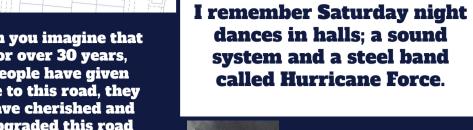


OXFORD ROAD STORYBOARD

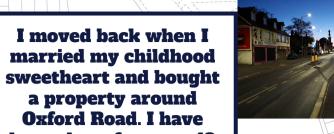


It was a great place to raise children, you could walk everywhere, to the shops, there were toddler groups, swimming pool, local school the library, train station, walk to town centre, it had a really good community feeling.

Can you imagine that for over 30 years, people have given life to this road, they have cherished and upgraded this road over time. Makes you appreciate it even



Here on the Oxford Road, people live more outside of their flats. The street is like a big house for all people.



been there for over 49 years and in my road 2 other neighbours have been there for as long as Though the sky was black the stores and I remember. lamplights lit everything to a warm yellow tone. Whether its night or day

When I was a child, I saw the King coming along the Oxford Road. I remember we looked out the windows from where I lived.

Oxford Road was always a busy street, we had trolley buses going up and down there until the late 60's. There was always something going on. More noisy at night, never quiet.

I still have my favourite corner shop on the Oxford Road, small shop, this shop is a Turkish shop, I love this name, this name is part of Istanbul, a food shop with special products and fruit from Turkey, from Istanbul, Gazi Istanbul.'

When I look back, it was a strong, loyal, faithful and colourful area with really interesting people. And I just, I just loved the privilege of really being part of it. So I've got incredibly happy memories. I will never forget it.

Holy Trinity -the church is nearly 200 years old, another 5 years we'll have our bicentenary, we have a war memorial in front of the church which is very

interesting.

Where else can you buy a hot dog and next you are buying a car, only Oxford Road.

Everything is on your doorstep, you can't go wrong down there. Even when Oxford Road is locked up. You know, there's always somewhere there that you can get something.

I think I would describe it as an ever evolving urban community It's been shaped by its characters. Some people come, some people come and go some people really want to be part of the community and others others are just passing by. I always find there was humour, and there intertwined with a sense of caring.

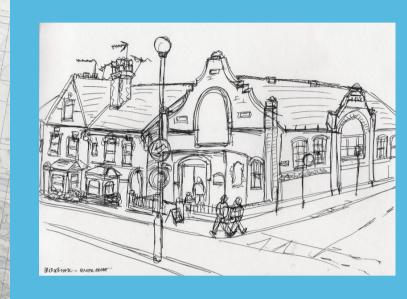
was fun. And that was



Iyun Afolabi Drawing 2020



Reading Carnival Parade, Oxford Road



Oxford Road will always

be active.

Bridge Hall Drawing by Katie Lockhart

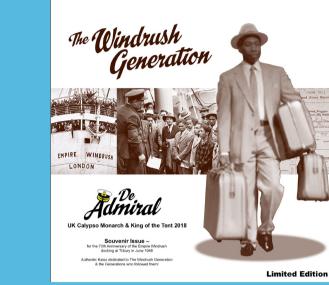


Oxford Road School Photographed in 1982



UNTOLD

Holy Trinity Church Postcard from 1904



Windrush Generation Album by DeAdmiral



Rhyme Time At Battle Library

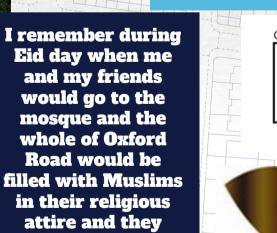
This part of Reading is like some parts of London and also Woolwich it's familiar and the food I also buy from here.

> Growing up on the Oxford Road was a joyful and interesting experience.

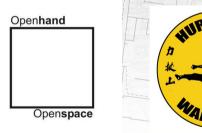




Abu-Bakr Masjid Mosque Construction in 2000



Eid day when me and my friends would go to the mosque and the whole of Oxford Road would be filled with Muslims in their religious attire and they would all be different colours



My first step in the city

was a long walk down

Oxford Road, I feel it

was a special experience

because it was a

multicultural place.

People were not only

from Eastern Europe, but

from Africa, from Asia, a

the street.

lot of different shops on



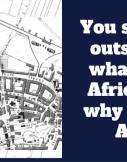
It is the easiest place to see old friends, a place to reminisce and talk about home, A place that reminds me of the smell of food on the streets back home. It is the place I get a smile and a nod from.



Reading West Bridge Photographed in 1938



Akwaaba welcome sign Photographed in 2020



You see when you are walking outside here, you cannot see what we have inside like the African art or displays, that's why we have a big sign inside AKWAABA – welcome.

As kids we used to go train-spotting from the bridge and it was exciting when a steam train went under where we were standing and we got covered in steam and smoke.

Reading, Oxford Road became your home, but you also had a home in the Caribbean – a town in Barbados, Speights town is twinned with Reading.

I wouldn't just say I am from Reading I would say I'm from Oxford Road because there was such an us about



Pavillion Cinema Photographed in 1964

It's almost like traveling the world on one road.



lifespring**church** :



Number 17 Bus Photograph 2020

A very interesting life, it depicts the changing population of Britain. becoming more international

Historic England



Shopfront designs By Toby Barlow Vor 2020

Everyone there seems to be more friendly and they will speak to me as I walk down the road.

I remember many many times because I was working on the night-shift, I went to the bus, to the centre of the town, taking the bus to the Tesco, but on the Oxford Road, I always went walking because this is great pleasure for me before I start work, in the evening, walking on the Oxford Road and looking around at people from different countries, different shops and owners of these shops.



