Roll: 19750531-6401 Camera: Zorki 4 Format: Film 35mm Film: Ilford HP4

### **Subject:**

Life in Birmingham 1975.

# People:

Maggie Hughes

#### **Notes:**

We went to Birmingham's Bull Ring Market most weekends frequently the objective was to obtain "Sharp" cheese from the cheese stall in the out door market. The choices were "Sharp" and "Mild". Under Maggie's tutelage we also shopped for chicken livers at the butchers in the indoor Market. Chickens were eviscerated as they were sold and the giblets thrown in a large plastic dustbin. On request a handful were pulled out of the bin again and sold for a few pence.

St. Martin's Square, just by the open air market, was a central location for soap box speakers and rallies. The National Front was active at this time, I think because the vote on entry to the common market was coming up on June 5th. I note from my diary how I vacillated on the issue until I came down with Tony Benn, and most of the Left, against entry to a rich nations club, which would prevent the UK from ever implementing a left agenda. If anything my view has hardened since due to the increased political integration with the European Union and the demonstrable democratic deficit.

That turntable lid took me hours and hours to make, it was not finished until February and I note that "I might have been a little over ambitious."

I think that view to the Rotunda is from somewhere close to the Bristol Road coming from Gough Road.

I had been struggling with adapting to life with Maggie and with my irrascible nature during the early part of the year. In April and May we seemed often to bump into a very beautiful girl called Darina, to whom we were introduced by Martin Durham. I think I was more than a little bit smitten and although my feelings may not have been entirely unreciprocated, my love for Maggie continued to triumph over all.

#### Dates:

The dates and times have been garnered from memory, diaries, emails, receipts and other ephemera. I have checked dates where possible against publicly available information on the internet. The times are less accurate and are inferred by reference to the image contents and the sequence of images on the film rolls.

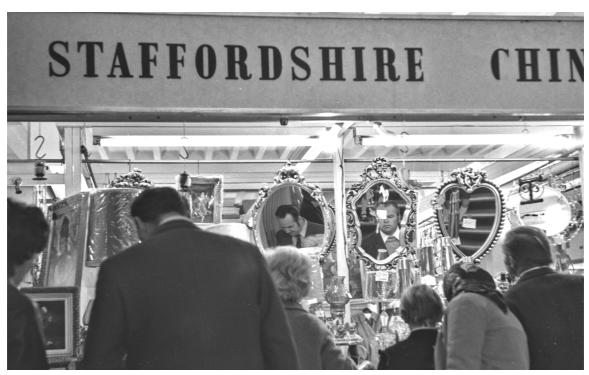
## Frames:

10-05 10:00: Aston University
10-05 10:15: Staffordshire China
11-05 10:00: Edgbaston to the Rotunda.
11-05 18:00: Chimneys from an attic window.
12-05 10:00: Birmingham Central Library.
12-05 10:05: Birmingham Central Library.
17-05 10:00: National Front.
17-05 22:00: Turntable lid.
18-05 10:00: Aston Junction
16-04 08:14: Aston Junction

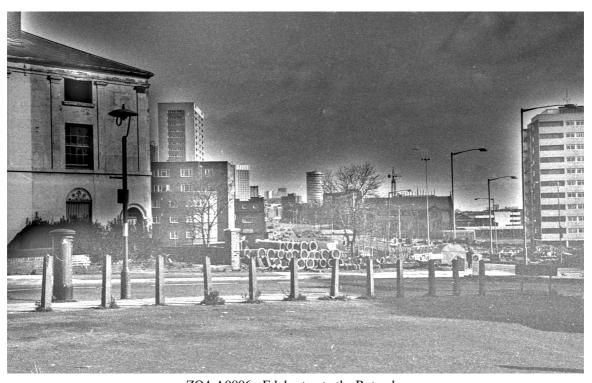


ZO4-A0000 - Aston University.





ZO4-A0001 - Indoor market.



ZO4-A0006 - Edgbaston to the Rotunda.



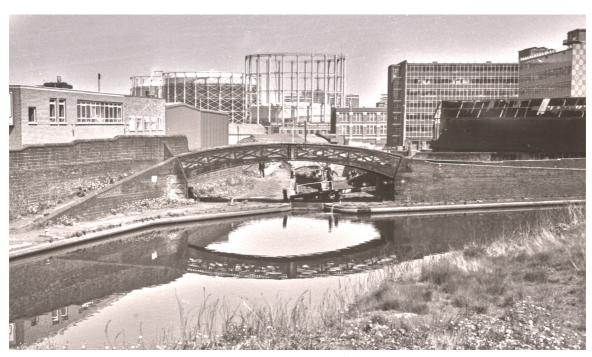
ZO4-A0007 - Urban living.



ZO4-A0009 - Birmingham Library.



ZO4-A0015 - Political rally.



ZO4-A0018 - Aston Flight.