Remembering Marks Gate and North Chaqwell Heath

GROWING UP

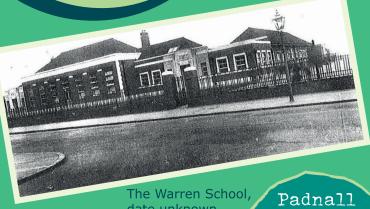
MARILYN

"When I got into the secondary school [The Warren School] it was a girl's school (...) And if you go past that school now it still says boys over the top. (...) Our playground was split into two, the boys played in the front and the girls played in the back (...) All on the same playground, there was a line and no one dare cross it."

As the oldest secondary school in the area, many locals remember their school days at The Warren School. It opened as a mixed school in 1935, but two years later was split into separate schools for boys and girls. In 1958, these were merged back together, as they are at the school today.

PAMELA

"The boys had metal work and woodwork and I said, 'I mean I'm bit of a tomboy anyway, well can I not do the metal work or the woodwork?'. 'No, you're a girl, you can't do that'.



date unknown. [The Warren

"The joke

shop was on Green Lane (...) you'd sort of buy a few stink bombs and (...) let 'em off (...) open a telephone box and smash a stink bomb and then just shut 'em and run like the clappers (...) giggling, laughing."

Lake and St Chad's Park were popular spots.



Mike with his mum and great Gran in the garden of 41 Blackbush Avenue, 1964.

JOHA

"No one would worry where we were, we'd just go and enjoy ourselves and fish and play - especially in the orchards which is now Shepherds Close."

Marilyn's Story

"We rode our bikes all the time and over the park, even after hours. We used to sneak in over the fence, which is no different from what they do today! (...) The park keeper was really strict (...) I mean, if you dropped a piece of paper he was on you like a ton of bricks. [We'd say] 'Parkie's coming, the parkie's coming!'."





Local Trust Big Local





www.hidden-histories.org

An Eastside Community Heritage Exhibition