

Feltham History Group November 2023 meeting

Due to the absence of the Chair the Vice Chair, Tony Fredjohn, conducted the meeting with the customary welcome and opening remarks.

As has become the norm an image, chosen at random, was displayed to engender interest; on this occasion it was a notification in a local publication (23/9/1951) on the adoption of Army Units by the local authority.

As the Chairman will be welcomed.

On the Sunday previous, September 23rd, there is to be an "adoption ceremony" in Feltham, at which the Chairman of the District Council will formally "adopt" the Army Units Stationed in Feltham. These include No. 1 Motor Transport Stores Company, Advanced Ordnance Depot of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps (Territorial Army), and No. 79 Middlesex Cadet Company of the 7th County of Middlesex Regiment. The proceedings will begin with a religious Service. Detailed arrangements are not finally completed at the time of going to press, but they will probably appear in the local newspapers in due course.

A. CALDER,

Vicar

Archibald Calder was Vicar in Feltham from 1951 to 1962, In 1918 Archie was awarded a D.S.O. "for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty" In 1955 he was living together with his wife and daughters Evelyn and Mary at the Vicarage St Dunstan's Road Feltham. The families stay there was until 1963.

Items of Interest – under items of interest there were three email enquires the first of which was from Juliet Jenkins re her relative who was an inmate at Middlesex Industrial School 1881. The name was ‘Pudney’



Juliet writes – on the 1891 Census: George Pudney (my great grandfather) Inmate, aged 10, Scholar, born Kensal New Town. Juliet continues do you [FHG] have any records of admissions & discharges from this institution? Juliet resides in Australia, therefore visiting is rather difficult but she says “I would be happy to pay for any searches etc. I am a member of West Middlesex Family History Society.

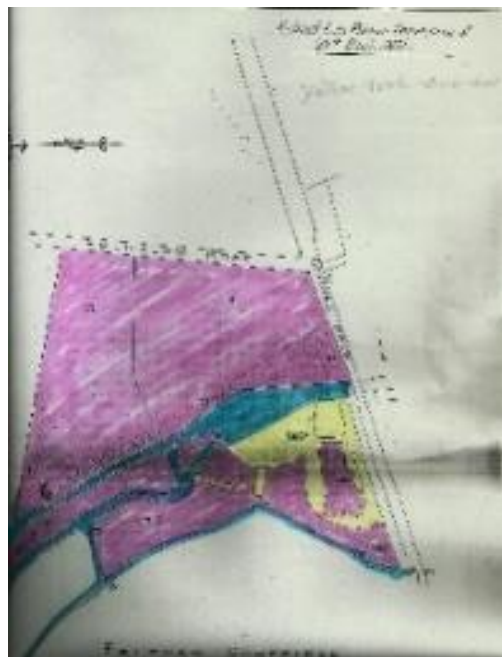
My response – although we [FHG] have much on the MIS I could but only confirm that Officer’s notes (which I think are kept at LMA) I shall reply to Juliet and hopefully make a visit to the LMA sometime in the near future and discover the information she is seeking.

The second item of interest was again an email enquiry concerning a family and a place of residence noted in the 1939 Census as Loch Glenk Farm. It was from a Mr John King who, with his family once lived at the aforementioned address.

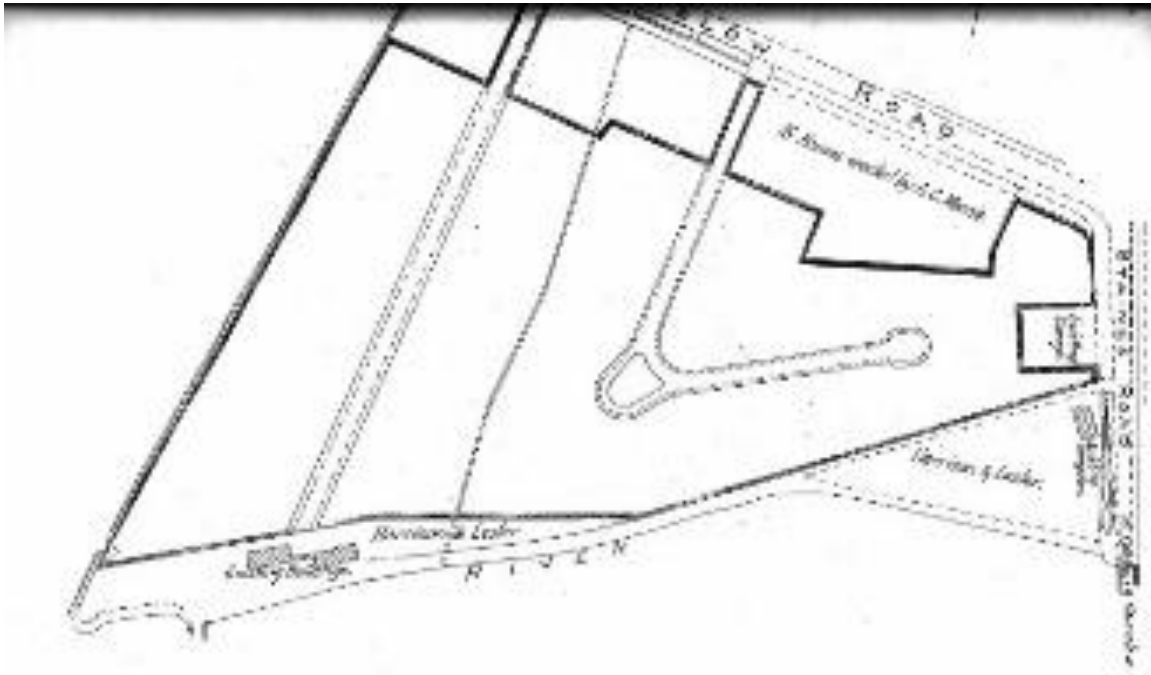
Mr King’s family was fairly large – some members of the family are here listed, Smith, Collins, Scott, in particular there was a sister Lena [Scott]

who married a certain 'Cyril Madrid' and for many years they lived in Harlington Road East Feltham they were known to me and other members of my family 'what a lovely man Cyril was' - another family member 'Jean Scott' worked in Tesco's first large store on the corner of Bedfont Lane

Mr King in his enquiry was unsure as to the location of Loch Glenk Farm, here, therefore., follows a short history of the site at the time in question. The explosive manufacturers Curtis & Harvey Ltd (Wiliam Thomas Millar 'Manager') operated from the North Feltham Powder Mill site until 1926 and it is possible that the small farm was situated adjacent the Mill workings along what was known as Occupation Lane at Baber Bridge. The odd sounding name of the 'farm' may be nothing more than the noise made when certain mechanisms of the Mill Gates opened and closed. 'glenk glenk'. It is not thought that it had Scottish connotations, i.e., 'without the 'g'



Following closure of the Mills a firm named Harrison and Lester were operating from the site but the type of business is not known?



Sometime in the 1940's, I am reliably informed, that part of the area was occupied by three Caravans.

When Albert Smith died the family moved elsewhere in the area (Hounslow Road) however as a tribute 'IN GOOD Romany tradition' at least one of the **caravans** was 'burnt'



Here is an example the type of caravan and a family photo of Albert Smith with his wife Ann and son Albert – Mr King states that this photograph was taken around 1940/1



The final item pertained to an enquiry on the 1964 shopping centre Feltham and concerned 'sculptures' this again was an EMAIL from Geraint Franklin of Historic England

He begins - Dear Feltham History Group, I wonder if you could help with a Feltham-related enquiry. I'm researching a Spanish-born sculptor named Joxe de Alberdi (1922-2008) and two lost 1960s works of his which happen to have been located in central Feltham. They were in The Centre, Feltham's shopping precinct, which was built in 1961-4 by R. Seifert & Partners. The sculptures were Mother and Child (stone, 2m high, photo attached) and Kiosk of the Beatles (iron and fibreglass, 7m high). I responded with detail on where in the centre they were placed – and his reply was, Dear Alan Rice, - Thanks for your email and the fascinating photograph which I think shows Quiosco de los Beatles, which was described by Alberdi's son as a 'futuristic bandstand'. Quiosco de música means bandstand, so I think one could translate the title as Beatles' bandstand. The idea was to have the Beatles open it, though I don't think this materialised! Any further details as to the fate of the pieces would be appreciated. - Best, Geraint



He continues - *Does anyone remember these and what happened to them? The shopping precinct seems to have been redeveloped about 20 years ago. Any leads appreciated. With best wishes, Geraint Franklin.*

There was also a third piece called 'The Phoenix' which we [FHG] do not have an image of - anyone help!!

Further enquires will be made at the centre offices in a hope to uncover their whereabouts!

Under 'forthcoming events' details of Remembrance Day services and observances were as here given.

Saturday 11th November 11am Feltham War Memorial 'short observance'

Sunday 12th 1:15pm Commemoration at Feltham Cemetery meeting at the Three Horseshoes PH car park and then to proceed to the cemetery

Sunday 12th November 3pm Remembrance Service Feltham War Memorial.

AOB – there were numerous matters under 'any other business' (detail on request)

The 'short talk' for the November meeting was given by the vice Chair Tony Fredjohn This can be found in the Short talks section 'Remembrance 2023'

Next meeting Tuesday 5th December