

Den

On 9th February 1983, Dennis Nilsen was arrested after fingers and human flesh were found blocking the drains outside his home in Cranley Gardens, Muswell Hill. Nilsen murdered at least twelve young men and boys between 1978 and 1983.

Remember the time
Flash
 bulbs
 popped
in Cranley Gardens?

ITN pulled up
in a Transit.
Bedford for the Beeb.
Sideburns and sheepskin.
Shitstorm.

Mum was on
the Six O'Clock.
Stood in the drizzle
wobbly broolly nodding.

She called Den a
loner.
Job Centre job.
Quite quiet.
But busy,
she told the Six
(dead chuffed).

Mind you,
 hewas
 strangling
queersintheatticflat.
Boiling up the bodies
stuffing vital organs in
bin bags in the wardrobe

flushing muscle tissue
down
the
loo
with Harpic Alpine Fresh.
(Keep anyone busy, that.)

Bleep for company.
Den dreamt of Géricault
and his pallid boy on
The Raft of Medusa.
A wreck,
 adrift.