# A TALE OF TWO OUTER LONDON BOROUGHS

Using my home in Bromley as a way into Redbridge

I. Places that we passed in Redbridge and their Bromley equivalents





Ilford High Road and Market town centre since late 1600s



Bromley High Street and Market active market since 1205

market is good for cheap christmas presents Topshop and Primark are main attractions

BROMLEY



The North Circular crossing the A12 aka Redbridge Roundabout completed 1987



The Sidcup Bypass crossing the A224 aka Crittall's Corner completed 1986

The place you fear the most when you're learning to drive



Redbridge Central Library run by Vision Redbridge, Culture and Leisure opened 1986

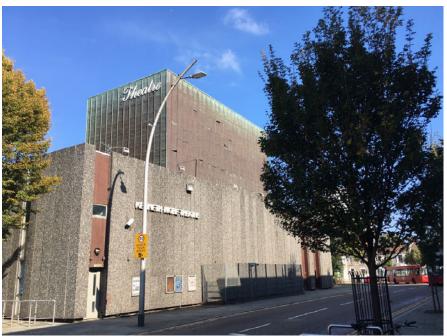
BROMLEY



Bromley Central Library run by Greenwich Leisure Limited opened 1977

Always packed around exam season - my friends tell me, I never used it much

BROMLEY



Kenneth More Theatre opened 1975



Churchill Theatre opened 1977 (same building as Library)

I've gone to the pantomimes here for as long as I can remember





Suburban Housing



Suburban Housing

All my friends in primary school lived in places like these



footbridge over Seven Kings line bridge here since around 1890

footbridge over Petts Wood line bridge here since around 1980

All the kids wave to the train drivers, they toot the horn if you're lucky

BROMLEY

II. Places that matter to me in Bromley and their Redbridge equivalents



Exchange llford 90 shops opened 1991

# The Glades 135 shops opened 1991

BROMLEY

Going shopping there after school, on the weekend, meeting friends. There was collective dismay when it turned to 'intu Bromley' and relief when it reverted

BROMLEY



Valentines Park



Goddington Park

Picnics after school in summer. Louise and Meryl falling off the zipwire, crying laughing

BROMLEY



Fairlop High Street



**Orpington High Street** 

A charity shopper's paradise. Some great restaurants too, a new cinema and even a Nandos nowadays

BROMLEY



Central Line Underground



Southeastern Trains

The gateway to London, trips to the west end, oxford street, covent garden, the southbank III. Assets of Community Value in Redbridge (ACVs) from redbridge.gov.uk



Al-Qasr family restaurant/The Bell Ley Street



The Cricketers Woodford Green



The Avenue/Masala 910 Eastern Ave closed



Oakfield Playing Fields Fencepiece Rd



Children's Play Area Christchurch Green



Mayfair Venue Chadwell Heath

IV. Miscellaneous infrastructures I noticed in Redbridge



balloons on a front door that mean there's a party



the bins are blue instead of green



A new quietway cycle route through Valentine's park



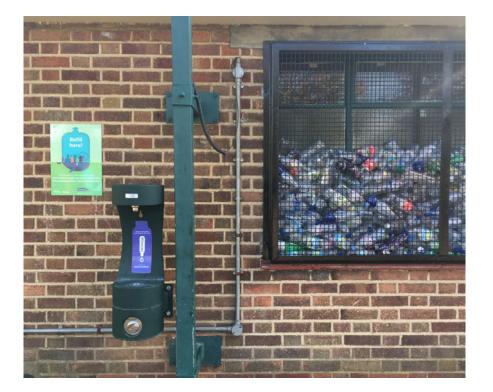
very nice public toilets at Valentine's Park



a nice ceiling at Gants Hill tube stop



new turf at Barnado's cottages (dreamy but no proper path out to get to Sainsbury's)



a window full of plastic bottles advertising a drinking fountain



high security suburbia



newly redone public space, much less buzzing than the bus stop opposite

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Ilford history & high rd:

'The borough of Ilford', in A History of the County of Essex: Volume 5, ed. W R Powell (London, 1966), pp. 249-266. British History Online http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/essex/vol5/pp249-266 [accessed 26 October 2018].

Bromley history:

https://www.bromley.gov.uk/info/200066/markets/259/bromley\_charter\_market/3

Edward Hasted, 'Parishes: Bromley', in The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent: Volume 1 (Canterbury, 1797), pp. 550-570. British History Online http://www.british-history.ac.uk/survey-kent/vol1/pp550-570 [accessed 26 October 2018].

The North Circular: https://www.sabre-roads.org.uk/wiki/index.php?title=Redbridge\_Roundabout\_(London)

Crittall's Corner (Sidcup Bypass over the A224): https://www.sabre-roads.org.uk/wiki/index.php?title=Crittalls\_Corner