

Hello,

I was born in Bow in 1942. I attended Bow Baptist Church, or what was left of it, firstly at Sunday school, then as a cub, then as a scout.

The building that I remember was a gutted bomb site, with a nissan hut to one side that doubled as a place of worship and as a scout hut, plus anything else that was required. There were old gravestones to one side of the hut that had been placed around the perimeter of a small grassed area. We used to erect our ex army tents there, prior to going on our annual camping trip to Seaford in Sussex, supervised by the skipper and his wife, who lived next to the ruins in a small house.

Between his house and the remains of the church was a derelict house where we used to store waste paper that I believe was then sold, the proceeds going to the church restoration [fund](#).

[To](#) the other side of the nissan hut, to the rear of the old church, was a further grassed area where we were able to grow flowers from seed in small allotments. We would go there on a summers' evening and water the plants and then play football etc on the other side of the nissan hut.

Just a few memories that I thought I would share with you. I haven't been back to the area since 1954, been past but never stopped. I lived with my parents in Bradley House, on the Bow Bridge estate, and my grandparents lived in Priory House, facing Bromley High Street.

Having looked on Google, the old flats are still in evidence but I must admit I fail to recognise much more - so many changes, not all for the good I fear.

Bob Spencer