

An introduction to “Sudbury – Then and Now”, and how you can get involved:

Sudbury – Then and Now

This is a community local history project for 2015, where Sudbury residents and business people can choose an old photograph and add a matching modern colour view + some details of when things changed from one image to the other.



The “Then and Now” format was used for a local history display at Kingsbury Library in 2008, where it attracted a lot of interest.

As an example, I was able to use an old postcard, showing a pub which had been a local landmark by the Kingsbury Circle roundabout for seventy years ...



The “Prince of Wales” Public House at Kingsbury Circle, around 1950 - Originally proposed as the “Honeycot” in 1927, this pub was built by Charrington’s brewery in 1933 and named after the popular heir to the throne. A hall for social functions was added in 1936, and called the “Coronation Room” in anticipation of the Prince’s crowning as King Edward VIII. In fact, it was his brother whose coronation as King George VI took place in May 1937. (A Frih’s postcard. Source: Brent Archive – “Brent in Pictures” on-line collection, No.1339.)

... showing what had recently replaced it, and what newcomers to the area might never have known about.



The "Prince of Wales" site, August 2008 - The "Prince of Wales" remained the only pub in this part of Kingsbury until J.J. Moors opened in Kingsbury Road in 1988. In the 1960's the hall at its side became the Bandwagon, a discotheque which also featured live music groups, and by the late 1970's this was notorious as "... the most famous heavy metal rock venue in the country." Complaints about the noise caused the Bandwagon to shut in 1981, and the pub itself closed in 2005, as its large site was worth more for development. In 2007 work began on a five storey block of forty-four flats, called "Azure", with a shop on the ground floor, which opened as a Tesco Express store on 21 August 2008.

Sudbury – Then and Now

This year, Wembley History Society and Brent Archives are **inviting you** to get involved in this community project.

Either on your own, or with family or friends, you can discover more about a particular piece of Sudbury's past, and share that with others, both in a free exhibition this autumn and with future residents through Brent Archives.

How do you begin?

By "adopting" an old photograph or postcard from the Archives collection for the project: and there are plenty to choose from.





There are even some “colourised” postcards from about the time of the First World War, most collected by Wembley History Society members and now part of the Brent Archives collections.



Some local views are still recognisable from what they were 50, 75 or 100 years ago.



Others have changed completely, with old buildings replaced by new ones.

Sudbury Priory has gone, but if you live in Priory Crescent, Gardens or Hill, your “matching colour view” for this photograph could be one of a neighbour mowing their lawn, with one of today’s houses in the background.



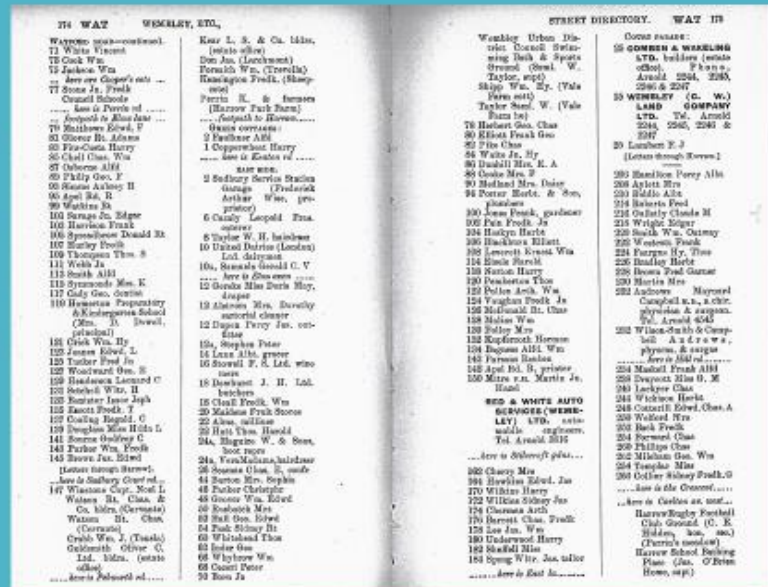


The Poplars, near to the Swan pub, has changed a lot since this photo was taken, more than 100 years ago.

Earlier this month, Wembley History Society received some new information about how this property was used between 1894 and 1903. We would be happy to pass on the details to anyone who "adopts" this photograph.

Other information to help you find out more about the old photograph you choose can be found in local history books, or through Brent Archives. You can email them at: archives@brent.gov.uk, or 'phone them on (020) 8937 3541 to make an appointment.

The details here are from a page in Kelly's 1934 Street Directory for Wembley, showing Watford Road.



Sudbury has a really interesting history. If you would like to help in sharing some fascinating glimpses of its past with Sudbury's community of today, please get in touch with your local Residents' Association (SCRA or STRA), or contact Philip Grant at Wembley History Society on: Philgrant69@aol.com to see what old photos are available.

Thank you!