

The material in this script has been organised on the assumption that Narrator 1 is male and Narrator 2 is female. It could of course be organised in many different ways.

[From Start (school bell ringing) to Letter B, while orchestra play.]

NARR 1 : If you went to school in Bexley in the 1940s and 50s, that sound took you off to your classroom.

NARR 2 : You sat down at a wooden desk and the register was taken.

NARR 1 : Anne, Doreen, Gail, June, Veronica, Yvonne –

NARR 2 : ‘Yes, Sir’. Brian, Douglas, Martin, Roger, Stanley, Victor –

NARR 1 : ‘Yes, Miss.’ Then you went off to assembly, where you almost certainly sang a hymn.

[From D 9 to Letter E, orchestra silent.]

NARR 2 : Bexley’s school pupils particularly enjoyed Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 1953 – no school! A special Bank Holiday was granted for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup>.

NARR 1 : Most people followed the splendour of the ceremony on the radio, but a lucky few were able to watch proceedings on that new-fangled thing called a ‘television.’

[From Letter M to Letter N, over marimba playing].

NARR 2 : Some of us were happier in the playground than the classroom.

NARR 1 : Bexley’s playgrounds were like everyone else’s – games of tag, British Bulldog, skipping, and of course football.

NARR 2 : Let’s fast forward to the 1960s and England’s appearance in the 1966 World Cup Final. [Orchestra starts playing at letter N] (Bar N6) ....and it’s 1-0 to Germany

NARR 1 : (Bar N9) ...now it’s 1-all

NARR 2 : (Bar O 2) ...2-1 to England

NARR 1 : (Bar O 4 ) ...2-all now

NARR 2 : (Bar O 6) ...3-2 to England and only minutes to go

NARR 1 : (Bar O 8) ...they think it’s all over!

NARR 2 : (Bar O 9, after bass drum, beat 2) ...Goal for England!!

NARR 1 : (Bar O9, beat 3) ...it is now!!!

[From Letter P to Letter Q while orchestra play.]

NARR 2 : Over the next decades Bexley's pupils might have thrown frisbees and acquired rollerblades, but many of the big changes in their lives centred round technology.

NARR 1 : By the turn of the Millenium, lots of students had mobile phones. They played games on increasingly sophisticated electronic devices – and technology in schools was changing too.

[From Letter U to Letter V, while orchestra play.]

NARR 2 : More recently, all of Bexley's young people have had to cope with the effects of the Corona Virus Pandemic - home schooling, loss of contact with friends and relatives, illness and the loss of loved ones – a sad time for everyone.

[From W '13' to Letter X, orchestra silent].

NARR 1 : But in 2022 we could all enjoy the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The National Anthem was heard many times – but it never sounded like this.....

[From BB '12' to Letter CC, orchestra silent.]

NARR 2 : Finally, the coronation of King Charles gave parents and students alike a chance to celebrate.

NARR 1 : At street parties up and down the country – and in Bexley – mums and dads sat down and enjoyed the special food they had prepared; little children chased each other round the tables; and one or two young people moved to a quiet corner of the street to get much better acquainted.....

NARR 2 : This is the end of the story so far. It's Party Time!