

PREFACE TO THE ORIGINAL EDITION

My introduction to local party politics occurred during the Stanmore South by-election of December 1975, when I leafleted and canvassed for one of the candidates. The excitement of election day and the nail-biting count confirmed my latent fascination of elections. However, it is rather ironic to think that I have not voted in any of the contests recorded here, due to my youth!

The aim of this book is to exhaust my curiosity of electoral events in Harrow during the period covered, but perhaps more importantly to provide a definitive source of Harrow's local election results from the first elections of the new London Borough in May 1964 until its electoral reorganisation in 1978. The scholarly series of books compiled and edited by F.W.S. Craig, and published by Macmillan Press Ltd., inspired the format of the book.

The job of collecting the statistics was made relatively straightforward because the Greater London Council have published in booklet form details of election results for all the London Boroughs since 1968. The data have been based on the booklets, but I have made extensive additions and corrections from local sources.

If I am not out-of-pocket as a result of producing this book, I hope to bring out another volume, covering elections between 1954 and 1963. That is why the index refers to a book which is (at the moment!) non-existent.

I will be delighted to receive criticisms, suggestions or corrections.

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PREFACE TO THE NEW EDITION

After a break of over 25 years, I decided it was time to revamp and reissue this book, which was my first foray into electoral studies. I have taken the opportunity to significantly extend and enhance this edition: personal computer technology allows the presentation of the text in an elegant font and the inclusion of a scanned photograph of the 1972 Labour Group. I hope the contents provide readers with a fascinating and definitive historical record.

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