



*The Balsall Heath Local History Society was founded in 1979 with the aim of promoting interest in our local history. To meet our aims we work with local schools and community groups organising exhibitions and events. We have also produced several publications. We are a registered charity and rely on grants and donations to achieve our aims. For more information on our work, or to volunteer and help please contact us.*

## WALK THIS WAY!

On a rare sunny day in July we walked from Birmingham to Bournville along the canal towpath. The now annual canal "Trail Through Time" took in South Birmingham for the first time and was another enjoyable day. Thanks to those who came along and supported us – walkers, crew, musicians and performers.  
*(All photos by Jake Stewart)*



*The Selly Oak tree feller has saved a bit for posterity!*

### NEXT MEETING

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 7:30**

The Venture

*(Malvern Street by the farm)*

**For King and Country: Balsall Heath in WWI by Chris Sutton**

Balsall Heath's part in the war is explored through the people who lived there. Snapshots of their lives are revealed through contemporary news stories as well as files from other sources such as the National Roll of The Great War.

This is the first time that the names of the men who went and fought, who died and survived, have been collected together.

### BIRMINGHAM LIVES

The annual Birmingham Lives History Fair was another successful day out for the History Society. As usual we took along a selection of artefacts and photographs from the History Base.

**Below right:** Pat and Albert Johnson fielding questions and comments at our stall.

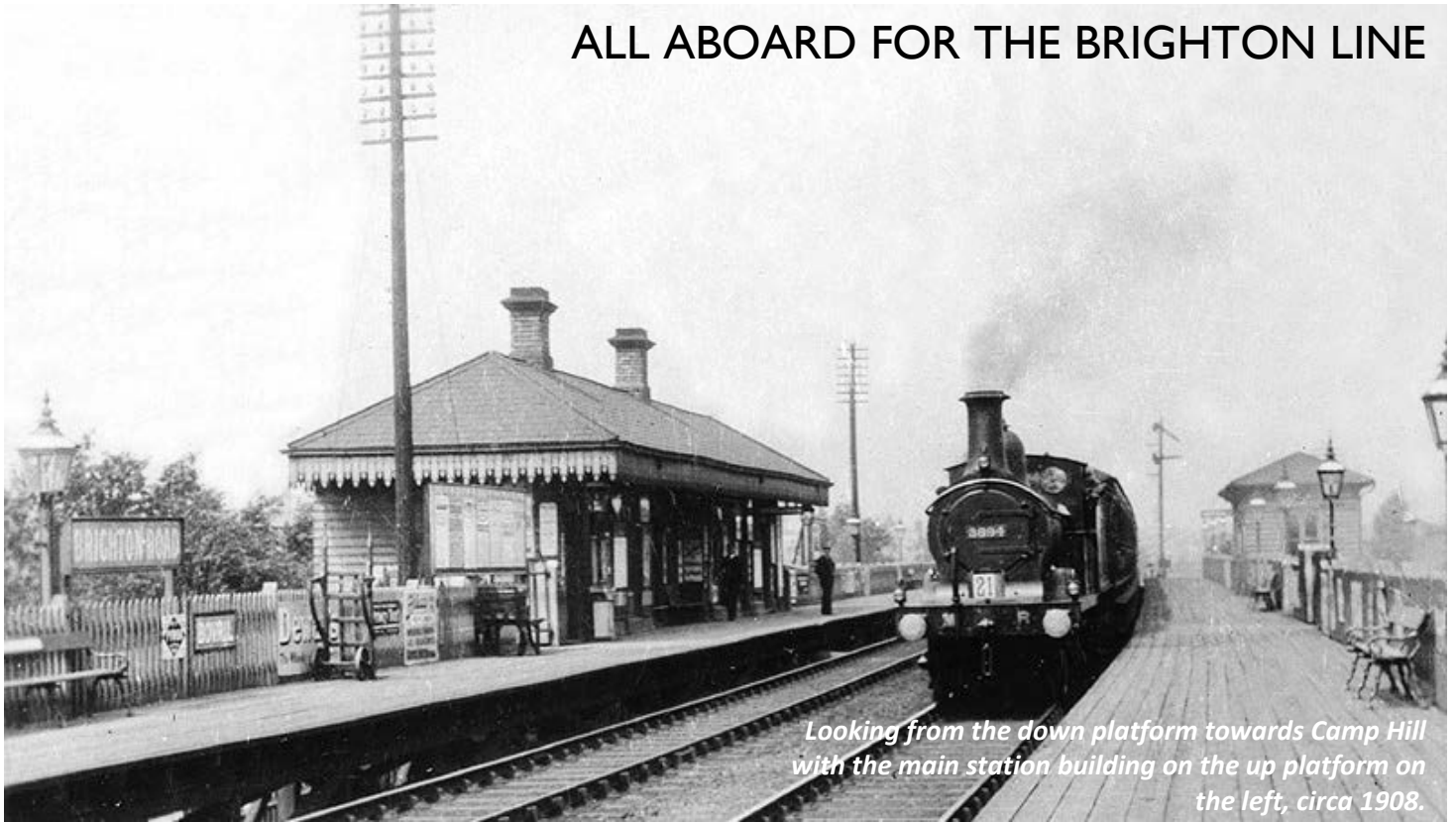








# ALL ABOARD FOR THE BRIGHTON LINE



*Looking from the down platform towards Camp Hill with the main station building on the up platform on the left, circa 1908.*

Brighton Road station was the second station on the line to Gloucester from Birmingham and was opened in 1875 by the Midland Railway. Its close proximity to the city centre meant it was always vulnerable to competition first from the trams, which had a terminus nearby on Moseley Road, and later the bus. As with many other stations located near to the centre of Birmingham, wartime economy measures requiring a reduction in labour and other expenses, meant that they were closed in January 1941 as their roles were adequately covered by buses.



**Left:** Brighton Road Station's "down" platform building housing its waiting rooms and other facilities. The platform is equipped with gas lamps, a single bench seat and a porter's trolley of sufficient size to accommodate trunks, a favourite Victorian alternative to suitcases.



*The main station buildings on the "up" line.*

**Below:** On Brighton Road with Moseley Road to our left looking up to what was the site of the Station. The gates lead to a car repair workshop.

