

A history of the Queens Park Centre

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Aylesbury Youth Action is based in the Queens Park Centre. I have been looking into the history of QPC. It was built in 1908 and opened in 1909 to be used as a school, which my Grandad attended later in 1945. This is how I came to be interested in the Queens Park Centre.

When QPC was first opened it was bigger than it is now. There was another section of the building on the side closest to the Grammar School. This was split into two buildings. One was for boys and one was for girls. The remaining section was the infant section.

My Grandad, who attended the School in 1945 said,



“The boys and girls were not allowed to meet up during school time, although it didn’t stop us trying.” He told me many stories of his time at school, and says he still remembers the building very clearly.

During the First World War it was used as an emergency hospital for people injured fighting in the trenches of

France and Belgium. After the war was over in 1918 it returned to being a school.

There is a plaque in the entrance of the building commemorating those who died in World War One.

After it stopped being used as a school it became an arts centre, as it still is today. It used to hold a pantomime each year, however now it no

longer has the funds or the staff to hold one.

Until recently there was another two parts of the building, however they were demolished by the



A current view of the Queens Park Centre

council, leaving only the remaining section. This was purchased from the council, and a fundraising attempt is now underway to refurbish the building. £500,000 is needed to fully restore the building.