

Chapter 76: Moving to Norwich

In 1960, we moved as a family from Kirkby to Norwich. As early as 1957, dad had been looking and applying for other jobs in insurance.¹ In February 1960, he went for an interview about a job in Manchester but decided not to take it but, in June 1960, he was offered the post of chief clerk in the Norwich branch of the Norwich Union and he accepted it. Officially, he started there on 1 August 1960.



Sign welcoming visitors to the “fine city” of Norwich



41 Diamond Avenue

At the start of 1960, mum, dad and Tricia were still living in 41 Diamond Avenue and this is where I was born in June 1960.² Shortly after hearing of dad’s new job mum started packing and put a notice in the window saying that the house was for sale. One day after the notice was placed, John and Isobel Lamb³ came to see the house, they expressed their interest and went ahead to buy it for the asking price of £1,650.⁴ Grandad, however, was disappointed with this price as he noted that they had paid more than £1,800 for the house. The Lambs moved in on 20 August 1960.

We moved to Norwich a few weeks before this on 22 July 1960 when I was just six weeks old. The removal firm [Pickfords](#)⁵ collected our furniture the day before. We stayed overnight at grandma and grandad’s before travelling to Norwich on the 22nd by train. Grandma and grandad Drew, dad’s mum and dad, were in Norwich to meet us when we arrived. Grandma took me and Tricia for a walk in the afternoon while mum and dad unpacked.

To start with, we lived in a flat at 91⁶ Newmarket Road which is one of a number of flats in a building known as [Albemarle House](#), located on the corner of Albemarle Road and Newmarket Road, close to Norwich Girls’ High School which Tricia later attended. We only lived there for around six weeks until early September. So, of course, I have no recollection of it as I was only three months old when



Model Pickfords lorry

¹ See [Chapter 72](#).

² See [Chapter 75](#).

³ Who I think the family knew from Trinity Methodist Church.

⁴ Around £26,500 [today](#). According to [Zoopla](#), it is a three-bedroomed, semi-detached house. The property is currently worth around £112,000. It was sold in 1997 for £30,000, then in 2006 for £78,000 and twice in 2016, once for £91,500 and then for £80,000.

⁵ Mum and dad got two quotes for the move. Pickfords quoted £30 for the move plus 5/- per week storage. While Dakins quoted less for the move, £25, their storage charge was higher at 8/- per week. Dakins appear to have been a [removal firm](#) based in Nottingham but the company may have been [dissolved](#). It seems that Dakins may have been taken over by [TDG](#) and [merged](#) with Stirlands and operated for a short time as Stirlands and Dakin.

⁶ In some of mum’s papers, it is referred to as 41 Newmarket Road but I think this is a mistake.

FOR ALL REMOVALS

Local - Long Distance
Overseas or Storage

also

FOR ALL TRAVEL

contact

PICKFORDS LTD.

74, Prince of Wales Road,
Norwich. NOR 02S

Phone 23131



*Advert for Pickfords from
Royal Norfolk Show
catalogue in 1970*

we moved from there.⁷ I didn't know whether we were paying for the flat or if this was something provided by the Norwich Union. My suspicion was the latter. I am grateful to Mark Plunkett for explaining on the [Norwich Remembers Facebook group](#) that this property was actually owned by Norwich Union.



*Top - Albemarle House, 91 Newmarket Road, Norwich – according to mum's notes we stayed in a first floor flat – the two windows on the left. I do not know which flat number it was.
Above – me, dad and Tricia outside the flat in Newmarket Road.
Left – Tricia, mum and me outside the flat in Newmarket Road*

From the beginning, mum and dad were looking for a house to buy. Although they did look at some other properties, they had identified the house we subsequently bought, 148 Middletons Lane in Hellesdon, within a week of moving to Norwich. It was on the market with an asking price of £2,150 and they agreed to buy it for £2,100.⁸ After around two weeks, mum and dad's loan offer came through. They purchased various items they needed for the house, including a cooker and fridge⁹ and

⁷ I vaguely knew we had spent a few weeks in a flat in Newmarket Road but I don't think I was aware of precisely where.

⁸ Around £34,000 [today](#). According to [Zoopla](#), it is a three-bedroomed semi-detached house. The property is currently worth around £284,000. It was sold in 2001 for £114,995.

⁹ See [Chapter 84](#).

they also bought various items¹⁰ from the then owner, Mr Jones. Mr Jones agreed that mum could visit the house on 19 August to measure for curtains. Indeed, he picked her up in his car to do this. On 18 August, dad signed the contract with an expected completion date of 7 September. He signed the mortgage agreement on 24 August.



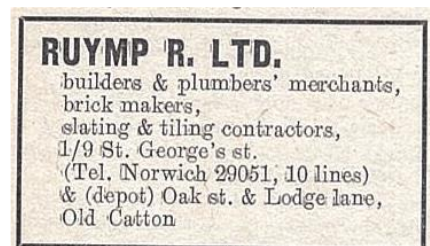
*148 Middletons Lane
Above – front view with
 new garage and
 bedroom just visible but
 prior to roof being
 changed
Right – Tricia at front
 door of 148 Middletons
 Lane*



*Pictures overleaf
Top left – advert for Fitt Brothers from 1960
 Kelly's Directory. They moved us to
 Middletons Lane in September 1961.
 Rear view of 148 Middletons Lane
Top right – as originally purchased, note the
 blank wall
Bottom left – as modified, note the new
 kitchen window
Bottom right – advert for Ruymp as it
 appeared in the 1967 Kelly's Directory. Mum
 and dad got sink top and taps from here in
 August 1961.*

¹⁰ Including the TV aerial for 50/-, the globes in the bathroom and kitchen for 12/6 each and the lino in the bathroom for £1.

Grandma and granddad came to Norwich on 6 September to help us move. Mr Jones moved out on the 7th and various preparations were then made including washing floors, putting curtains up, having the new fridge and cooker installed and laying lino and carpets. We moved in on 9 September 1960 when I was three months old and approximately six weeks after we had left Kirkby. The move was done by Fitts.¹¹ Mum noted that we forgot the pram so dad, who had had the day off, went back and walked the nearly four miles home with it and me and Tricia. Various things still had to be done at the house after the move including laying more lino in the front room, dining room and pantry, painting various rooms including the dining room and my bedroom, demolishing the old coalhouse¹² and work on the kitchen including a new window, new drains, knocking down a wall, moving the door, new sink top and taps¹³ and re-tiling the floor. In doing the plastering, mum noted that they made too much plaster so she and dad used the excess to make a step outside the French windows. They had gas pipes laid to the house and had a [gas Miser](#) and radiator fitted.¹⁴



¹¹ Online I found the [story](#) of a lorry driver who worked for some time with Portage and Fitts in Ber Street who were furniture removers and undertakers! There are some details of the business of Frederick William Fitt of Ber Street on the [Norwich Remembers Facebook page](#) including explanation that they provided furniture removals, coaches and buses and funerals. There are also a number of websites with pictures of an [enamel sign](#) for the company. In the 1960 and 1967 Kelly's Directories, Fitt Brothers Ltd are listed as located at 67 Ber Street. Their [name](#) is still visible in the brickwork. [Stevensons](#), school uniform outfitters, are now based at 67 Ber Street.

¹² Prior to this, mum noted catching and killing a number of mice in the former coalhouse. I recall that throughout her life mum was terrified of mice which might explain why she felt the need to kill the mice in the coalhouse rather than just leaving them be!

¹³ Which they bought from [Ruymps](#), now Keyline. They are listed in the 1960 and 1967 Kelly's Directories as builders' merchants.

¹⁴ It is interesting to note that mum & dad and grandma & granddad had gas fires fitted at around the same time. Indeed, grandma and granddad's dining room fire was fitted the day before mum and dad had their gas fire and radiator fitted.

Mum and dad carried out some fairly major building and renovation work at the house. In 1961, they had sewers laid to the house¹⁵ and also had an extension built which included a garage and bedroom on the first floor. The extension was built by a Mr Stevenson¹⁶ at a cost of £650.¹⁷ In early May 1961, dad contacted Mr Stevenson to get on with the plans. In mid-June, Mr Stevenson came to the house to discuss the final plans. Approval of these took some time¹⁸ with work starting in mid-November 1961. It was [completed](#) in around one month.¹⁹



*148 Middletons Lane
Left – before the garage
and bedroom were
added
Below – in 2022
showing garage and
extension that we had
built when we lived
there*



¹⁵ I am not sure if the house relied on a septic tank prior to that. In January 1961, mum and dad contracted a Mr Watts to lay sewers to the house. I am not sure exactly who this was but there is a [J Watts & Son](#) building contractor in Sprowston . Could this be them? Work started in early February and was carried out in “*the common lane*” which I believe is the lane between 150 and 152 that reaches to the side of the park and is visible on [Google satellite views](#). On Streetview, there is a [manhole cover](#) at the start of that lane and this may relate to that work. The work took three days and cost £27 10s.

¹⁶ Of [Stevenson and Evans](#), who were formed in 1933 by Russell Evans and Claude Stevenson. Initially, mum and dad approached a Mr Johnson to do this but, in early March, he wrote to them to say that he could not do this. Towards the end of March, a Mr Stevenson came to see about building “*the garage etc*”. At the end of April, they received two quotes for doing the work. Stevenson and Evans quoted a price of £650 while [Carters](#) quoted £1,030. Unsurprisingly, mum and dad decided to go with Stevenson and Evans and, on 2 May 1961, dad contacted them to get on with the plans.

¹⁷ Approximately £10,000 [today](#).

¹⁸ On 2 August, dad phoned Mr Stevenson and together they went to the Council, presumably to check on progress in approving the plans. They were told that the bylaws had passed the plans but the planning authorities were waiting for a response from the people building the bungalow next door, at 146, to see if they objected. Dad went to see the County Councillor who said he would help. Two weeks later, mum noted that their next-door neighbour, a builder, had objected to their extension. That night, dad phoned someone called Cleghorn. Initially, I was not sure who this was but I think he was a councillor (see [Chapter 97](#)). On 5 September 1961, Mr Stevenson received a letter from the Council asking mum and dad to wait until the 29th for a decision which they agreed to.

¹⁹ The bedroom was plastered on 21 December 1961.

It appears that, prior to building the extension, the house may have had a self-contained garage in the common lane between 150 and 152. It is still standing and, on [Google satellite view](#), is labelled 148A. On 21 December 1961, just as the extension work was being finished, mum noted being paid £10 for the garage and this presumably relates to that. Following the building of the extension, there was quite a lot of re-decorating carried out including of the new bedroom, the kitchen and the dining room and this lasted until the end of April 1962, just before Alan was born.²⁰

My recollections

I have quite a lot of memories of this house as this is essentially where I grew up during my pre-teenage years. I recall the outside, including the garden, and the location better than the inside and this may be because of later visits to Middletons Lane, not least as a "[short cut](#)" to Norwich Airport!

The area I knew in Hellesdon was quite limited to the immediate environs of Middletons Lane. It stretched from Kinsale Avenue Primary School, which I later attended, some three-minutes-walk in one direction to the shops on the corner of the [roundabout on Reepham Road](#), a little further in the other direction. I remember going there to a newsagent, on my own when I was about ten, on a Saturday evening to get a copy of the [Pink Un](#)²¹ football paper. I recall that the area of Middletons Lane outside our house used to flood during heavy rain and we used to watch cars going through the floods from our front windows. I also recall Links Avenue and the [row of shops](#) on Middletons Lane just before Reepham Road.

I recall the community centre (but not clearly the library!) down a [narrow lane](#) off Middletons Lane just before Reepham Road.²² I very clearly recall the park attached to the community centre and that we could get to it through our back garden. I visited some years ago as an adult and it seemed much smaller than in my memory! I also recall football pitches and a [cycle speedway](#) track there.



Above – example of Pink Un from 1972

Right – I think these photographs are taken in the park behind our house in Hellesdon. They show (top) me and Tricia on the back of a rocking horse and (below) me and Tricia on a roundabout



²⁰ It seems that some of the furniture for the new extension was bought by grandma and grandad when their friend and former neighbour Annie Holmes died. In January 1962, this furniture was delivered to Norwich by the removal firm [Oldershaws](#) (which grandad spelled as Aldershawes) of South Normanton. It appears that it started in 1960 and became the firm [Transpakship](#).

²¹ Although the paper is no longer printed, the [website](#) has still been extremely active. However, it seems that may be changing to a paid-for [app](#) although, as of January 2022, the website appears to be freely accessible.

²² It seems that that "[entrance](#)" to the community centre is now an exit only and that that lane is now one way with vehicular entrance from Wood View Road only. For more details of the community centre, see [Chapter 79](#).



Photographs from a visit to Hellesdon in January 2022

Left – sign explaining that the wooded area of the park is now called Jubilee Gardens

This is a view from the park towards our old house. As far as I can see, it is no longer possible to access the park from the back garden of 148



Row of shops on Middletons Lane between Links Avenue and Reepham Road

Shops at the Reepham Road roundabout





In terms of the cycle speedway track in the park behind our house, it appears that it is no longer there. There is a [wooded area](#) where I think it was. It appears to have been used as the second track for the Norwich Stars cycle speedway team from around 1958 into the 1990s. Indeed, the World Cycle Speedway championships were held there in 1987. There is a [video](#) on YouTube and I believe our house is visible at 51.15 although we did not live there at that point!

The first mention of grandma and grandad moving to Norfolk, in either diary, was in mum's diary in July 1963 where she noted making enquiries about a house being built for grandma and grandad. In early August, grandad noted that they decided they wanted to move closer to mum and they visited Norfolk for the day²³ to see the land mum had identified in Drayton.²⁴ They sold their house in Welbeck Street²⁵ and moved to Norwich by bus on 8 October 1963.²⁶ Initially, they lived in a flat, [45 Lilburne Avenue](#)²⁷, in Upper Hellesdon, some two miles from where we were living. Although they lived there for seven months, while their bungalow was being built, I have no recollection of this as I was still under four when they moved to their bungalow.

Above – example of cycle speedway in 2011

Right – Mum thought this photo was of Tricia, Alan and me arriving at the flat.

Below inset – 45 Lilburne Avenue in January 2022



²³ They were brought by grandad's nephew Roy Evans and his "friend" Alma.

²⁴ Initially, I assumed this was the piece of land on Drayton High Road where they subsequently lived but this was not the case. They initially did decide to buy this land for £500 and asked mum and dad to explore building a bungalow on it.

²⁵ Initially, the house was valued at £3,200 but grandad thought this was too high and quickly agreed to sell it to a Mr Wilkinson for £3,000 - Around £40,000 [today](#). According to [Zoopla](#), the property is currently worth around £126,000. At the end of August 1963, grandad sold his saw and planes to Mr Carr for £18 and his dining table to Mr Wilkinson for £5. At the beginning of September, Jack Wilkinson's son took some lead and other scrap metal to Mansfield for grandad. They paid £5 13s for this which they split equally. Grandad signed the contract to sell the house in Welbeck Street on 16 September 1963. On 2 October, Mrs Wilkinson came to the house to put up curtains and her son cut the lawns. They paid £110 for furniture and carpets leaving a balance of £5 which was paid on the 4th.

²⁶ Oldershaws moved their furniture at a cost of £30.

²⁷ It seems that mum found this flat for grandma and grandad. At the end of September 1963, grandad sent a cheque for £38 19 6d to pay rent for the flat. Grandma and grandad's furniture was delivered the day after they moved, partly to the flat and partly to our house. Grandad paid Oldershaws the agreed price plus 10/- tip. According to [Zoopla](#), the property is a two-bedroomed flat. There are more photos of the flat on that site.

At the end of October 1963, grandma and grandad started looking at bungalows²⁸ although I am not sure why²⁹ when I thought they had decided to build one on the piece of land they had identified in Drayton. However, on 20 November 1963, they found that they could not build a bungalow on that land. Grandad did not explain why. So, they continued to look at alternative houses and potential building sites.³⁰ In the end, they identified a piece of land in Drayton, 166³¹ Drayton High Road, through [Draper and Nichols](#) for £800 and decided to proceed with that.³² Building work started on 28 January 1964 and took just over three months with grandma and grandad moving into the bungalow on 13 May 1964. The total cost was just over £4,000.³³

The move was done by Fitts³⁴ and cost £8 2 6d. Once they moved, grandma and grandad did various things to the house including fitting the hall and bathroom carpet³⁵, stocking up the cabin with woodworking tools, having a concrete front drive installed³⁶, having some additional furniture³⁷ delivered, laying slabs³⁸ to form a garden path and putting up a sign with the house name (Elstow) and number (166).³⁹ They had the Gas Board instal hot air central heating and grandad noted that he thought they would like it once they got used to it.⁴⁰

Cost of Bungalow		
Addresses and Telephone Numbers—A to C		
Jan 27 th	1964 Paid Household deposit on land	80.0.0
Feb 27	Sent 9. Wyley chaps for £720, Paid for the tax	720.0.0
March 13	Saw Mr Draper chaps for —	800.0.0
April 6	" " " " " "	800.0.0
May 21	" " " " " "	800.0.0
June 17	" " " " " "	560.0.0
Total cost paid to Draper - Driscoll		3,760.0.0

Cost of Bungalow		
Paid Draper & Driscoll		3,760.0.0
Lamps - shades Bedroom 7.19.6		
Lounge 6.8.6	Bedroom 2.9.10	Hall 1.2.6
Wicker 13.5	—	—
—	—	—
Bathroom cabinet		2.17.6
Front seat		1.2.6
Carpets for lounge & bedroom		102.0.0
" " " " Hall & Bathroom		60.0.0
		3,946.12.6
		see overleaf

Cost of Bungalow as overleaf		
1964	Cost of Bungalow as overleaf	3946.12.6
July 15	34 edging slabs @ 3/10 each	4.16.4
Sept 28	2 gate slabs @ 1/16 each	1.3.0
Aug 21	Paid Mr Draper for extra concrete	10.0.0
Sept 29	Slabs	10.3.6
Oct 5	Seed for front lawn	2.6.6
— 26	Weather vane	4.0.0
Nov 23 to 30	Cost of verandah	18.15.11
Dec 1965	7 mats & 6 bumper slabs	3.10.0
Feb 1	Paid Mr Head for ice-logging	6.0.0
May 7	Slabs for round bungalow	7.6.5
— 1	Slab for side door (Draper)	3.10.0
July	Cost of Shed	13.10.0
		4020.14.2
Aug 27 th	Gross seed for the back	4.12.0
Oct 5	Paid for slabs for garden paths, cement - cement	13.17.2
1966	—	8.0.0
March 8	Paid Mr Draper for sewer connection	4047.3.4

Cost of grandma and grandad's bungalow as recorded in his diary

²⁸ They looked at one in Taverham with hot air central heating and they looked at another in Boundary Road. However, grandad was "not impressed" as they wanted £2,700 for it and he considered it no better than the Burton property which had sold in Kirkby for £1,150. On 12 November, mum, grandma and grandad went to see a bungalow on Drayton Park Estate. Two days later, they went to look at bungalows in Horsford.

²⁹ It may have been, at least in part, to get ideas for the bungalow they were going to build. He did visit, on several occasions, the bungalow being built by a local butcher, Mr Kemp. It may also have been a back-up plan if they failed to get permission to build on the land they had identified.

³⁰ At the end of November, they identified another plot of land in Drayton but the next day they received a letter from Carters saying they could not get permission to build a bungalow on that plot.

³¹ Initially, grandad identified this as 170 Drayton High Road. I don't know if this was a mistake or if at some point the numbering changed. It would surprise me if grandad had made such a mistake but it would also surprise me if he did not note that someone else had made a mistake!

³² On 4 December 1963, Mr Draper called with pencil sketches of the plans. A week later, he quoted them a price of £3,176 to build the bungalow excluding paths and central heating. On 1 January 1964, mum, grandma and grandad went to see the piece of land and saw Mr Draper who told them that the plans would be passed. On the 3rd, mum and grandma planted some bulbs on the land. That same day, Mr Draper called with the plans that had been approved by the Council. Depending on weather, he hoped to start building within two to three weeks. On the 24th, Mr Draper informed grandad that they would start building the next week. Three days later, grandad paid an initial deposit of £80 for the land. That same day, grandma and grandad decided to have gas central heating from the Gas Board but they decided to have the boiler on the other side of the kitchen (presumably from where it was originally planned).

³³ Around £57,000 [today](#). According to [Zoopla](#), the property is currently worth around £365,000.

³⁴ See footnote 11.

³⁵ By [Parish's](#) of Norwich – the forerunner of [Queensway](#).

³⁶ In addition, they had some concrete laid near the back and side doors. Mr Draper's men brought it and laid it. Grandad prepared the ground and finished it with his trowel. He paid Mr Draper 10/- although he did not want anything for this.

³⁷ Including a hall robe (£12 10s) and a table (£8 8s) from what looks like Jarvis in Norwich. There was a [Henry Jarvis and Sons Ltd](#) on St Benedicts Street and part of this is [now Norwich Charitable Trusts](#).

³⁸ This involved buying 30 three foot slabs and two hundredweight of broken slabs.

³⁹ Which I think they got from Hubbards – see [Chapter 84](#).

⁴⁰ For more detail of items they purchased for the house during this period, see [Chapter 84](#).





166 Drayton High Road in December 2021



Front views of grandma and grandad's bungalow

Above left – early view after bungalow was completed

Above – grandad and grandma at the front of the house

Left – group in front of house appears to be dad, Tom, Amy, unknown and grandma (adults at back) and me, Tricia and Alan (in front)

Below – another early view of the bungalow with sign showing name and number





*Back garden of 166 Drayton High Road
Top – showing path, lawn, rear trees and the field beyond
Above – grandad and grandma in their rear garden*



This photograph is labelled "Peace Perfect Peace" and shows grandad and Uncle Tom in the front room of grandma and grandad's bungalow. Out of the window it is possible to see their front garden, Drayton High Road and the playing fields⁴¹ opposite.

⁴¹ These are called the [King George V playing fields](#). Apparently, this site is [one of around 470 playing fields](#) that received this name following the death of King George V in 1936. I confess I did not know the name of these fields. There is a sign there now but I do not recall this as a child but there could have been. We did not go there often. We tended to play in grandma and grandad's garden. I do not recall there being any children's play equipment in the playing fields at that time although there is now. From memory, I don't think the playing fields were used much (say in comparison to the park behind our house in Hellesdon) and apparently this was still an issue in 2016 as described in the [neighbourhood plan](#).

My recollections

I have strong memories of grandma and grandad's house in Drayton. They lived there throughout my childhood and into my teenage years even after we had moved from the house in Hellesdon. I recall going there most Sunday afternoons for tea. We were required to eat our tea sitting at a table in the kitchen. Tea usually consisted of sandwiches, cakes etc. I particularly recall cold meats, such as ham and tongue. I also remember that grandma used to butter bread on the loaf and then cut it very thinly. I also recall that grandad used to eat his tea separately from us in front of the television in the front room. It always seemed an injustice to me that he was allowed to do this and we weren't! We must have sometimes been in the front room with him as I remember that he sometimes used to pour his tea into his saucer to cool it. I also recall some of the television programmes he liked to watch including [The Golden Shot](#)⁴² and professional wrestling.⁴³

I have strong memories of the layout of the bungalow and their gardens. There was a moderately-sized front garden with the house set back quite a way from the road. Both gardens had a lot of grass which I sometimes cut as a teenager. There were also elaborate windmills⁴⁴, made by grandad, front and back. The back garden was large and there was a path made of slabs going round the outside of a large lawn. There was a farmer's field at the back and tall trees at the back and down at least one side.



I do not recall much else about the location around grandma and grandad's house. I do not recall Drayton village at all except I remember the Methodist Church being on the right as you headed into Drayton from the house. I also recall that if you turned right out of grandma and grandad's house, there was a footpath off from the road which would take you through some woods to Drayton Low Road.

*Above right – me on my bike with dad in grandma and grandad's front garden
Above – Tricia, me, Alan and Liz on our bikes in grandma and grandad's back garden
Right – sign at the start of the footpath that I recall leading off Drayton High Road. I recall that leading down to the Low Road but beyond that is a lovely circular walk near the River Wensum which I do not clearly recall*



⁴² This programme was aired from 1967 so these memories are from a little later than this period.

⁴³ My memories must be a bit mixed up as the [wrestling](#) was shown on TV on a Saturday afternoon which means we must have also visited quite often on a Saturday although I do not clearly recall this.

⁴⁴ One of the original windmills is still in place at the house, see [Chapter 94](#).



The River Wensum in Drayton in December 2021

There were a number of friends and family members who moved during this period. Graham and Joan Hardy had been renting the house next-door from grandma and grandad, at 98 Welbeck Street. In February 1960, they moved to a new bungalow in Selston some three and a half miles to the south west of Kirkby. Just prior to the move, at the end of January, mum, grandma, grandad and Tricia all went to Selston to see this bungalow. Following Graham and Joan's move, grandma and grandad sold 98 Welbeck Street⁴⁵ to a Mr and Mrs Booth, Arthur and Florrie. They moved in in April 1960 and became firm friends with grandma and grandad. In July 1960, the Shipmans moved from [100 Welbeck Street](#) to Ripley, some eight miles south west of Kirkby. They had had the bungalow in Welbeck Street built in 1926.

In April 1960, grandma, Auntie Bertha and Renie went to see Pearl Hodges' new house. Grandad noted that they had a look round the house but that although she gave them a cup of tea she did not ask them to stay for tea! That same month, grandma and grandad visited Annesley Woodhouse to see a plot of land where Jack and Phyllis Attwood were going to build a bungalow. The Attwoods moved from Beulah Road to their new bungalow in January 1961 and grandma and grandad visited them there a few days later. In March 1961, Olive and Alf Holland moved to Harby in Leicestershire.

During this period, grandad still owned two properties in Victoria Road (158 and 162⁴⁶) which he rented out. It appears that, in June 1964, grandad sold the house at 162 Victoria Road. On the 8th, grandad noted receiving conveyancing documents on this from G Wyles and getting his signature witnessed by mum.

⁴⁵ The house was valued at £1,850 - around £30,000 [today](#) and it sold for £1,735. According to [Zoopla](#), the property is currently worth around £134,000. It was last sold in 1998 for £32,500.

⁴⁶ Grandad sold the intervening house (160) in 1957 when the longtime tenant, Miss Lowe, died – see Chapter 70.