



## Balsall Heath Local History Society

## THE GAZETTE

JUNE 2018

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Facebook: Balsall Heath Local History Society

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/balsallheathlhs>

## Meeting Cancelled

The trip to the leather museum in Walsall has been cancelled since and will take place in August.

## The Lost Children

### Can You Help Us To Find Them?



Thomas Elsie May and Blanche R

on arriving at the home in November 1998 and ready to leave two months later

Between 1873 - 1933 around 6,000 destitute children were sent from the Birmingham Children's Emigration Homes in Highgate, to live with farmers in the backwoods of Canada. Some were only three years old, the majority were aged seven to eleven. Described at the time as "gutter children or street Arabs" they lived in desperate conditions in the

slum streets of the city and were the children of the poorest families.

The children spent up to a year at the Emigration Homes preparing for an epic journey to Canada. They were provided with a basic education and taught skills that would make them useful workers - giving them an opportunity to prosper and saving them from a life of grime, crime and poverty.

The future lives of these children varied enormously - there are tales of happiness and success as well as tales of great sadness. Our project is to tell these children's stories.

If you know of anyone who lived or worked at the Homes we would love to hear from you so please do get in touch

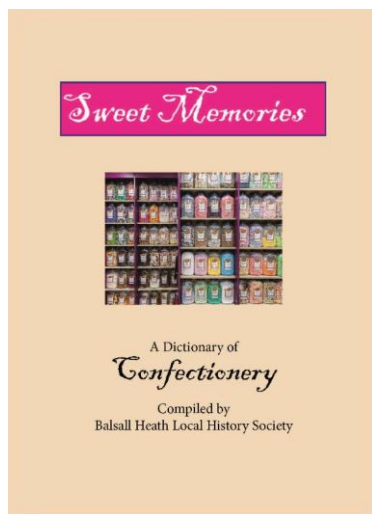
We are also looking for volunteers to help with research, marketing, social media, film-making, graphic design etc. If you could spare a few hours please do get in touch for a chat. We're friendly, fun and determined not to forget these children.

The project will culminate in a touring exhibition and dramatic production. We are also hoping to produce a professional documentary and an additional element looking at child migration today. If you know of any companies or individuals who may be able to contribute financially, please do let us know.

Email: [info@balsallheathhistory.co.uk](mailto:info@balsallheathhistory.co.uk)



## Sweet Memories.



Our latest book of memories has been months in the making after extensive interviews and research we now have a potted history of the sweets of yesteryear. It is heavily illustrated in full colour. We have advertisements from the 60s and earlier and little bits of history that so many have forgotten.

Copies will be on sale at future meetings and events

at £1 each.

## Balsall Heath Carnival

As usual we will be running the tea tent at this year's Balsall Heath Carnival on 7<sup>th</sup> July. We will need volunteers to help out on the day.

## Events

30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 10 a.m – 3 p.m



and more.

### Destination Churchyard..

St Mary's Church, Moseley.

Free, family friendly event to mark the completion of St Mary's three year heritage project. Explore the landscaped grounds, discover the new interpretation and children's tortoise trail, meet St Mary's bees, enjoy a guided tour

7<sup>th</sup> July 2018 2 p.m – 3.30 p.m

Jewellery Quarter Heritage Walk

“Join expert guide Rupert Fisher on a lively walk and talk around Birmingham's historic Jewellery Quarter.

Meet on Newhall street opposite Queen's Arms pub at 2.00pm.

Pre-booking required. Tickets are £7 per person.  
<http://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/jewellery/whats-on>

21<sup>st</sup> July – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2018 10.30 a.m – 5 p.m

Jewellery Quarter Festival

Join us for free costumed guided tours of the Smith & Pepper jewellery factory, live jewellery demonstrations at the jeweller's bench in the museum shop and live music in the courtyard!

Guided tours of the Smith & Pepper factory are free today but pre-booking is advised – call 0121 348 8263 to reserve your space on the tour.



29<sup>th</sup> July 2018 11 a.m – 4 p.m

Weoley Castle Medieval Open Day.

“Come along and explore the ruins of Weoley Castle and learn about what it was like in Medieval England in this free event.”