

WW2 Challenge 4



During the WW2, all non-essential travel was discouraged in order to conserve fuel supplies and ensure that trains were available for troop transport and other official purposes.

Local authorities were encouraged to provide entertainments that would encourage people to take 'Holidays at Home'. These programmes of events and amusements for the summer included open air concerts, dances, children's games, swimming galas and other sports competition. These would take place in local parks and sports facilities to dissuade people from going on holiday to the beach. These amusements would also keep people happy and distract them from worrying about the war.

Imagine you are writing a postcard from your 'Holiday at Home' to a friend or relative. Tell them what you like to do in Harrow. Write the postcard in your logbook. You can draw some of the activities you like to do too!



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The grounds at Headstone Manor were used for Harrow's Holidays at Home programme.

Between 1941–1944 there were dancing displays and other entertainment arranged at weekends in the park with deckchairs hired out for 3d per session. If the weather was bad events were held in the Great Barn.

There were also open-air concerts, Fire Service Displays plus a performance by the National Fire Service Band. There was even a circus with zoo animals held in the park for 2 days!

At the end of the war it was decided that Headstone Manor should continue to be used for entertainments which it still is today (and a perfect place for a museum!)



Advert from the Harrow Observer, June 1943, advertising the 'Stay-at-Home' holiday season held in Headstone Manor Recreation Grounds.

Treasure Hunt

Can you find these items in your home?

- Something you would wear when it's hot
- A camera
- Something that plays music