

# Remembering Marks Gate and North Chadwell Heath

## EARLY DAYS

During the Second World War, thousands of houses across London and its outskirts were destroyed, including many in Chadwell Heath. Housing was in high demand, and Marks Gate and North Chadwell Heath would become home to many who had lost theirs during the war.

CRAIG

"They were bombed out from Greenwich and came to live in Chadwell Heath - so there was my mum, my dad, my brother, my mum's sister and her husband and two children, granddad (...) There were ten of them in a three bedroom house living in Mill Lane."



A still from film *The Development of Marks Gate Housing Estate*, 1962. [Barking & Dagenham Heritage and Archives Service].

JOHN

"I lived in Norbury Gardens, we were surrounded by countryside from up to the North of Hainault (...) there was no cars around (...) we used to see one car every hour or maybe two hours or three hours even."

Until the 19th Century, the area was mostly farmland!

PAMELA

"She moved us to Marks Gate (...) and it was like it was a new estate."

## William's Story

"Christmas 1957 (...) we moved in and we found out when we moved in we got no electric. They'd gone away and shut all the electric off 'cos it was a building site. (...) My daughter always remembers that Christmas 'cos she was just coming up to three when we had it all in candlelight."



Mike with his Gran at 41 Blackbush Avenue, 1961.

Rose Farm, Chadwell Heath, c. 1910.



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An Eastside Community Heritage Exhibition

[www.hidden-histories.org](http://www.hidden-histories.org)