

The Wigston Carnival 1939



Wigston Carnival Queen in 1939, Mary Bircham, and her attendants, left to right: Miss Bradley (late Mrs Avins), Pyllis Whitworth (Mrs Tyler), Edna Woolley and Dorothy Norman. Among others in the picture are Alf Doughty, Mr J. H. Holmes, Ida, Hilda and Mavis Holmes, Kitty Mawby, Ada Wignall, Horace Hill, Alice Johnson, Mr & Mrs W. Matts, and Eunice Hilton.



The Co-op dray outside the Working Men's Club in Long Street.

The Carnival wended its way through the village with almost everyone either in the parade or watching. Enthusiastic collectors enticed away your cash and a fete took place, usually at the Long Street Modern (Board) School.

The village really worked for our infirmary in the 1930s; £1,000 endowed a bed and it was a lot of money in those days.

For comparison, it cost £5,000 to buy a Spitfire aeroplane in 1940. The Penny family were very generous in the Leicester Royal Infirmary cause.

No wonder we had one of the finest hospitals in England.