

Heritage Hunters

These display panels were researched and compiled by pupils from Bury Lawn School, Stantonbury Fields.

The Knoll School

Aspley Heath



Quotes from ex-pupils...

'Playing with 20 of your best mates every free time... seemed fine at the time.'

(K. Munton left 1968)

'Awful, tasteless, cardboard pizza and runny custard. But not at the same time!'

(P. Cox left 1987)

'Dreadful, unspeakable [food]. Probably the worst I've ever had.'

(M. Stone left 1968)

'Best part was probably the 'free time' when you could do things like: practise the piano (I was quite musical), read, play billiards/snooker – and in the summer, play or read outside.'

(M. Stone left 1968)

'The Knoll was a dump. Damp walls, in disrepair but it was just great! It was like something from a book (always reminded me of something from the C.S. Lewis books) that building. I take my son walking in the woods at Aspley Heath now, and the memories and emotion that building evokes are fantastic. The playing field all overgrown and the sheds we used to frequent are all tumbled down... It was just such a happy time...'

(P. Rezon left 1987)

'The main teacher I remember is Mr. King, the Headmaster. He was tall and imposing and appeared to be angry a great deal of the time. He 'caned' and 'slipped' the boys quite frequently. I also remember him throwing board rubbers at boys during lessons (these were wooden & felt board erasers and could definitely hurt and/or harm you!) Fear was a significant part of the school ethos.'

(M. Stone left 1968)

'We had dancing on Saturday evenings. A bit bizarre to have pairs of boys waltzing around the room, some with teachers – but I do actually remember it being very enjoyable.'

We also created 'camps' in the spinney where groups of boys would build little huts or shelters from stuff that was lying around (e.g. broken bedsteads, bits of sack). It was probably a huge health and safety hazard (rusty metal etc.) by today's standard, but was actually brilliant fun – the sort of thing that is almost inaccessible to city children today, unless they start playing in illegal places (building sites etc)'

(M. Stone left 1968)