

THE LIONESS LINE

A GUIDE TO THE
ATTRACTIONS,
TRAINS AND
STATIONS

COMPILED BY
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LONDON EUSTON TO WATFORD JUNCTION

LIONESS LINE TRAINS



The London Lioness Line was launched during the autumn of 2024 along with the other renamed Overground lines.

A special event was organised on 14th September 2024 to mark the occasion. This was a football festival, arranged by Transport in London linking up with the Regents Park Youth League and the Middlesex FA Pan-Disability League.

Trains on the Lioness Line between London Euston and Watford Junction will include the British Rail 378 and Class 710.

The service stops at Wembley Central, which is close to the National Stadium.

LIONESS LINE

EUSTON TO WATFORD JUNCTION

CALLING AT

**SOUTH
HAMPSTEAD**

**KILBURN HIGH
ROAD**

QUEEN'S PARK

KENSAL GREEN

**WILLESDEN
JUNCTION**

HARLESDEN

**WEMBLEY
CENTRAL**

**NORTH
WEMBLEY**

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CALLING AT

SOUTH KENTON

KENTON

**HARROW &
WEALDSTONE**

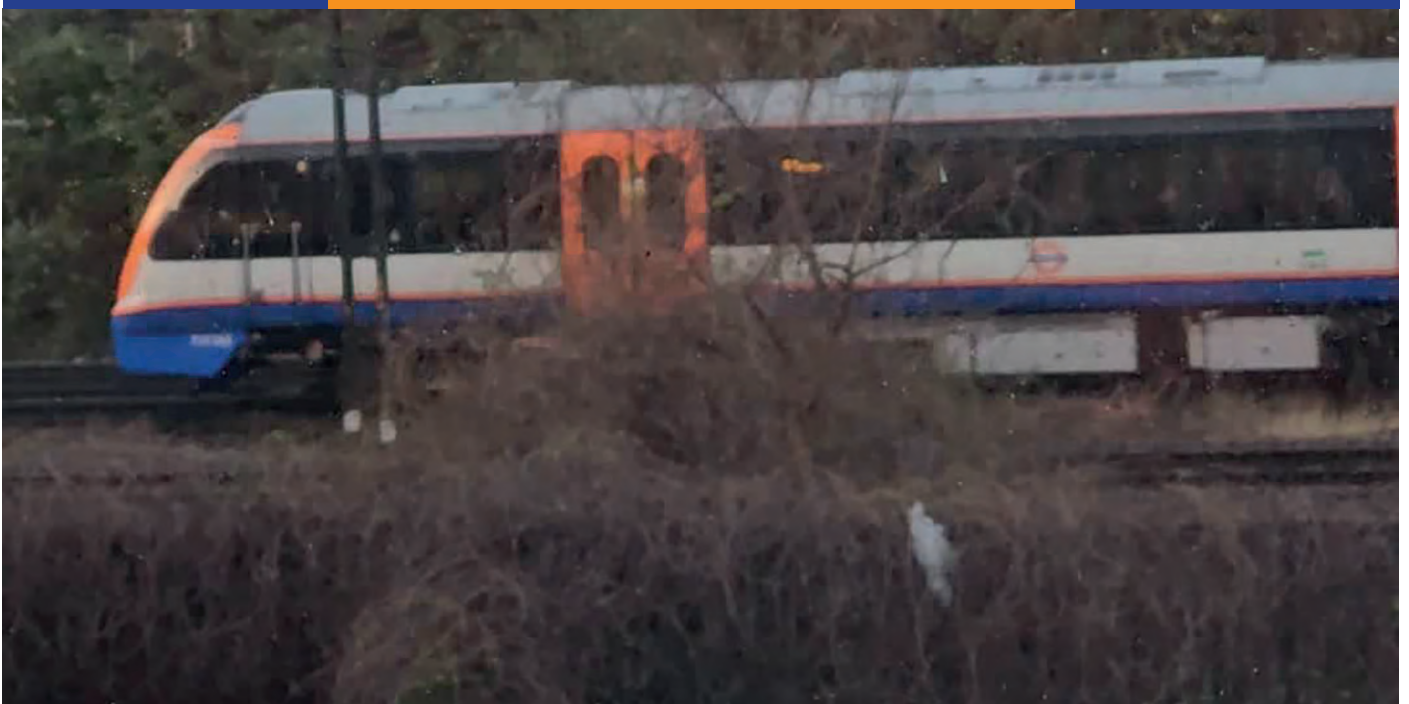
HEADSTONE LANE

**CARPENDERS
PARK**

BUSHEY

**WATFORD
HIGH STREET**

**WATFORD
JUNCTION**



● A London Lioness train passes the Harrow Premier Inn after leaving Kenton Railway Station.

EUSTON



Euston is one of London's most important stations providing services to key United Kingdom cities such as Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

One of its newest services

is the Overground London Lionesses Line, which runs parallel to the West Coast Main Line as far as Watford Junction.

An historical milestone for Euston is that it was the first inter-city railway terminal in

London, having been planned by George and Robert Stephenson.

Today it is a vibrant station with plenty of food and shopping facilities and is known for strict checks on tickets.



SOUTH HAMPSTEAD



The first stop on the Lionesses Lion out of Euston brings you to South Hampstead, an affluent area of north west London.

The main attraction is the Abbey Road Studios, where The Beatles recorded most of their music in the 1960s.

The Studios are around a 15-20 minutes walk from South Hampstead but the route gives you a chance to savour some of the wealth of the area along with the leafy avenues.

While you are making the walk to The Studios, it may be worth remembering some of the well-known faces who have lived in the area.

For instance, renowned poet TS Eliot, who won the Nobel Prize in literature, lived at 3, Compayne Gardens with his first wife Vivienne Haigh-Wood Eliot.

Born an American, TS Eliot moved to England in 1914, when he was 25, and married his first wife Vivienne in 1915 at Hampstead Register Office on 26th June 1915. They lived at Compayne Gardens for two years with Vivienne's parents.

Australian singer and former Neighbours actress Kylie Minogue also lived for a period of time in South Hampstead although her most well known residence was in South Kensington.



Other notable South Hampstead residents have included singer Natalie Imbruglia and the late Barrie Humphries, better known by many as Dame Edna Everage.

During the 1970s, it was the home for some controversial political groups but today it has a more peaceful existence noted for its lovely cafes and restaurants along with some furniture design shops.

There has been an attempt to try and persuade those living in other areas of Hampstead to give South Hampstead a chance. Places such as 28, Church Row and Silverberry are little gems that are worth a visit.

SOUTH HAMPSTEAD



Even though The Beatles were well before my time, I realise what a great contribution they made to pop music and they are still iconic today.

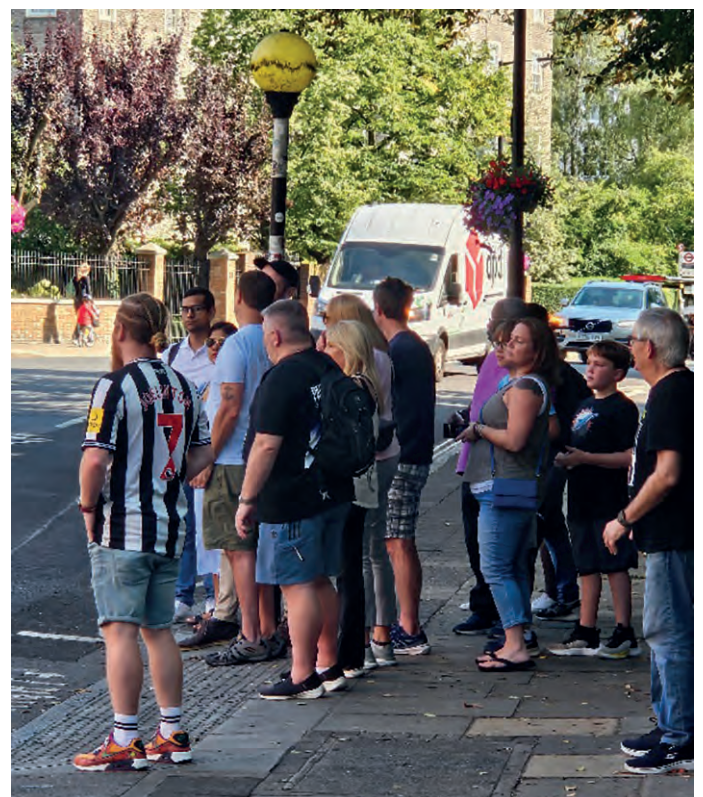
Having learned a lot about the group through TikTok, it was fascinating to visit Abbey Road.

It is about a 15-20 minutes walk from South Hampstead and it was well worth it. However, it is important to point out there are other stations nearer, such as St John's Wood Underground.

Going there on a Tuesday afternoon, I was expecting the road to be very quiet.

How wrong I was. There was a queue, albeit a short one, to have a chance to cross the famous zebra-crossing.

SOUTH HAMPSTEAD



Abbey Road was the 11th studio album by The Beatles and was released on 26th September 1969 by Apple Records.

It was also recorded at Abbey

Studios in the St John's Wood area of north-west London.

The recording studio is still being used and has been used by many other stars such as Pink Floyd, Adele and

Kanye West. Even classical artist Edward Elgar has passed through its doors.

The Abbey Road Studio is regarded as one of the best in the world.

KILBURN HIGH ROAD



This is certainly a cosmopolitan area and had a lovely feel.

The Kilburn High Road originated as an ancient trackway linking the Brittonic settlements now known as Canterbury and St Albans.

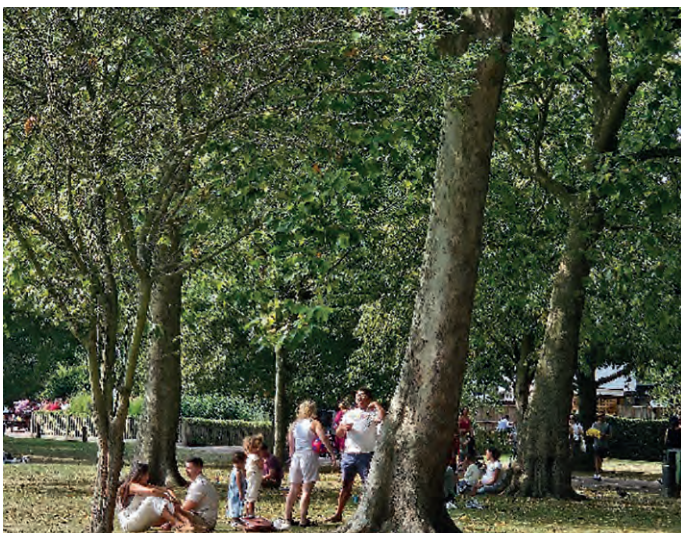
Highlights in terms of what to see are pretty limited but there is likely to be fruit and vegetables market and a fitness area, a few metres away from the main thoroughfare. Plus there are a number of eating places.

However, a particular stand-out is the Kiln Theatre, previously known as the Tricycle Theatre.

Since 1980, the theatre has been home to a number of plays reflecting the cultural diversity of the area and 'new writing'.



QUEEN'S PARK



The beauty of Queen's Park Station is that it is within a few hundred metres of a vibrant district. No long walks.

Close by is a large park that is central to the suburb and an ideal place for a stroll or simply to relax under the trees.

Queen's Park is home to a bandstand, flower gardens and a play area including a paddling pool.

It is a residential area with Victorian and Edwardian houses with Salusbury Road being the home of indie shops, gastropubs, cafe and global eateries.

QUEEN'S PARK



As a country girl, it is fantastic to see the Queen's Park Farmers Market in the heart of London.

Located in Salusbury Primary School, this impressive market is held every Sunday from 10am to 2pm.

Given that there are so many stalls, you could spend a good couple of hours here enjoying the wide range of foods on offer.

Plenty of fresh vegetables and fruit adorn the stalls along with artisan chesses and baked goods.

Plus to ensure it caters for everyone in the 21st century you can also expect several street food outlets.

A great place to visit!

QUEEN'S PARK



Just around the corner from the Queen's Park Farmers Market, are a number of what could be described as chic restaurants.

Such an example is the Australian Milk Beach with its outdoor seating, great cocktails and live music.

Close by is the Carmel Queen's Park, a Mediterranean eaterie where the stand-out



items on the menu include the flat breads, hummus and hispi cabbage.

Then there is the Don't Tell Dad where you can find wonderful pastries and a menu including oxtail crumpet, crab tart and sour dough.

Other places to eat include Southern Cross, PYRA and the cosy Alice House.



WEMBLEY CENTRAL



For many people, if you mention Wembley, they will respond by commenting on the Stadium. After all it is considered to be the 'Home of Football'.

Locals will, no doubt, argue that there is more to Wembley than just football.

Like many other London suburbs, Wembley is largely cosmopolitan and the High Road has a pleasant atmosphere with its wide range of independent businesses and restaurants.

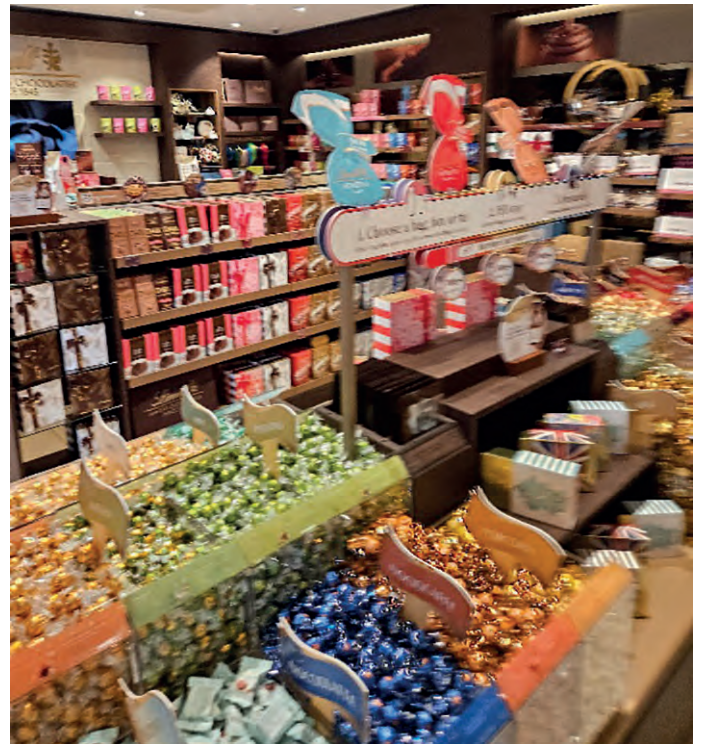
There are a number of notable religious buildings but an interesting landmark, other than the Stadium is the Ace Cafe.

Initially opened in 1938, then again in 1997, this cafe attracts motoring enthusiasts both nationally and internationally with its events.

Another attraction is Wembley Point, a 21-storey building close to Stonebridge Park station. Brent district's first skyscraper, it can be seen for many miles along with the arch of the new Wembley Stadium. Another highlight is the plaque of comedian and entertainer Arthur Lucan in Forty Lane.



WEMBLEY CENTRAL



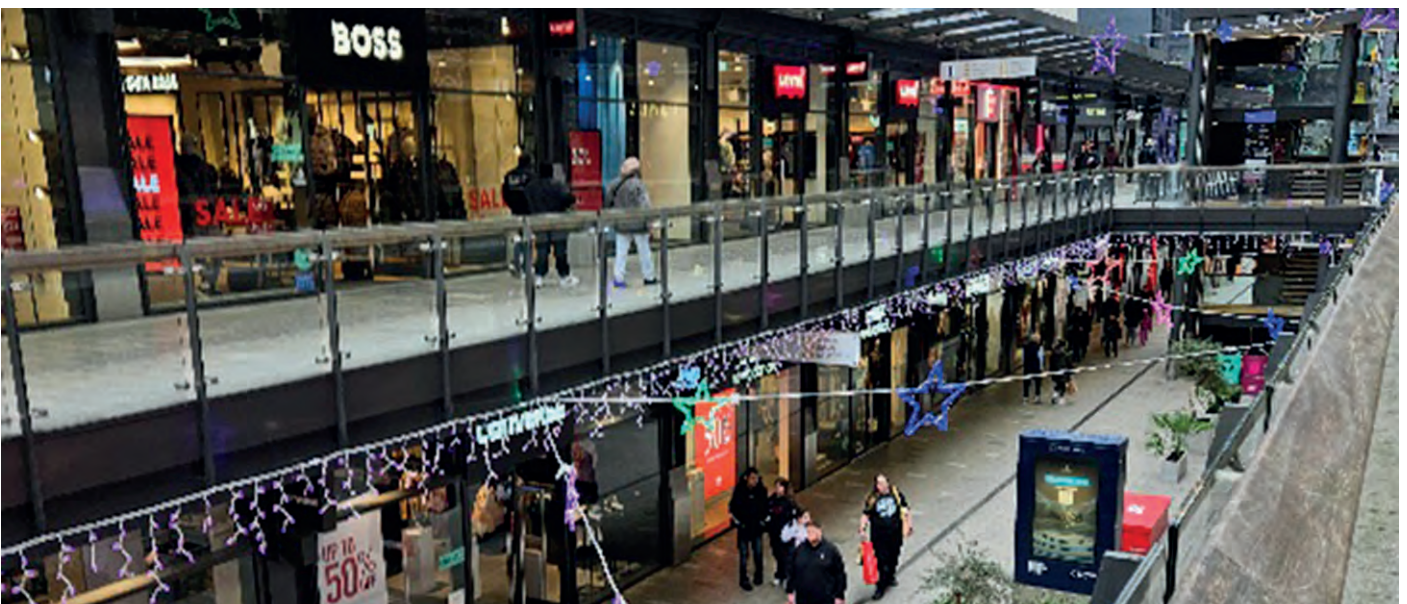
The Wembley Designer Outlet is a fantastic place to visit especially if you like chocolate.

For it is the home of Lint's only store in the United Kingdom.

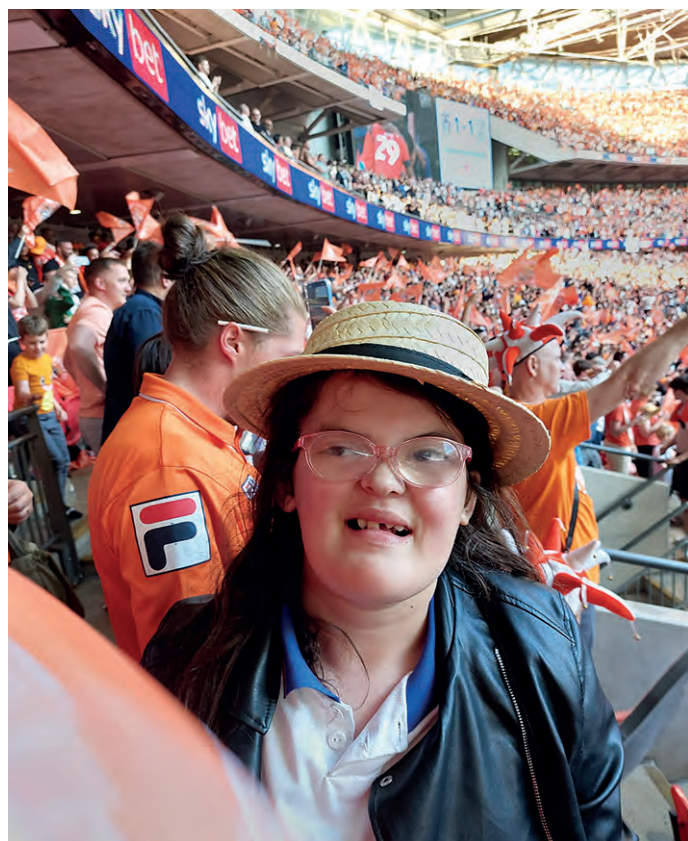
You will be spoilt for choice as many of the chocolates here are not available in the supermarkets.

In total, there are over 70 stores and restaurants on three floors.

Being an outlet centre, many of the stores offer discounts of between 30% and 70%.



WEMBLEY CENTRAL



For me, Wembley is a magic place. I have been there a couple of times.

The first time was for a FA Women's Cup final when my team Arsenal Ladies lost 3-0

to Chelsea. Not a great day!

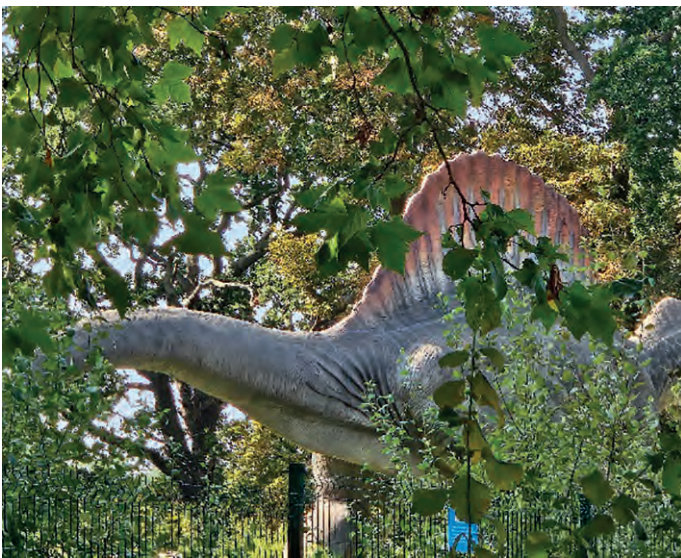
The second occasion was a men's Championship Play-Off final when Luton Town defeated Coventry City in a penalty-spot shoot-out after a

1-1 draw. We had a great time celebrating. Pictures from that day are on this page.

My dream is to see England at Wembley. I hope that will be very soon.



HATCH END



Now this is a bit of fun for all the family although some say it is a little pricey and is a short walk from Hatch End Station..

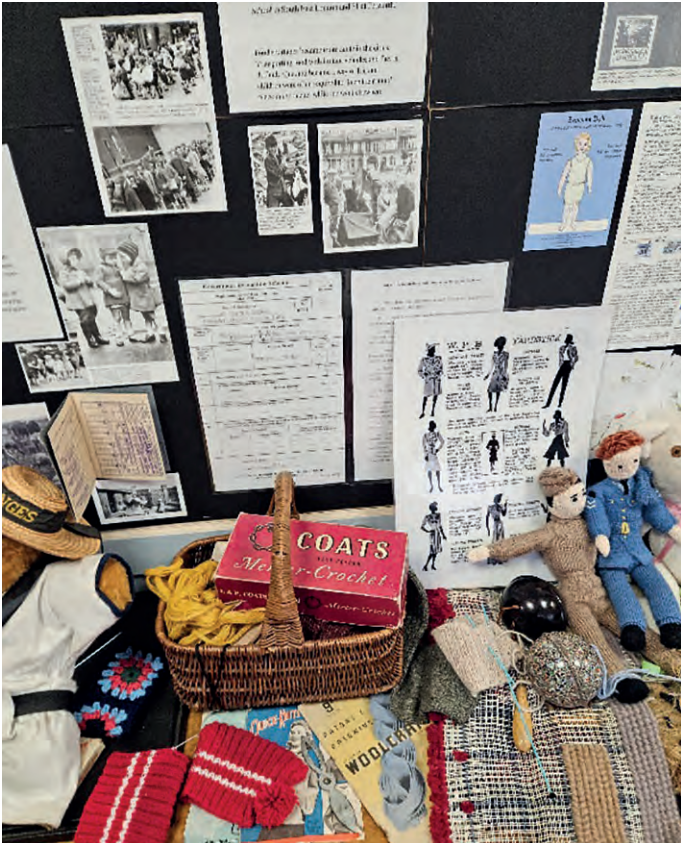
But the Jurassic Adventure Golf in Harrow is great entertainment as the thrilling 18-hole mini-course takes you into a world where you are surrounded by life-size dinosaurs.

The grounds also feature rivers and lakes to ensure that many of the holes are challenging and also fun. A particular highlight are the facts boards that are located around the course.

There is also a gift shop where you may be able to take home a little dinosaur and it also stocks some refreshments.



BUSHEY



This is probably one of my favourite experiences on the Lioness Line.

The Forties Experience at Lincoln Field, off Bushey Hall Drive in Bushey, is truly amazing.

It is open once a month on the last Sunday, but not in December.

This special museum focusses on the 1940s and 1950s including life during World War Two.

To improve the visit to The Forties Experience, it would be great if there was a shuttle mini-bus service from Bushey Station to this museum.

Otherwise, it is approximately a 30-minute walk.

BUSHEY



The collection of memorabilia at The Forties Experience is brilliant. On this page are some of the exhibits from the 1940s room including some wonderful models.

BUSHEY

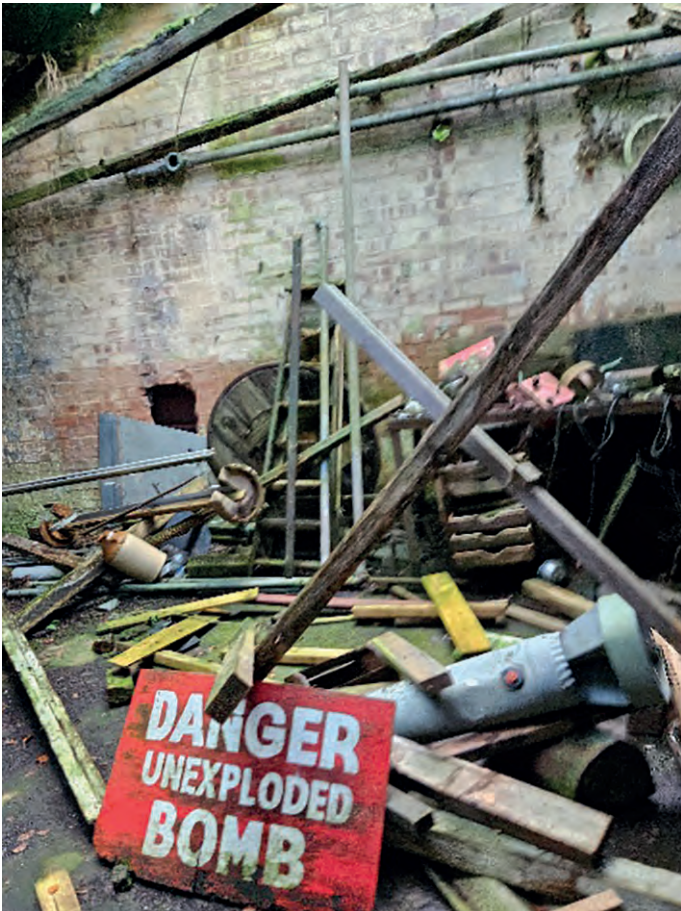


The 1950s room at The Forties Experience was really wonderful especially as it gave an idea of what life was like after World War Two.

The early television was so different from what we have today and it was in black and white and not colour. And it was so small.

The toys and comics were rather basic but the dining room table was laid out so neatly for the afternoon tea for all the family.

BUSHEY



An unexpected bonus at The Forties Experience was the chance to go into an air raid centre.

The highlight was the 90-year-old guide, who grew up in

the Bushey area. He was so knowledgeable and gave such a fantastic talk about how such a centre would have been used in the Second World War.

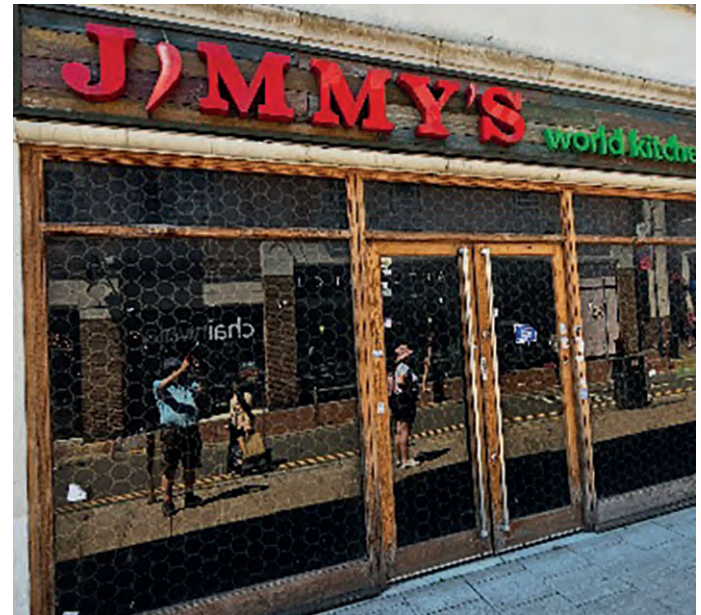


And just close by, there is often musical entertainment from the 1940s and 1950s.

For me, this rounded off such a wonderful nostalgic afternoon, full of history.



WATFORD HIGH STREET



Watford High Street Station, as its name suggests, is in the centre of the Hertfordshire town.

It is worth the longish trip out of the London boundaries, as it is believed that Watford has the longest high street in the country.

Measuring about a mile, Watford High Street stretches from Bushey Arches up to the Town Hall.

Having a pleasant feel, the High Street has plenty of stores and several restaurants.

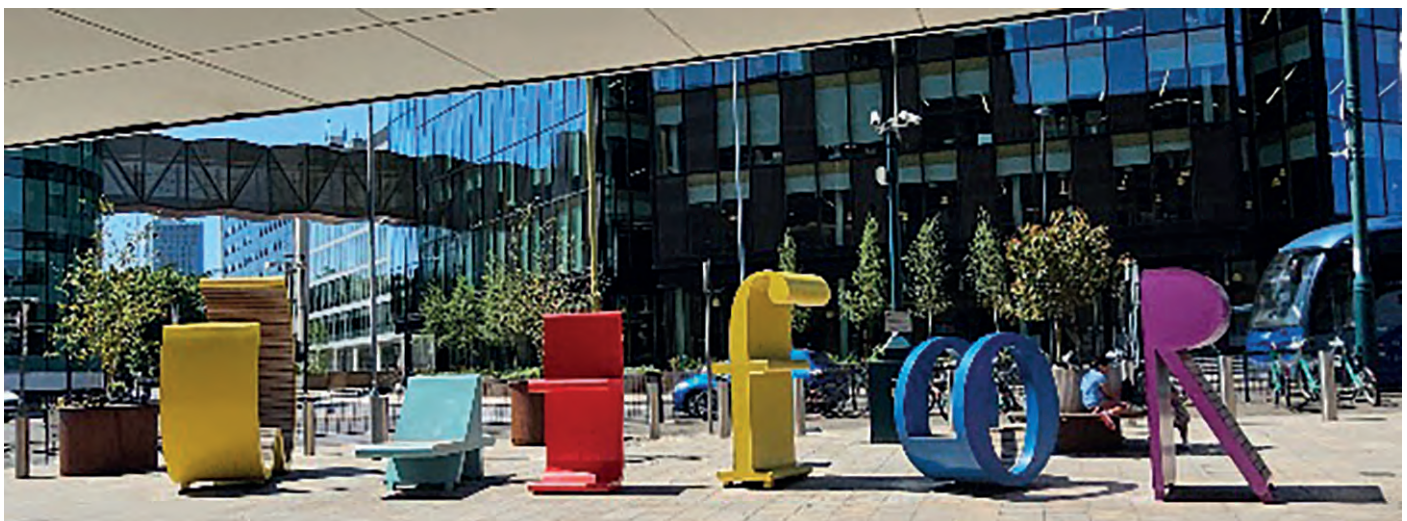
Watford was initially a small market town, with one long street.

The nearby Grand Junction Canal encouraged the construction of paper mills, print works and breweries.

Although industry in the town declined during the 20th century, Watford's close location to London has meant many businesses have established their headquarters in the town.

A good reason to visit the area is to watch Watford Football Club, who in recent years have played Premiership football.

WATFORD JUNCTION



Watford Junction has been known for the colourful building blocks that have been arranged to spell out the name of the station.

A short distance from the town, Watford Junction is located just north of a viaduct

over the Colne Valleyt and immediately south of Watford Tunnel.

Watford Junction is also a starting point for the Abbey Line that runs the short distance to St Albans City.

It is a key station for services going north including to Birmingham, Manchester, Blackpool, Edinburgh Waverley and Glasgow.

The Caledonian Sleeper from Scotland to London also stops at Watford Junction.

WATFORD JUNCTION

Watford Junction is the nearest railway station to the renowned Harry Potter Warners Studio Tour.

Shuttle buses run at least every 30 minutes from Watford Junction to the Studio Tour from 9.20am when the first tour is at 10am. If the first tour is at 9am then the shuttle buses will leave Watford Junction from 8.15am.

The last return shuttle bus back to Watford Junction will depart shortly after the Tour closes at the end of the day.

Note you should arrive at Warners Studio Tours 20 minutes prior to your ticketed time. Before the Tour begins you will have access to the Food Hall, Hub Cafe, Studio Shop, which opens at 10am, cloakroom and toilet facilities.

A map of the Studio Tour is available online and give details on what can be seen such as The Great Hall, Forbidden Forest, Green Screen Experience, The Backlot, The Blacklot Cafe and Platform 9¾.

Watford Junction is also home to the Abbey Line that goes to St Albans, which is worth a visit.



The highlight is St Albans Cathedral and Abbey Church, known simply today as St Albans Cathedral.

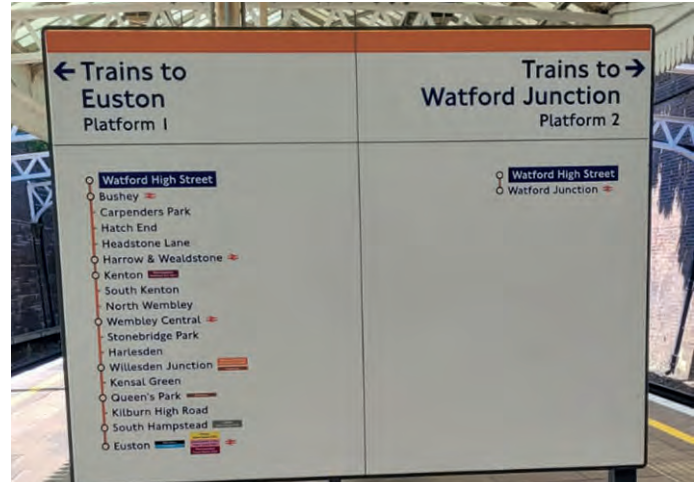
Much of its architecture dates from Norman times. It ceased to be an abbey in the 16th century and became a cathedral in 1877.

St Albans was the first major town on the old Roman road of Watling Street for travellers heading north and became the city of Verulamium.

And back at Watford Junction, there is O'Neill's, a cool place with hearty food and the craic.



LIONESS LINE TRAINS AND STATIONS



The Lioness Line is a fascinating route starting at the bustling Euston and ending at the interesting Watford Junction. No doubt, many people will get off at Wembley Central.





THE LIONESS LINE

HATCH END STATION