



# 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 more, right?

I remember Saturday night dances in halls; a sound system and a steel band called Hurricane Force.

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

I moved back when I married my childhood sweetheart and bought a property around Oxford Road. I have been there for over 49 years and in my road 2 other neighbours have been there for as long as I remember.

Though the sky was black the stores and lamplights lit everything to a warm yellow tone. Whether its night or day Oxford Road will always be active.

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 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.

UNTOLD

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.

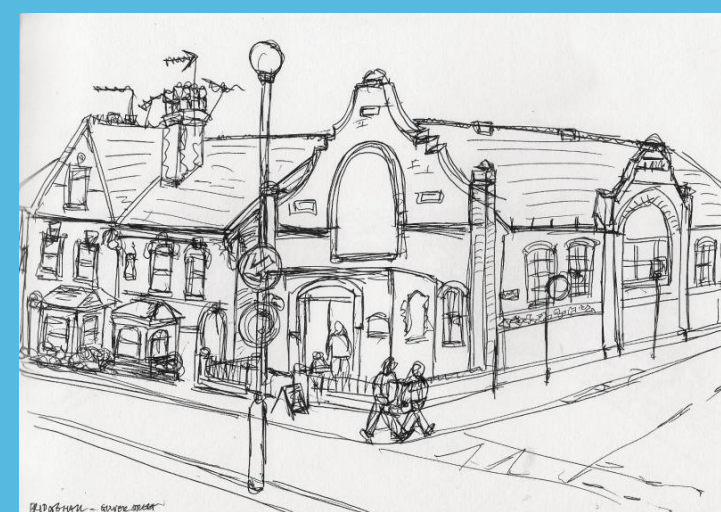
I think I would describe it as an ever evolving urban community. It's been shaped by its characters. Some people come, some people go, some people really want to be part of the community and others, others are just passing by. I always find there was humour, and there was fun. And that was intertwined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



Iyun Afolabi  
Drawing 2020



Reading Carnival  
Parade, Oxford Road



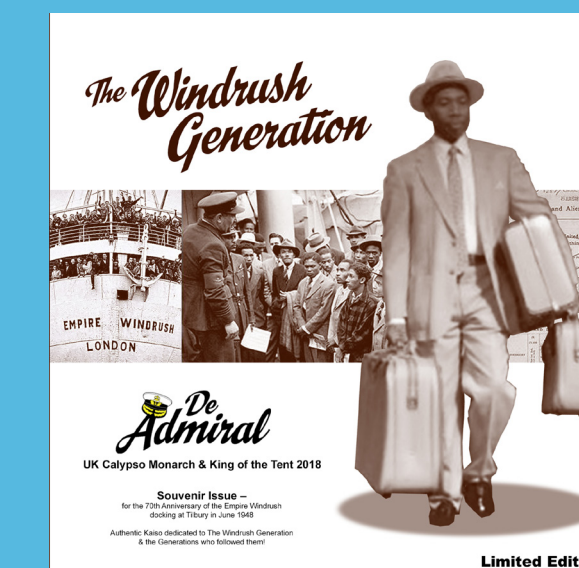
Bridge Hall  
Drawing by Katie Lockhart



Oxford Road School  
Photographed in 1982



Holy Trinity Church  
Postcard from 1904



Windrush Generation  
Album by DeAdmiral



Rhyme Time  
At Battle Library



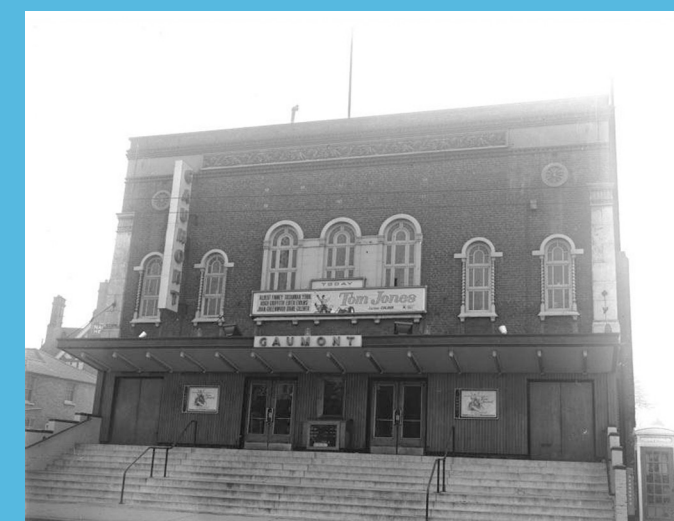
Abu-Bakr Masjid Mosque  
Construction in 2000



Reading West Bridge  
Photographed in 1938



Akwaaba welcome sign  
Photographed in 2020



Pavillion Cinema  
Photographed in 1964



Number 17 Bus  
Photograph 2020



Shopfront designs  
By Toby Barlow UoR 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.



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

lifespringchurch



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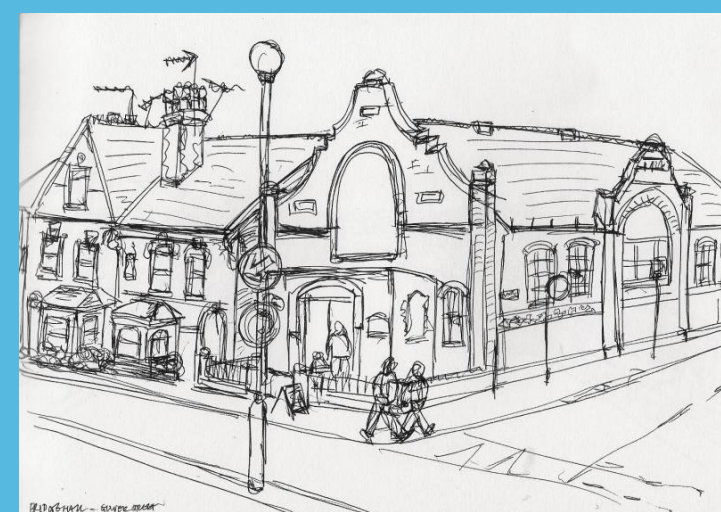
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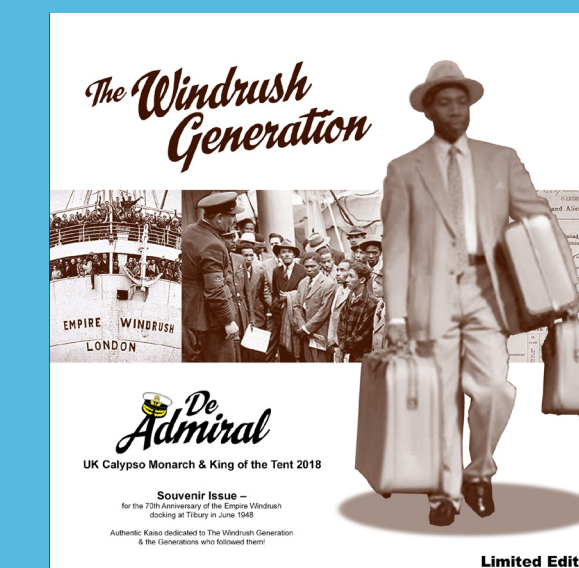
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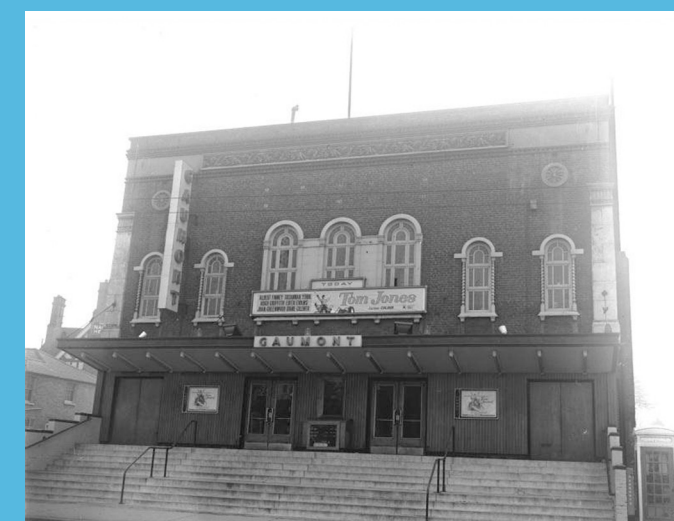
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