tour abroad to Norway and Sweden. Mr Alexander Mitchell took over the band in 1958 and, under his baton, the band toured Germany in 1962, the USA and Canada in 1964. In 1967 the band returned to Canada where they played at the Expo '67 Exhibition at Montreal. 1968 the band toured Scandinavia. Mr Downs retired and Mr A. A. Berg became Headmaster. He has always given the band his full support. In 1970 the band entered the British Youth Brass Band Competition held in Liverpool. They won the Schools Commemorative Shield, being the highest placed School Band. This they repeated in 1971.

Easter 1972 found the band in Austria, playing at various venues. After a week at the Sunbury Music Camp they again entered the Liverpool Brass Band Competition, but this time the band was made up with pupils and some past youth members of the band and entered and won the Youth Section outright. 1973, after

appearing on BBC's 'Nationwide' programme, they once again won the Schools Commemorative Shield in Liverpool. After another tour of Canada in 1974 the band became Featherstone Youth Brass Band so that former members could help the up and coming players. After 17 years Mr A. Mitchell handed over the baton to Mr Paul Harris in 1975. Another tour of Norway 1976 and started recording. West Germany 1977, and played at The Royal Albert Hall at the Rotary International Festival. 1979, another tour of USA and Canada, and a film was made about the band in connection with a film entitled Third World Countries. In 1980 Mr G. Hayes, who had been trained in the band, took over as bandmaster. November 1981 the band entered the Reading Brass Band Competition, coming second - winning the Boosey and Hawkes Challenge Shield. What an achievement.

Since the formation in 1948 successive generations of young people have received a thorough musical education. A number of pupils have gone on to make a career in music, and two pupils have returned to the school as Bandmasters — Mr Paul Harris and Mr Greg Hayes (present Bandmaster).

At the meeting of the General Services Committee of the Borough, December 1982, a grant was made of £5,000 from its lottery fund towards the cost of buying new instruments. Mr Alfred Berg, Headmaster, said this was well wanted as some of the instruments now in use were very old and beyond repair. At least ten would need to be replaced.

The only Junior Band still in existence in 1982 is the Bugle Band of the 8th Ealing Company of the Boys' Brigade which is attached to the Baptist Church. Officers of the Company are: Mr R. Goddard (Captain), Mr G. Stokes, Mr A. Hoskins, Mr G. Goddard, Mr E. Milsom, M. J. Holman, Mr P. Milsom, Mr M. Dhanraj, Mr D. Streets.

One man who in his own way did quite a good job in preserving the history of Southall was Mr Ernest Ham. His family came to Southall in 1889. He was educated at Christ's Hospital (Blue Coat School). All his life he suffered from asthma. He went around in all weathers with his little sketch book, or with a small easel, and painted a great many pictures of Southall. Over 70 of these were presented to the Library after his death. Many more are in private collections. A series of slides was made of his paintings and these are still used for Lecture purposes.

He was born in Dorset on 21st June 1874, married Rose Lidstone, and all his married life lived at No 8 Florence Road. He was employed by Abbott Brothers, High Street, and was a superb craftsman in woodwork. His poker work is somewhere in the Royal Palaces. A staunch churchman, he worshiped at St Johns Church, and was sidesman for many years.

Ernest Ham died on the 1st February 1958, age 83 years.