



Balsall Heath Local History Society

THE GAZETTE

JUNE 2019

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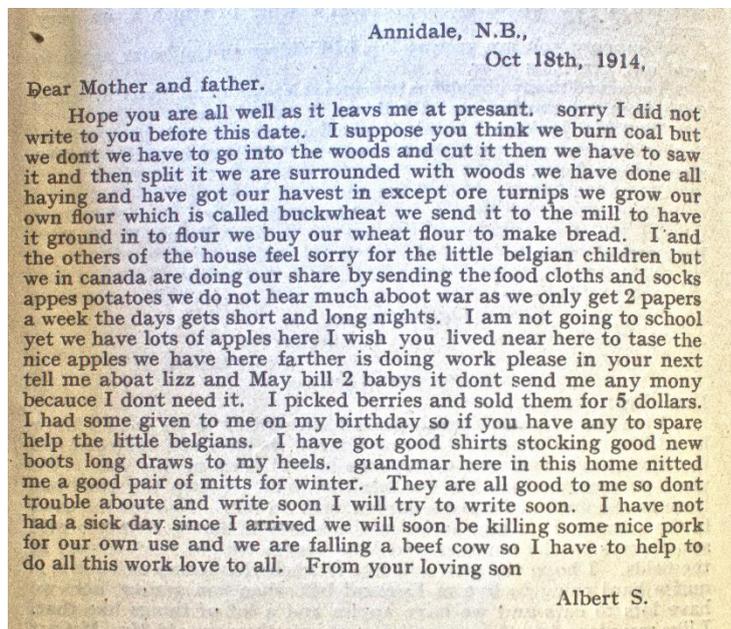
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Letters from the Lost Children

The archives in Birmingham Library contain quite a number of letters sent back to England by children emigrated to Canada. Some are positive. One girl wrote, "I have got fat and red cheeked now and I go to school every day. I am learning the times tables and doing sums on a slate". A boy finished his letter, "I like Canada pretty well but I feel a little lonesome".

The following letter from Albert Seymour dates from the First World War. He was 12 years old at the time. It is very striking that he is sad for the children in Belgium.



Dramatic Street Trail.

This was a lovely event. Many thanks to all our supporters who braved the threatening rain-although in fact the rain just held off. We tried a new variant this time because we included visits to both the Mary Street Gurdwara and St John's Church. This is a sample of the feedback we have received: "The Trail was fascinating, with the historical characters, and it was wonderful to meet the modern-day people like the Sikhs, the church warden, the architect of the

eco-house, and especially the two sisters from the school photo."

The Trail leaflet is now on our website together with additional information which can also be accessed by the QR codes on the trail leaflet. Copies of the leaflet are available free at Balsall Heath Library.

Christopher Rawlings

We were able to supply this picture to Christopher Rawlings, it shows his great grand uncle, John Mead, outside his shoe shop at 7 Edward Road. His great grandfather George Adolf Alexander Mead is on the right of the picture. Christopher's ancestors were caught up in the Germanophobia that preceded



WW1 and were compelled to registrar as enemy aliens in August 1914. Chris says, "The West Midlands Museum has been very helpful in locating and supplying copies of their records."-See Events

Moon Memories

As part of the Mac, Cannon Hill's MoonFest a social history project is asking for "your recollections of the historic Moon landing, if you're old enough to remember it first-hand — or your opinions about it, if you're not quite old enough to have been there at the time!" For details of how to contribute see <https://little-earthquake.com/moonmemories>

Other events

Balsall Heath Carnival

July 6th 12 30 - 4.30pm

Pickwick Park St Paul's Rd

We will be running our ever popular Tea Tent again. Join us for tea, coffee and delicious home made cake. We have artefacts for you to browse through and maybe buy a little bit of history for yourself.

13th July – 14th July 2019

1940s Weekend at Black Country Living Museum

Explore an electric wartime atmosphere of entertainment, food and fashion. There will be a host of vintage entertainment including live music, wartime variety shows, austerity-busting 'make-do-and-mend' workshops, fashion shows, street performers and more. Plus, the D-Day Darlings will be returning to us this year for performances on both days as well as at our 1940s Evening Event.

We welcome all visitors to take part and dress 1940s, More detail at <https://www.bclm.co.uk/>

16th -24th July 2019

MoonFest at MAC Cannon Hill

A celebration of the 50th anniversary of the first manned moon landing including films (one new compiled from the NASA archive), activities for the children and other related exhibits.

<https://macbirmingham.co.uk/moonfest>

21st July 2019

The Birmingham History Theatre Group Presents: "A Walk Through Time" Dramatic interludes with music and song.

Kings Norton Canal from 2 pm. A Circular walk of approximately 2 Miles

Meet in the car park of Kings Norton Playing Fields Pershore Road South B30 3EU

10th August 2019

3:30pm

Kings Cross Methodist Church Hall
Crestfield St, London WC1

Christopher Rawlings

Will be speaking to the Anglo-German history Society

"A Victorian 'Catch me if you can!' - The strange tale of Martin George Adolphus Konrad Meyer (alias George Mead), a Reluctant Shoemaker."

Next meeting.

Thursday July 25th

AGM followed by Gina Maddison. 'Gina Bach` (Little Gina) - A whizz through Birmingham's (many) links with Wales.

Bring along your own piece of memorabilia to share with others.

7 p.m for a 7.30 start.
St Paul's Venture, Malvern St..

Visitors and new members always welcome.