

From a simple request to identify an image of a shop so much else can be revealed via searches in various reference books and periodicals.

The initial email also asked if any of our members remembers the shop or the proprietor.



The shop, it would appear from Mr Newman's email, was only open a short period as a Toy Shop '1949' display image

The building was built on part of the nursery of Mr Moss - as were the whole parade of buildings - all now shops.

Built around 1871 by Alfred Turner, he carrying out the occupation a Boot Maker from around 1891.

He and his wife Mary Ann Turner were living in Feltham from 1884 if not slightly earlier.

He is mentioned on the Evaluations of 1909/13 as being owner and occupier of 105 High Street

The assessment of the property is described thus:- "a brick and slate semi-detached house and shop. Contains on top floor three bedrooms (two at back) – ground floor Shop, Parlour, and Kitchen, 'house very damp' especially at back -plus a garden. The rent per annum for the property was £19.00.

The damp is most probably attributed to the fact that Feltham Brook runs a few yards to the north (still does albeit piped)and would have had a tendency to flood, additionally Mr Cole had his Vineyard Nursery almost surrounding the buildings in that area.

Back to the Turner's – their first two children (born 1881 and 1882) were born and baptised in Mitcham, but their third child, John Moseley Turner was baptised at St Mary's, East Molesey in 1884 - the family address is given as High Street, Feltham.

They were presumably at 105 High Street from then until Alfred Turner's death in 1945. Alfred died in April 1945 and Mary Ann died in July of the same year.



Both are buried in Feltham cemetery grave numbered M1 on what is known as The Extension.

The interesting part concerns the people applying for administration were the same in each case, i.e. Thomas Edward Sparkle, from 107 High Street and Charles William Cole, a photographer living at 7 The Green.

The latter producing many images of Feltham during his day

Cole's wife is named Alice Gertrude which was also the name of one of the Turner daughters. She was quite a bit younger than Cole and may have been his second wife.



The Coles are also in Feltham Cemetery.



I don't think there is any family link between the Turners and the Newmans.

Jeff Newman says the family went **back** to Sheffield in 1949, implying that they came from there originally.

A bit of cross-checking reveals (if I've got it right) that Jeff's parents -Lawrence Newman and Ada (nee Vessey) were married in Sheffield in 1937.

Lawrence came here at the beginning of the war as he was in the employ the **REME** at Feltham and the other local depot at Ashford.

He is not found in the 1939 Voting Register but he was probably already on active service.

His wife Ada seems to be still in Sheffield and probably didn't join him down South until after the war.

They may have taken over 105 High Street as an 'end of lease' arrangement which is why there were no directory **entries**.

Today the premises is the 'Enjoy Cafe' and the property has been made into a separate upstairs occupancy, i.e. 105a

Ann

Hello , my name is Jeff Newman I live in Sheffield , I thought your history group might find the attached tatty old photo interesting. It is my parent's toy shop at 105 High Street Feltham taken around 1948. My late dad

Lawrence Newman was in the army during the war, he was a corporal in the R.E.M.E at the army workshop base I think at Ashford, he was a tool room turner and after leaving the army after the war he started the toy shop business. There was a shortage of available toys after the war because the major manufacturers had turned their production to the war effort; using his engineering skills he manufactured lots of different items himself including a range of tin plate toys. We moved back to Sheffield 'I think in 1949 a year after I was born' I would like to think that there maybe some old timer local resident that can remember the toy shop when they were young
Regards Jeff Newman.

Dear Mr Newman, thank you for the image of the family Toy Shop in Feltham High Street; needless to say Feltham is a completely different town as to the 1940's – gone have all the Victorian shops and the Feltham Hotel [demolished just this week] but because 105 is sufficiently beyond the High Street proper it still exists.



The property was most probably built about 1871 by a Mr Alfred J Turner who from 1891 occupied the premises as a Boot Maker; we cannot find any change of use until 1950 following which all we have is the name of 'Craig' occupying the building.

Our question is were/are you related to Mr Turner as his occupancy puts him being there for 60 years or did your father share the shop, i.e. Boot maker at back of shop,