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## BALSALL HEATH THROUGH TIME

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The Society is pleased to announce the forthcoming publication of Val Hart's new book – "Balsall Heath Through Time". The book features photographs of Balsall Heath in the past with the same views as they are today. Val has added captions describing the social as well as physical changes. It looks an absolutely splendid book and the Society offers her our congratulations and appreciation for the countless hours that that have clearly gone into it. Thanks also to those who helped with the "new" photographs – Peter Cole, Ian Edwards, Peter Salway and Val herself.



Co-Op on Ladypool Road

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BIRMINGHAM DESPATCH 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 1963

THE 20 YARD DASH

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In January 1963 there was still a large part of Balsall Heath awaiting redevelopment, and the wintry weather added to the existing complaints of Corporation tenants.

Douglas Gilbert of 1/147 Balsall Heath road told the Birmingham Despatch that he was "sick of waiting for the Corporation to bring our houses up to reasonable living standards for the Space Age". Gilbert, speaking, he said, on behalf of all his neighbours, specifically complained about an outhouse toilet 20 yards from his front door, an outside wash-house with no hot water or bath, rooms damaged by damp and no power plug in any room. He added that he had "Five young children and it is all wrong that they