## Chapter 92: Entertainment in the Late 1960s

The diaries recorded some details of family and other birthdays that occurred during this time although the information is somewhat sporadic as grandad did not systematically record every birthday. Mum did sometimes make notes of birthdays but her diary entries fade out over this period.[1] In terms of our birthdays[2], grandad mostly focused on what they gave us as presents. For example, in 1965, he noted that they had bought Tricia a bedspread for her birthday. In June 1965, grandma bought Alan a croquet set for his birthday.[3] That year, grandma and grandad bought me a watch for my fifth birthday.[4]

In 1966, grandma and grandad gave us a joint present, a slide that grandad had made.[5]

*Top right - in 1965, grandma and grandad bought me a watch for my birthday and I vaguely recollect that it might have been a Timex and might have looked something like this. However, I bought this watch recently and suspect it is later, perhaps 1980s. It says "assembled in Philippines" on the back and this dates it to after 1979.*
*Above left – Alan and me on a slide grandad made in the garden of 148 Middletons Lane.*
*Above right – Liz, Tricia, me and Alan in grandma and grandad's back garden. Tricia and I are on a seesaw. Alan appears to be on a "slide" that is very similar in design to the seesaw we are on.*

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[1] See Chapter 87.
[2] During this period, Tricia celebrated her seventh to eleventh birthdays, I celebrated my fifth to ninth, Alan celebrated his third to seventh and Liz celebrated her first four.
[3] Grandad noted that it cost 29/6.
[4] Grandad noted that grandma took me into Norwich on 1 June 1965 and bought the watch which cost £3. Grandma and grandad bought a watch for each of us when we turned five. They bought one for Tricia in April 1963 , see Chapter 81, for Alan in May 1967 and for Liz in March 1970, see Chapter 106. Tricia's watch cost £3 9 0 (although grandad referred to it being £2 16 0 net), Alan's £3 5 0 and Liz's £3 13 0. I assume the reason they bought us watches aged five was because of the importance of watches and clocks to grandad and because we were probably beginning to tell the time at that age. This was before digital watches became available in the 1970s. Grandad, perhaps surprisingly, did not note the types of watches he bought us although I have a vague recollection that mine might have been made by Timex. Grandad did note that they bought Tricia's watch in Ripley. Grandma bought watches for the other three of us in Norwich. Grandad noted that Liz's watch was bought from Tilletts. Established in 1908, this jewellers is still in operation at 17 St Giles Street.
[5] Around the same time, grandad made a slide for the church playgroup – see Chapter 90. The only record I can find of grandad making a seesaw was in April/May 1967 for mum's friend Eileen and there is also a reference to making a "*trestle*" for her children. Perhaps this was the seesaw in the picture and we were just trying it out. While I recall grandad making things for us when we were kids, particularly go-cart-type structures, I do not specifically recall a slide or a seesaw.

In 1967, Tricia got a bike for her ninth birthday. It was secondhand, cost £6 10 0, and grandma and grandad gave £2 towards it.[6] In 1968, Tricia was ten and, on her birthday, grandma and grandad gave her £2 towards a transistor radio.[7]

*Dixi 235 pocket transistor radio circa 1960s*

Grandad also noted our birthday parties. For example, in 1965, Tricia had a party on her birthday. Grandma went to it as did Ron and Betty Douglas.[8] Sometimes, our birthday parties were not on the day itself. My fifth birthday party was on Saturday 5 June 1965.[9] However, I don't know why particular days were selected for birthday parties. For example, Alan's party that year was held on Wednesday 16 June.[10] Perhaps, it was not acceptable to hold a party on a Sunday?[11] In May 1966, grandad noted that Tricia was eight and that her party was held on the Wednesday after her birthday.[12] Mum noted that, in 1966, both Alan and I had parties on our birthdays.[13]

*Postcard of Hippodrome circus in Yarmouth – circa 1906*

For some reason, Alan and I had a joint birthday party in February 1968 as we had not had a party in June 1967.[14] It was held at Hellesdon Community Centre and grandma baked buns for it. On Liz's birthday, in 1968, grandad noted that she had a small party.[15] Tricia's birthday party in 1968 was held at Hellesdon Community Centre.[16] In 1969, Liz's birthday fell on a Sunday and her party was held on Monday 24 March.[17] That year, on Saturday 14 June 1969, dad took Alan and two friends to a circus in Yarmouth.[18] While grandad did not say explicitly that this was for Alan's birthday, I assume it was.

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[6] Tricia's birthday was on a Monday that year. It seems she got her bike at least one day early as, on the 14th, she rode it to grandma and grandad's with dad walking beside her.

[7] The transistor was invented in 1947 and the first radio using transistors was developed in 1954. Transistor radios became widely available in the 1960s and 1970s and allowed radios to become small and portable. While transistor radios are still common as car radios, they have largely been superseded by digital devices. I confess I don't know what make or model the radio was but I imagine it being small and portable. The photo is of a pocket radio I bought recently. I have not found much detail about the radio.

[8] Grandad noted that Ron and Betty left Caroline at ours for some time while they went into Norwich.

[9] Grandma and Caroline Douglas came. Ron took them and picked Caroline up around 5.20pm.

[10] Grandad noted that mum picked up grandma and Minnie to take them to Alan's birthday party and Ron Douglas brought them back.

[11] But, in 1968, Tricia's birthday party was held on the 18th, a Saturday instead of Wednesday the 15th.

[12] This was the 18th which means that her birthday fell on a Sunday that year. Grandad noted that grandma and Auntie Bertha went to help with the party. However, mum noted Tricia's party as happening on Thursday 19 May.

[13] My birthday fell on a Saturday that year and Alan's on a Monday.

[14] I don't know why. Presumably, this relates to mum's ill-health at the time, see Chapter 88.

[15] Her birthday was on a Friday that year. Grandma came to the party even though she was not feeling well.

[16] Grandma and Eva went, dad picked them up.

[17] I don't know why it was held on a Monday and not a Saturday or a Wednesday nor why it was not held on Monday 17th. Grandma went to the party after completing her duty at the hospital canteen in Norwich.

[18] I don't know for certain that it was at the Hippodrome but it could have been. In her book(let) "*I Remember*" (p11), Edith Searson recalled a trip to the Hippodrome in Yarmouth before the first world war. She thought it had been a circus type of programme but she most remembered the centre being cleared and filled with water and the return train journey home.

Grandad also sometimes noted other people's birthdays, particularly if they were staying with them at the time. This included Amy on 8 August, Eva on 20 September[19] and Tom on 25 October.[20] In September 1969, grandad noted that he and grandma bought Irene Bell a one-flower holder for her 45th birthday. In 1969, it was mum's 35th birthday and grandad noted that they gave her £5. He also sometimes noted his and grandma's birthdays[21] including how many cards had been received.[22] He also sometimes noted when people phoned him on his birthday, for example, Tom and Amy in 1968.[23] Mum also occasionally noted other people's birthdays. For example, in June 1966, she noted taking Janet Blyth to Yarmouth for a show for her birthday.

Grandad noted that Caroline Douglas had a party on her birthday on 13 March 1968. Grandma helped Mrs Douglas with the shopping for this the previous day and also with organising it on the day. The four of us all attended. While grandma and grandad did not really have parties for their birthdays, we did sometimes go there for tea on their birthday, such as on 8 May 1965, grandma's birthday.[24]

**My recollections**

I have quite a lot of memories of birthday parties as a child but I think most of them were parties I was invited to and my own parties do not stand out particularly clearly. I remember there being games and food. I think they were mostly held at people's homes but I do not recall clearly.

At some point, the way we celebrated birthdays changed so instead of having a party, we were allowed to take a smaller number of friends out somewhere, e.g. as Alan did in 1969 to the circus. While I do recall going to the circus as a child, I am not sure if I ever did this for my birthday but it would not surprise me if I did. The first, and only, time I recall going out for some kind of "*treat*" for a birthday was I think for the film "*Zulu*".[25] However, this film came out in 1964 and I am sure that any such birthday trip would have been much later so perhaps I am mistaken.

Image licenced for re-use from Alamy

*Michael Caine in the 1964 film "Zulu"*

Both mum and grandad noted a number of other parties during this period. For example, in January 1965, mum noted going to a party at Miss Walker's. In March 1965, I went to Kevin Frost's party. In December 1965, Tricia and I went to a party at the Norwich Union and, in 1966, Tricia, Alan and I went

[19] In 1965 when she turned 70.
[20] From 1965 to 1969, when he turned 71-75 respectively.
[21] Grandad's birthday was on 1 December and grandma's on 8 May.
[22] I have a sense that grandad might have had a competitive view of this in relation to him and Tom Wilson. For example, in 1965, he noted that Tom received nine cards on his birthday but, that on his, grandad received 12 and presents. Similarly, in 1966, grandad noted that Tom received ten cards but that he received 13 cards plus presents and, in 1967, Tom received nine cards while grandad received 14 plus presents. In 1968, grandad did not note how many cards Tom received although he noted that he himself received 14. In 1969, Tom received ten cards and grandad 13. In any competition on number of cards, grandma would have won (although I am not sure she was competitive in that sense!) For example, in 1966, grandad noted that she received 21 cards and five letters, in 1967, she received 23 cards and ten letters and, in 1968, she received 27 cards and nine letters.
[23] Grandad noted that Amy wished him many happy returns. I confess I had never really thought about the meaning of the phrase but apparently it was first used in 1779 in relation to the New Year and referred to hoping that the person would see many more New Years (or birthdays).
[24] This was a Saturday so was not our usual day for going for tea.
[25] See here.

to the same Norwich Union party. In January 1966, Tricia went to a party on one day[26] and I went on another. In March 1966, Tricia, Alan and I went to Nicky's[27] party in the afternoon. In October 1968, grandad noted that mum held a Halloween party for children.[28] In March 1969, dad took Tricia to a friend's birthday party and she went to another party in April 1969.[29]

One of the main times of year for celebrations, parties etc. was Christmas and the Christmases of this period are probably the ones that have formed most of my childhood memories of that season.[30] Grandad sometimes noted presents that they had got for us[31] and also sometimes presents he or grandma had received.[32] Auntie Dolly mostly spent the Christmas period with grandma and grandad[33] but she was unable to come in 1967 as she had shingles.[34] On Christmas Day itself, she and grandma would go to a church service in the morning and they would then come to us from lunch-time until late. Usually, we would go to grandma's and grandad's on Boxing Day.[35] Grandad also noted other visitors who called at or around Christmas.[36] I vaguely recall going to see Father Christmas in the run up to Christmas[37] but I don't think it was a particularly big deal for us. Similarly, Christmas parties, apart from those with family members over Christmas itself, were not a particularly prominent part of our childhood.[38] In the run up to Christmas, I recall more emphasis being placed on buying presents, preparing food and decorating the tree and the house. On 23 December 1969, grandad came to ours to see to the lamps on the Christmas tree. He brought a

*Christmas 1968 – top – Alan, grandad, dad, Liz, grandma, Tricia above – Liz, grandma, Tricia, Auntie Dolly, me, Alan*

[26] I am not sure whose party it was!
[27] I am not sure who this was.
[28] As mentioned in Chapter 90, this surprises me a bit. I do not recall celebrating Halloween as a child and I had always thought that mum was a bit anti-Halloween.
[29] It seems pretty clear that grandad, by no means, noted all the parties we went too. Rather, he noted those that he was aware of and, in particular, those that affected him in some way. For example, he noted, in September 1969, that Tricia had gone to a party which meant she did not come to theirs for tea with the rest of the family.
[30] See recollections in Chapter 81.
[31] He did this indirectly, in January 1965, by saying he had made Alan a box to keep his plastic building set in. Perhaps this was some form of Lego? He noted that they had bought it him for Christmas, presumably in 1964. In 1967, grandad noted that they had given a climbing frame for all of us. In January 1968, grandad noted that they had given mum and dad £30 as a Christmas present (presumably for 1967) to pay for a new WC being put in by the firm who had put in central heating before Christmas.
[32] For example, in 1967, he noted that we had bought him a road map (3 miles to 1 inch) and that it was a later edition of the one mum had got him in 1955. He also noted that the price was 21/-. In 1968, he noted that Ron had bought him a ratchet screwdriver. In April 1969, grandad noted that grandma went to Jarrolds (see Chapter 93) to change the Christmas present Ron had bought her, although he did not say what that had been. She got a water jug and cream jug with a silver finish and had to pay an additional 13/7.
[33] From memory, I had thought there were others there for Christmas too, such as Jim and Renie and Tom and Amy but it seems I may be mis-remembering as they do not appear to have been with grandma and grandad for Christmas at least up until 1969. However, it seems my memory may not be completely wrong as grandad notes that Tom and Amy did spend Christmas with us in 1971.
[34] See Chapter 88.
[35] In 1968, Rev Michael Parker came too. Mr and Mrs Hodgson should have come but they could not as she was ill.
[36] For example, Reg and Robin Edwards called in on 27 December 1965.
[37] In 1966, mum noted that we went to see Father Christmas on 21 December.
[38] Although I suspect there were such parties at Sunday School and we appear to have gone to a children's Christmas party at the Norwich Union in at least some years. There were clearly some Christmas parties going on. On 4 December 1969, grandad noted that there were only five at the ladies' meeting. While grandad considered the bad weather to be a factor, he also thought that Christmas parties had played a part.

gadget he had made, which I presume was to test bulbs. He found that some lamps had gone. He left it "*OK*" so presumably he changed the faulty bulbs. I recall that there were often issues with those strings of Christmas tree lights. Often they were tangled and/or they did not work at first. The problem was that if one bulb was not working all the lights failed to work. The first step was to check that all the bulbs were in tightly. If that did not work then you had to find the faulty bulb(s) which was not an easy task, hence grandad's gadget. In 1969, as well as going to grandma and grandad's for dinner and tea on Boxing Day, we went for tea on Sunday the 28th. But, grandad noted that dad went home in the car before tea.[39] This meant that Ron had to run us home in Joy's car after tea. I am not sure how much we saw of grandma and grandad Drew over Christmas. I don't recall this being a prominent part of our Christmases. But, in 1969, we did go to Kirkby for the day on December 29.

*Boxing Day 1968 in grandma and grandad's back garden. According to grandad's diary, there was snow on the ground with snow showers all day. The picture shows Tricia, Liz, Caroline, dad, Alan and me*

One of my abiding childhood memories is of going to grandma and grandad's for tea on a Sunday afternoon. This started from when they moved into their bungalow in Drayton in 1964[40] and continued throughout this period. Though there might be times when one or more of us could not be there, we did go there as a rule more often than not. This is not to say that we did not go to theirs at other times. We did including for other meals, e.g. at midday.[41] Sometimes, grandma especially had meals at ours

[39] I don't know why this would have been the case and, if grandad knew, he did not explain. I assume there must have been some form of disagreement or row. It seems odd that dad would have gone and taken the car leaving all of us behind especially as he could have walked home from grandma and grandad's. Perhaps there was something he had to do. I do recall there being a lot of family arguments and disagreements over Christmas, particularly in later years.

[40] See Chapter 76.

[41] For mum and grandad, they had always referred to "*dinner*" and "tea" in relation to midday and evening meals. However, this changed somewhat prior to and after this period in that they started sometimes referring to the midday meal as "*lunch*" but this was not completely consistent as they also sometimes still referred to midday meal as "*dinner*" during this period. The earliest reference I can find to "*lunch*" is in October 1961 when mum referred to the ladies from Trinity coming for a cup of tea "*at lunch time*". In August 1965, on a trip to Walcott, grandad referred to staying on the beach "*after lunch*" because the weather had turned cloudier. That same month, when they went to Ilkeston for Cyril and Minnie's golden wedding, he referred to having "*lunch*" on a boat. In April 1966, when in Scotland, he

often when she had come to babysit.[42] Sometimes, when the weather was nice, we children and grandma would sit outside to eat our tea but grandad, mum and dad did not.[43] While we often went to grandma and grandad's as a family, we also sometimes went there individually.[44]

Other people visited grandma and grandad including for meals. This included George and Meddy Bailey, who grandma and grandad knew from Kirkby and who had moved to Overstrand.[45] People who lived locally in Drayton also came round, including for meals. These people included Mr and Mrs Hodgson, Betty and Caroline Douglas and Miss Cooke.[46] Occasionally, people came with us when we went for tea at grandma and grandad's. These included Rev M Parker and Derrick, Mary and Kathryn Leach. Sometimes, people came for meals at ours, such as Margaret and Arnold Clough and in May 1965, Mary Rew stayed at ours overnight. Sometimes, grandma went for meals at other people's houses including Mrs Noble and Sister G Palmer.

*Tricia, me, Alan and Liz on our bikes in grandma and grandad's back garden in June 1969*

Grandma and grandad had lots of visitors during this period and, at times, I wonder where they put them all, given that the bungalow only had two bedrooms. It is possible that they put up temporary

referred to having "*lunch*" in a café. In August 1968, he referred to Ken and David Bell having forgotten their "*lunch*". In October 1969, he referred to taking "*lunch*" on a trip to Blakeney Quay.

[42] One odd childhood memory I have is that grandad did not like onion so, if he was coming to our house, mum would avoid cooking onions for at least 24 hours beforehand!

[43] I am not surprised that this was the case for grandad and dad. Dad hated picnics and wondered why anyone would want to go and eat outside "*where the flies lived*". I am surprised by mum as I thought she had always loved picnics. I recall arguments over this topic as a child and I think this might be part of the reason why subconsciously I am not that keen on picnics!

[44] For example, Tricia went there for dinner in June 1965. Sometimes, we children went there to eat but mum and dad did not, for example in July 1965. Sometimes, one or more of us stayed over at grandma and grandad's. For example, I stayed there in September 1965. In July/August 1967, Alan and I stayed at grandma and grandad's for a week. In October 1967, Tricia went to stay with grandma and grandad for the weekend while the rest of us went to a wedding in Mansfield – see Chapter 89.

[45] They came in January, March and August 1965. January, July and October 1966 and in May 1967. On at least two of these occasions, they came with Bill and Ethel Wilcox (or Wilcock).

[46] Some of these were related to Drayton Methodist Church – see Chapter 90.

beds in the living room or that some of the visitors went to stay with friends locally but these arrangements are not always noted by grandad.

Grandma and grandad's most frequent visitors during this period were Tom and Amy Wilson who came more than 25 times over this five-year period.[47] As they came by car, and I think grandad and Tom got on well, this was an opportunity for grandma and grandad to explore places in Norfolk and East Anglia. Places they went together included Acle, Aldeburgh[48], Aylsham, Bacton, Bawburgh[49], Bawdeswell[50], Beccles, Bedford[51], Blakeney, Blakeney Quay[52], Blofield[53], Brandon, Brundall[54], Bungay[55], Caister, Clacton-on-Sea[56], Coltishall, Costessey[57], Cromer[58], Debenham, Dereham[59], Diss, Docking, Dovercourt[60], Downham Market, Drayton[61], Ely[62], Eye, Fakenham, Felbrigg Park[63], Felixstowe, Filby, Fritton, Gorleston[64], Haddiscoe, Hadleigh[56], Happisburgh, Harwich, Hemsby[65], Holt, Horning[66], Horning Ferry[67], Hunstanton[68], Kessingland[69], King's Lynn, Loddon, Lowestoft, Ludham, Melton Constable, Mildenhall, Newmarket, North Walsham, Norwich[70], Ormesby, Oulton Broad[71],

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[47] I am not sure why they came so often. I think they were retired and presumably they loved Norfolk and East Anglia. Staying with grandma and grandad was an economical way of spending time in Norfolk. Staying with family and friends seemed to be a common way of holidaying then.

[48] See also footnote 64.

[49] In February 1967, there were two trips to Bawburgh. The first was on the 9th. Grandma and grandad were looking after Liz and Alan as mum had gone to Preston. Tom, Amy, grandad and Alan went to Bawburgh. Presumably, grandma stayed with Liz. The second was on the 12th. Tom, Amy and grandma went.

[50] Which grandad spelled as Baudswell. They went here in September 1965 on the way back from Ely.

[51] On 21 May 1965, grandma, grandad Tom and Amy went for the day to Bedford and Elstow. They went to Auntie Dolly's. From there, Ray picked them up and took them to his house and to Kenneth's. Ken took them back to Auntie Dolly's.

[52] They went here on 3 October 1969 and took lunch.

[53] In March and October 1967, they went to see the bungalows that Mr Bell was constructing. In August 1968, they took lunch for Ken and David Bell as they had forgotten it.

[54] Although grandad referred to this as Blundell. They went there on 21 June 1966 on the way to Reedham Riverside so I think it is likely he was referring to Brundall.

[55] On visits to Bungay, they often called to see Mrs East, for example in March and May 1965 and in October 1966.

[56] When they went to Clacton in May 1966, they visited Tom's cousin in Great Clacton and Tom took Auntie Bertha to see her nephew in Hadleigh on the way back. In September 1966, they came to visit us at Butlins at the time that Alan was ill – see Chapter 88.

[57] On the trip to Costessey in March 1965, they took Caroline Douglas with them. They went there in October 1969 to visit a friend of Tom and Amy's that grandad referred to as Tryness granddaughter

[58] In August 1966, when grandma, grandad, Tom and Amy went to Cromer, Auntie Dolly and Eva did not go. They went into Norwich instead. In January 1967, when they went to Cromer they had a puncture near Overstrand. A man stopped and helped them fit the spare. Tom had the puncture mended in Overstrand.

[59] In March 1965, for the trip to Dereham and Thetford, grandma did not go as she had gone with mum to a district meeting in King's Lynn. When they visited Dereham in January 1966, they went to Jentique works. Tom and Amy saw a table and sideboard they liked but they had to write to Brays in Kirkby to order it. Jentique was a furniture making company established in 1942. It was taken over by Peter Black holdings in 1985 – see this book. There is still a Jentique Close in Dereham and the roads that come off it – Walnut Way and Cabinet Close also perhaps evoke that history of furniture-making.

[60] Described as a small seaside town now contiguous with Harwich.

[61] They went to the village hall in January 1967 and took Caroline Douglas.

[62] Grandad noted that they went via Thetford and Mildenhall and that they came back via Downham Market, Swaffham and "Baudswell" coming back into Drayton on the Low Road. He noted that they did 128 miles which is exactly the mileage calculated by Google.

[63] Felbrigg Hall and Park is a National Trust property near Cromer. Currently, it costs £13 for an adult to visit plus £5 to park.

[64] On 25 October 1966, it was Tom's birthday and they were visiting Gorleston. Tom, Amy and grandma had a "*midday meal*" at Matthes but grandad did not go. I do not know why. Something similar happened in September 1967 when they visited Aldeburgh. Grandma, Tom and Amy went for lunch at The Lion (perhaps The White Lion) but grandad did not go. He ate his lunch in the car. He noted that lunch cost Tom £2 10 6. The same happened again in Gorleston on 24 October 1967, the day before Tom's birthday. As the previous year, grandma, Tom and Amy went to Matthes for a meal.

[65] In August 1966, grandma, grandad, Tom, Amy, Eva and Auntie Dolly went to Hemsby twice. The second time, we all went with them, that is mum, dad and us four.

[66] In September 1965, they went to Horning in the evening and sat watching boats. They also went there on 28 April 1968. They tried to go there on 2 May but the windscreen wipers were not working properly and, when they got to St Faith's, they stopped completely. As it was raining, they headed home.

[67] For example, they went there on 20 May 1965 and they took their teas. There used to be a chain ferry there but there is now a seasonal foot ferry. The ferry crosses the River Bure.

[68] On a trip there, in August 1968, they met up with a group who had come on an outing from Kirkby including Florrie and Arthur Booth.

[69] When they went to Kessingland, on 18 May 1965, they went to see Amos Hall who had been a police officer with Tom.

[70] On 25 October 1967, Tom and grandad went to Bridewell Museum. This is now known as Museum of Norwich at the Bridewell.

[71] This trip was on 6 August 1965. While grandad referred only to Oulton and not Oulton Broad, this related to going to Kessingland via Yarmouth and Oulton. In this context, I think it is more likely that grandad was referring to Oulton Broad. He did this again in 1966. However, there is another place called Oulton near Reepham and Aylsham but I think grandad was referring to Oulton Broad.

Overstrand[72], Potter Heigham[73], Reedham (including Riverside), Reedham Ferry[74], Rockland Broad[75], Sandringham, Scole, Sea Palling[76], Sheringham[77], Sheringham Park[78], Sidestrand, South Walsham, Southwold[79], Stalham, St Faiths[80], St Olaves, Swaffham, Swanton Morley[81], Taverham, Thetford[59], Walcott[82], Walsingham[83], Walton-on-the-Naze, Watton, Weasenham[84], Wells, Woods End[85], Wroxham and Yarmouth.[86]

[72] Whenever they went to Overstrand, they visited George and Meddy Bailey, for example in January, March, August, September and October 1965, in February, May, August and (twice in) October 1966, in January and September 1967, in April and August 1968 and in April 1969. In October 1967. They tried to visit them but they were away for the week. In April 1968, grandma, Tom and Amy went to see George and Meddy. Grandad did not go but he did not say why. In October 1968, Tom and Amy went to see George and Meddy on their own. In April 1969, somewhat unusually, grandad went with Tom and Amy to see George and Meddy Bailey but grandma did not go as she was having some ladies round.

[73] Which, in 1969, grandad abbreviated to PH.

[74] In August 1965, they crossed the river with the ferry. The cost was three shillings for the car and 3d per person. This is a chain ferry which crosses the River Yare and is still operational. The cost of crossing with a car is £4.50 but I think this may include passengers. Pedestrians pay 50p. It is the only place to cross the River Yare by car between Norwich's southern bypass and Yarmouth. There is a swing bridge at Reedham but this is a railway crossing.

[75] Rockland Broad is one of the less well-known broads.

[76] On 30 August 1966, Tom and grandad replaced a window on our caravan. There was heavy rain on the way home and Tom had some problems with the car engine. He had further problems with the car on the 31st when they went to Reedham.

[77] In August 1968, they went there to see the new Methodist church – see Chapter 90.

[78] A large park and garden, some two miles from Sheringham, managed by the National Trust. They paid 2/- for them and the car to go in. Grandad said there was not much to see. The cost now is £6.50 for parking but National Trust members park for free and there appears to be no charge if you visit without a car.

[79] One trip there was on 30 April 1968 and they took Caroline Douglas with them. In September 1968, when they went to Southwold, they tried to come back via Beccles but they could not and had to divert via Bungay as the road was closed because of flooding.

[80] This is referring to an area north of Norwich where there are at least two villages which include St Faith in the name – Horsham St Faith and Newton St Faith.

[81] Swanton Morley is a village in Norfolk although the entry on 24 January 1965 looks like Stanton Morley.

[82] For example, on 23 May 1965, they took their teas but sat eating them in the car watching the sea as it was raining. In July 1965, they went here with us – mum, Tricia, me, Alan and Liz. Grandad said it was too hot on the beach so he went to the car park and sat against a fence to keep out of the sun. He was able to go to the beach in the afternoon as it was cloudy. Mum lost her watch but someone found it and mum got their phone number. She got it back the next day. A child had found it apparently. In August 1966, grandma, grandad, Tom, Amy, Eva and Auntie Dolly went to Walcott. Mum and the four of us went with them.

[83] On the way back from Hunstanton on 4 August 1965, they called at George Bryans at Great Walsingham.

[84] They visited here in October 1967 and went to see Amy's cousin and her husband. Weasenham is where Amy's father came from.

[85] This is a place on the southern bank of a large bend in the River Yare. It is close to Bramerton and grandad sometimes refers to this as Bramerton Woods or Bramerton Woods End. They went there several times. On one trip in July 1969, grandad commented on seeing several people water skiing - "*several speed boats and fellows being towed*" - and grandad thought this was very interesting.

[86] In January 1966, when they visited Yarmouth, grandad noted that it was snowing over the sea. In May 1966, grandma, grandad, Tom, Amy and Auntie Bertha met George and Meddy Bailey and Bill and Ethel Wilcox (or Wilcock). In October, grandma went by bus to Yarmouth for a circuit meeting. Tom, Amy and grandad went there later and met grandma and together they went to the harbour. During their visit in October/November 1967, Tom and Amy made several trips here. The first was on 21 October. They took Tricia with them as she was staying with grandma and grandad for the weekend. The second was on 27 October when they went with mum and the four of us. On the way back, mum had problems with her car and had to call the AA. They also went to Yarmouth on 3 November. Grandma, Tom and Amy went to Yarmouth on 1 March 1968. Grandad did not go as he had a "*bilious attack*" – see Chapter 88. They went to Yarmouth on 12 August 1968 and took Alan with them. They also took Alan on the 13th and 14th when they went to Hunstanton and Sheringham respectively. During Tom and Amy's visit in September 1968, they went to Yarmouth twice – on the 20th and the 25th. When they went to Yarmouth on 16 October 1968, they took Caroline with them. They set off for Yarmouth again on the 22nd, this time with Liz. But, it was very foggy, so when they got to Plumstead Road, they decided to come back. In April 1969, they took Liz with them to Yarmouth.

*Some images of grandma, grandad, Tom and Amy exploring Norfolk*
*Below – Amy, Tom and grandma – initially I was not sure where this was but I am pretty sure it is at Reedham Riverside with the swing rail bridge in the background*

*Previous page left – Amy, Tom and grandad. I think this is on Runton Road in Cromer with the Cliftonville Hotel in the distance. The building immediately behind is, I think, the Grand Hotel, that burned down in 1969/70 and which was replaced by the Albany Flats*
*Previous page right – Amy, Tom and grandma at the coast. I am not sure entirely where this is. Initially, I thought it might be Cromer but based on feedback I got on this on the Norwich Remembers site, I think this is Lowestoft*

*Next page above right – grandma in a motor launch, the Beverley-Ann that has been hired from the Horse Shoes Hotel in Wroxham. Grandma is at the back and I think this is with Linda and Clarence. I am not sure but it does not look like Tom and Amy but it could be!*
*Next page lower right – this photograph was taken in grandma and grandad's back garden and shows Tom, Amy and grandma. While I am not certain, I think the other couple might be Clarence and Linda Reeve. Their visits did overlap in both 1966 and 1967*

In September 1965, Tom, Amy, grandma and grandad hired a motor launch and went to Horning in it.[87] In November 1965, they went to visit Cantley Sugar Factory.[88] Amy did a lot of activities with grandma including going to a musical concert at church in October 1969. In August 1968, grandma, grandad, Tom and Amy all went to see Gwen Hart, a friend of mum's, an artist, who had, according to grandad, done a very good pencil sketch of mum and who also had various oil paintings on show. In October 1968, grandad noted that they went an 18 mile run in the car with Caroline Douglas. Tom and Amy also sometimes provided transport to other people coming to or from grandma and grandad's. In September 1965 and August 1966, they gave Eva a lift home to Harby. In November, in 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1969, they took grandma herself to Mansfield. In 1965 and 1966, they brought her back a week or so later and, in 1967, she came back with Miss Walker. In April 1966, they brought Auntie Bertha with them and she stayed on longer when they went home after a week.

[87] Grandad noted that this took them just over two hours. They paid thirty shillings which was the price for two hours.
[88] This was the first (successful) sugar processing factory in the UK.

Clarence and Linda Reeve[89] also visited fairly often during this period. They came six times although the last time was in September 1967.[90] They also came by car and this gave grandma and grandad further opportunity to explore places in Norfolk and other parts of East Anglia, including many places they also went with Tom and Amy. Places they went with Clarence and Linda included Acle, Aylsham, Beccles, Bungay[91], Caister, Coltishall, Cromer, Fakenham, Felbrigg, Felixstowe, Filby, Gorleston, Haddiscoe, Happisburgh[92], Hickling Broad, Holt, Horning, Hunstanton, Ipswich, Lowestoft, Melton Constable, Mundesley[92], North Walsham, Norwich[93], Orford, Ormesby[94], Oulton Broad, Overstrand[95], Potter Heigham, Reedham[96], Reepham, Sandringham, Sea Palling[97], Sidestrand, Sizewell, South Walsham, Southwold[100], Stalham, St Faiths, Tacolneston[98], Walcott, Weasenham[99], Wells, Woodbridge, Wroxham[100], Wymondham and Yarmouth (including the harbour).[101] When they visited Wroxham in October 1965, they hired a launch for five hours.[102] In June 1966, Clarence and Linda overlapped with Tom and Amy for a couple of days[103] and also, during that trip, their son Maurice visited for the weekend. They also overlapped with Tom and Amy for about an hour in September 1967.

[89] I think Linda Reeve and Amy Wilson were sisters. Both their maiden names were Steggles.
[90] Clarence Reeve had a heart attack in May 1968 and was unable to drive, at least for a while, after that – see Chapter 88.
[91] In Bungay, in April 1965, Linda, Clarence and grandma went to see Mrs East but grandad sat in the car. I don't know why.
[92] On the trip to Happisburgh and Mundesley, on 26 September 1966, grandad noted collecting blackberries.
[93] In October 1965 and September 1967, Linda went to Norwich to see her cousin.
[94] I think grandad may have meant Ormesby St Margaret (and/or Ormesby St Michael) even though, in April 1965, he wrote Ormskirk. As far as I know, Ormskirk is in Lancashire and there is no Ormskirk in Norfolk. Although Ormesby is a village in Middlesbrough, both Ormesby St Margaret and Ormesby St Michael are near Yarmouth. There is also an Ormesby Broad.
[95] When they were in Overstrand, they visited George Bailey, for example, in April 1965.
[96] Although grandad noted that, in October 1965, they did not cross by the ferry. In September 1966, grandad distinguished between visiting Reedham and Reedham Riverside. Reedham Riverside runs parallel along the northern bank of the River Yare under the railway as it is about to cross the swing bridge. The ferry crossing is to the west of this.
[97] To see our caravan in April 1965.
[98] They went here on 16 September 1967 as it was a BBC Open Day. Grandad described it as very interesting. This date coincided with when colour programming was available on BBC2 from Tacolneston. I recall visiting the transmitter at some point.
[99] Clarence and Linda went here by themselves in September 1967.
[100] On 25 June 1966, when they went to Walcott and Wroxham grandad did not go. Similarly, the next day when they went to Southwold, grandad did not go.
[101] In September 1966, they went to Yarmouth Harbour twice. In September 1967, they went to Yarmouth several times. On the 5th, they went to Yarmouth Harbour. On the 8th, they went to Gorleston via Yarmouth and then returned to Yarmouth Harbour. On the 13th, they got to Yarmouth around 1.10pm but could not park so Clarence dropped grandad, grandma and Linda and he went to the harbour mouth. Grandad went later on the bus. Grandma and Linda followed later still. I confess I am not entirely sure where they parked when they were referring to Yarmouth Harbour. Initially, I had assumed they were referring to somewhere near the mouth of the River Yare but, although that is now where the outer harbour is located, this was only constructed subsequent to 2007. Nevertheless, grandad does refer specifically at least once to the harbour mouth so perhaps this is where he meant or perhaps he was distinguishing between the harbour and the harbour mouth. I don't know! The original river harbour area in Yarmouth is quite large covering much of the eastern bank of the River Yare between Breydon Water and the sea. Hence the street names there, such as North and South Quay. Perhaps they parked somewhere there, such as where the South Quay car park is currently. I think this may have been explained to me as a child. I have vague recollections of it being difficult to park in Yarmouth and being told it was better to go to the Harbour and this may explain why I thought it was the river mouth. On their second visit in September 1966, they went into Yarmouth and went up the tower by lift. Grandad noted that the height was 140 feet and that it cost 1/- each. The Yarmouth Tower complex was for sale in January 2021.
[102] For which Clarence paid £3 2 6.
[103] During that time, for example, Amy and Linda went with grandma on a ladies' outing to Matthes' Bread Factory in Gorleston – see Chapter 90.

Ken and Pearl Hodges and their son Andrew visited grandma and grandad three times during this period.[104] I think they came by car but, at least on their first trip, they did not travel widely in and around Norfolk.[105] On their second and third trips, they did visit various places including Cromer, Holt[106], Norwich[107], Sea Palling[108], Wroxham[109] and Yarmouth.[110] It is perhaps of interest that grandma and grandad did not accompany Ken and Pearl on their travels in the same way they did Tom and Amy and Linda and Clarence. So, perhaps having a car was not the only factor. Might differences in ages have been a factor?

Another person who visited during this period was Edna Bust. In August 1965[111], she came with her daughter, Sylvia, to stay with us and grandad noted that she visited them twice.[112] Edna came to stay with grandma and grandad in August 1968. She brought dad, Tricia and me back from Derbyshire following our first youth hostelling trip. They visited various places including Bacton, Beccles, Bungay, Hunstanton, North Walsham, Sandringham, Southwold and Yarmouth Harbour.[113] On the 22nd, grandma and Edna went into Norwich to see Gwen Hart's display at the Assembly Rooms. Edna then headed home. But, she came back the next weekend.[114] On the 31st, grandma, grandad and Edna went to Reedham Ferry and Riverside. Edna headed home again on 3 September 1968. She also came and stayed with grandma and grandad in August 1969. Places she went to on this trip included Blakeney, Caister Castle[115], Cromer, Hunstanton[116],

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*Top right – Andrew and Pearl Hodges in April 1965*
*Above right – Caister Castle*

[104] In April and August 1965 and August 1966.
[105] While part of the issue might have been that they were only there for a long weekend Friday to Tuesday, the main reason may have been that Andrew was only two months old. On the Saturday, Pearl and Ken had a walk into Drayton and left Andrew with grandma and grandad. On the Sunday, they were involved in church activities – see Chapter 90. On the Monday, Ken and Pearl went into Norwich, again leaving Andrew with grandma and grandad.
[106] On 17 August 1966, Ken and Pearl tried to go somewhere in Holt in the evening for a "*late dinner*" but they were full so had to go somewhere in Norwich instead.
[107] When they went into Norwich on 13 August 1965, Andrew stayed with grandma and grandad.
[108] They went here to see our caravan on 12 August 1965. Grandma and Eva also went as did mum and us children plus a little girl mum was looking after.
[109] However, grandad did not go on any of these trips and grandma did not go with them to Cromer or Wroxham. I am not sure why but one factor may have been age difference. Also, there were times that grandma looked after Andrew so that Ken and Pearl could go somewhere on their own.
[110] The trip to Yarmouth was on 16 August 1966 and was to see Ken's brother, Ivor, and family. They went again for the same purpose on the 18th.
[111] This was only a few months after her husband Tom had died – see Chapter 88.
[112] On the second occasion, grandad put on a slide show.
[113] The trip to Yarmouth Harbour was on 21 August 1968. Grandad did not go but the four of us and mum went with grandma and Edna. Grandma and Edna came back by train and we stayed to go to the cinema in Yarmouth.
[114] This strikes me as slightly odd. I don't know why she picked us up in Derbyshire and brought us home rather than mum doing it, for example. I also don't know why she came back after such a short time.
[115] This was on 2 August 1969. Grandad noted that they went up the tower and got lovely views from the top. He also noted that the tower was 98 feet high.
[116] Grandma and Edna went here on 6 August 1969 with mum and the four of us.

Knapton[117], Potter Heigham[118], Scratby[119], Walcott[120], West Runton[121], Winterton, Woods End and Wroxham.

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*Top left – "new" bridge in Potter Heigham which carries the A149*
*Top right – Scratby beach*
*Above – mediaeval bridge in Potter Heigham – this photo illustrates just how low this bridge is and how tricky to navigate!*

Many of the other people who came to visit grandma and grandad came by public transport, bus or train, and this perhaps limited their ability to travel around the area. Although some places were accessible by public transport, and grandma did make trips out with visitors using these modes of transport, grandad did not.[122] One of the most frequent such visitors was Auntie Dolly who came to stay with grandma and grandad most Easters and Christmases during this period. She also visited each summer[123] and for Whit/Spring Bank Holiday in 1966 and 1969. She always came by bus from Bedford

[117] See Chapter 91.
[118] This was on 2 August 1969 and grandad noted going over the new bridge. Potter Heigham has a medieval bridge that is well-known for being difficult to navigate by boat. The new road bridge carrying the A149 was built on the site of an old railway bridge in around 1968. It is possible with Google Streetview to get view of the new bridge from the old bridge or of the old bridge from the new.
[119] This is a beach north of Yarmouth.
[120] They went here on 4 August 1969 with mum and the four of us. Grandad did not go.
[121] Where, on 5 August 1969, they suffered a puncture.
[122] I am not sure if this related to his health or was just a personal preference. My sense is that he enjoyed being driven around and did not particularly like travelling by bus or train.
[123] Mostly in August but, in 1968 and 1969, she came in early September.

and someone would pick her up and drop her off at Norwich bus station.[124] I have strong childhood memories of her, particularly being with us at Christmas. I also recall being told a story by dad of one time when he was due to drop her at the bus station but he overslept so, by the time they got to the bus station, the bus had already left. He decided to follow and try to catch up with it and I believe he eventually did so. After he had dropped her, he stopped at a transport café and noticed some of the lorry drivers looking at him rather strangely. He looked down and noticed that his pyjamas were visible at the bottom of his trousers! In his rush, he had put his clothes on over the top of his pyjamas and he still had them on![125]

*Auntie Dolly and grandma drinking tea under the verandah at the back door of grandma and grandad's bungalow*

During her stays, Auntie Dolly was actively involved with grandma in church activities[126] and she also did practical tasks, e.g. in the garden. She did also get out and about to some extent with grandma. For example, during her visit, in April 1965, they went into Norwich several times with John Douglas.[127] In August 1965, Auntie Dolly, Eva and grandma visited Lowestoft and Norwich and, in July 1966, she grandma and Eva made a day bus trip to Beccles and Southwold. In August 1966, grandma and Auntie Dolly went three times to Walcott with mum and us four children. She also made a bus trip with grandma to Sandringham, Hunstanton and Cromer on that visit. Also, during that visit, she, grandma and grandad went with Ron and Caroline Douglas to the crematorium and back via Costessey and Taverham Pits.[128] During her visit at Easter 1968, she went to an opera at the Theatre Royal[126] with grandma.[129] In September 1968, she, grandma, mum and the four of us went to Sandringham and Hunstanton coming back via Docking.[130] Mum also took grandma and Auntie Dolly to Sheringham to see the new Methodist Church[126] and they came home on the bus via Cromer. Grandma and Auntie Dolly also attended a flower festival in Thorpe during that visit. At Easter, in 1969, Auntie Dolly went to both the Maddermarket Theatre and Theatre Royal with grandma and others. In May 1969, grandma and Auntie Dolly visited Mousehold Heath together and they also went next door, to 164, to listen to records. Over that weekend, mum, Alan and Liz took grandma, Auntie Dolly and Eva to Woods End one day and to Reedham on another. In September 1969, she went with grandma to see a film at the Assembly Rooms[320] and she also spent two evenings visiting Barbara Carpenter at 164.

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[124] For example, when she came at Easter 1966, grandma and Ron Douglas met her at the bus station. In August 1967, she arrived at the same time that grandma and Tricia were arriving back from visiting Doris in Hastings. Mum picked them all up together.

[125] Grandad notes this happening on 29 December 1971 although, according to grandad's notes, dad took Dolly all the way to Bedford (see Chapter 106).

[126] See Chapter 90.

[127] Grandma and grandad's next-door neighbour who worked at Bonds during this period.

[128] I think this is Taverham Mill.

[129] They got the bus home and had to walk from Drayton Wood Road.

[130] On that occasion, grandma and Auntie Dolly had tea at ours. Grandma then went to a church meeting and mum and dad also went out so Auntie Dolly stayed babysitting for us.

*This photo is taken at Reedham Riverside with the rail swing bridge in the background. It shows grandma with Liz and Alan. I think this means it was taken on the Spring Bank Holiday in May 1969. Other people who went on that trip were Auntie Dolly, Eva and mum but they do not appear in the picture. Dad, Tricia and I were youth hostelling in Derbyshire at this time.*

Another person who came fairly frequently was grandad's sister Eva and, when she came, she tended to stay for quite a few weeks. As a result, her stays sometimes overlapped with the stay of others, including Tom and Amy; Ken, Pearl and Andrew Hodges; Jim and Renie; Auntie Dolly; Doris and Peter Cirket; Minnie Parkin; and Florrie and Arthur Booth.[131] In March 1965, Olive, Alf, Carole and Tony brought her and Carole used the opportunity to drop off material at ours.[132] In August 1965, mum grandma and grandad brought Eva for a holiday from the celebration of Cyril and Minnie's golden wedding anniversary.[133] In September 1965 and August 1966, Tom and Amy took her home. In June 1967, Peter Parkin and his girlfriend, Rosemary, brought Eva and Minnie and Olive, Alf, Carole and Stephen came to pick Eva up. In April 1968, Olive and Alf brought her and, in June, after nine weeks, Alf picked her up. In April 1969, Olive and Alf brought Eva for a holiday. She had had a slight stroke affecting her right hand in March 1969.[134] In June, when time came to go home, Alf and Lloyd picked her up. Eva was often involved with activities of others and she also sometimes did things with grandma, such as attending a Festival of Flowers at Norwich Cathedral[135] in September 1965, going to a bring-and-buy sale in Caistor St Edmunds in July 1967[136] and visiting grandma's friend Mrs Noble. In June 1969, despite having had a stroke in March, Eva was able to walk to the Hodgsons with grandma and they also went to visit Mrs Pointer, the postman's wife.

[131] Hence my point about where everyone stayed in a two-bedroomed bungalow.
[132] Presumably for the wedding – see Chapter 89.
[133] Which was in Ilkeston. Mum, grandma and grandad went there for the day – see Chapter 89.
[134] See Chapter 88.
[135] See Chapter 79.
[136] See Chapter 90,

*This photo is taken at the front of grandma and grandad's bungalow in Drayton. Based on who is there and what we are wearing, I believe this was taken by grandad on Sunday 8 August 1965, it was Amy's 64th birthday. The couple on the far left are Meddy and George Bailey who were visiting from Overstrand. Others are Amy, dad, Alan, mum. Liz, me, grandma, Tom, Tricia and Eva.*

*<u>Above</u> – I think this photo was taken at Walcott on August 5 1965. Back row – Eva, me, Tricia, Tom, Amy. Front row – mum, Alan, Liz and grandma. This forms the back cover of a book of photos Tricia put together*

*<u>Left</u> – This photo was taken in grandma and grandad's front garden. I think this is a different day from the photo with the Baileys as they are not in it and the clothes are different. I think this could have been taken on Sunday 12 September 1965. This photo was presumably taken by Amy (or dad) and shows grandma, Tom, me, mum. Liz, Tricia, Alan, Eva and grandad*

Auntie Bertha came to visit in April/May 1966. She got a lift to Drayton with Tom and Amy and then travelled to Bedford by bus for a further holiday. Grandma went with her for the day. In July 1968, she came again with her friend Mrs Merry. Jack and Thelma[137] brought them and Mrs Merry's grandson Peter, and his girlfriend, picked them up. While Auntie Bertha and Mrs Merry were visiting, Doris Cirket and her friend from Rye came to visit from Hastings for the day. During that visit, dad took grandma, Auntie Bertha, Mrs Merry and Liz to Bedford for the day. Other places they visited during that trip included Cromer and Norwich. Grandma, Auntie Bertha and Miss Merry also went to see Mr and Mrs Hodgson during this visit.

*Left – grandma, Amy and Bertha. Initially, I was not sure when or where this photo was taken. However, based on feedback on the Norfolk Remembers Facebook page, it seems it was taken at the Norwich Gates on the Sandringham Estate. This dates the photograph to 6 August 1964 when grandma and grandad visited Sandringham with Tom, Amy and Auntie Bertha*
*Below – Auntie Bertha, Amy, Tom and grandad. This appears to be at the coast somewhere. I am not sure where or exactly when, possibly April/May 1966*

[137] I think this was Mrs Merry's son and daughter-in-law.

Grandad's brother Cyril and his sister-in-law Minnie came to stay with grandma and grandad for three weeks in June and July 1965. Their grandson, Simon, and his future wife, Joyce, brought them in Basil's, car.[138] Minnie's health was not good at this time[139] and, while they were visiting, grandma and Cyril took her out in a wheelchair. Grandma and Cyril also went into Norwich by bus. Another grandson, Peter, and his friend John, picked them up and took them home.[140] Minnie came on her own in October 1966. Basil and Hilda brought her.[141] Minnie still needed a wheelchair to get out and about and grandma took her to various places including Drayton[142], Hurn Road and Hellesdon, via Drayton Wood Road.[143] She stayed two weeks and Peter and a friend[144] picked her up and took her home. She came again in June 1967 with Eva. She left earlier than Eva, after almost one month. Hilda, Simon and Joyce picked her up.

Florrie and Arthur Booth, who had been grandma and grandad's neighbours in Welbeck Street visited them each year during this period in the summer. In July, 1965, they came by bus but did travel out to various places including Lowestoft[145], Norwich[146], Taverham[147] and Yarmouth.[148] In June 1966, they were on holiday in Yarmouth and they came to visit grandma and grandad for tea and the evening on one day. They came again to stay with grandma and grandad in June 1967. They walked various places including to the Hodgsons with grandma. Places they visited included Eaton Park[149] and Yarmouth. During this visit, they also went with grandma to Cadburys in Birmingham.[150] They also came again in July 1968. During this trip, they visited some of grandma's friends, including Miss Cooke, they went into Norwich and visited Thorpe village.[151] They also went on a bus trip to Lowestoft and Yarmouth. They came again in June 1969. They had some walks, including to the Hodgsons[152] and also went into Norwich. They went to Lowestoft by train and attended the Hellesdon carnival[153] and went with us to the Royal Norfolk Show.[154]

**Community centre benefits by £500**

Opening the 15th annual carnival and gymkhana at Hellesdon, Dr. Irene Green said she was proud to be associated with a parish with such a fine community spirit and she congratulated the representatives of the 25 organisations who had co-operated to put on such a fine show.

The gymkhana, organised by Mr. W. Gay, attracted a large number of entries, the principal prizewinners being S. Sayer and S. Cox.

The baby show, with over 100 entries, was judged by Mrs. I. E. Hare and Mrs. V. F. Day. Displays by the Hellesdon Ladies "Keep Fit" class and the Buxton Red House Army Cadet Force Bugle Band were much appreciated. There was an attendance of 4000 with gross takings for the Centre funds of just over £500.

*News article about the Hellesdon carnival and gymkhana from 5 July 1969. Obtained from the Local Recall archive which sadly is no longer available*

[138] Simon and Joyce stayed overnight and went home the next day. Grandad noted that Simon stayed with them and Joyce at ours.
[139] See Chapter 88.
[140] Peter and John stayed for the weekend (Friday to Sunday) and, on the Saturday, they visited Cromer and took grandma and Minnie with them.
[141] They spent the afternoon on the broads in Wroxham before returning to grandma and grandad's. They stayed over in Horning and headed home the next day.
[142] On one trip into Drayton, Betty Douglas helped grandma to pull her back.
[143] See Chapter 95.
[144] I don't know if this was the same friend, John, as in 1965 or perhaps it was Rosemary Bottrill who married Peter in 1969.
[145] Which they visited by train.
[146] During this trip, they went into Norwich at least four times.
[147] They walked there with grandma.
[148] They also both went on a Sunday School outing to Clacton and Walton – see Chapter 90.
[149] Mum dropped grandma, Florrie and Arthur there and they got the bus back.
[150] I think this was part of a ladies' trip grandma organised, see Chapter 90. For more detail of the Cadburys Bournville factory, see Chapter 52.
[151] The area I know as Thorpe is the eastern part of Norwich from around where the railway station is. Some of that area is known as Thorpe St Andrew. But I don't know if this is where they went. Thorpe Marriott is a relatively new development in the Drayton/Taverham area. The place gets part of its name from a railway engineer William Marriott. But, could the first part indicate that there was a Thorpe village there before the development took place?
[152] Mrs Hodgson also came round on one evening while Auntie Dolly was there and they had a sing song.
[153] It appears this was first held after the second world war and has been held annually since.
[154] Which since 1953 has been held on a permanent showground site near Costessey. Grandad noted that there was a record attendance of 81,162 over the two days.

Arthur Lofthouse came to visit grandma and grandad four times during this period. Twice[155], he came on his own and twice with his second wife, Jessie, including for almost two weeks for their honeymoon in April 1967.[156] Mostly, he/they came by train.[157] During his lone trips, he did visit various places with grandma including Cromer, Gorleston, Lowestoft, Norwich, Southwold and Yarmouth. They also walked into Drayton and, in July 1965, he attended a fete and gala[158] on Hellesdon Park. When he visited with Jessie, they walked to Costessey and Taverham and went by train, with grandma, to Yarmouth. Other places they visited on their own included Cromer, Gorleston, Lowestoft, Sheringham, Southwold and Yarmouth.

**My recollections**

Reading about the Booths' and Arthur Lofthouse's visits during this period triggered some memories for me of Hellesdon carnival. I am sure they had donkey races for children. I recall wanting to have a go but being scared! Dad reassured me that I would be fine as long as I held on. If my memory is correct, I fell off but still enjoyed it and don't recall hurting myself!

I also have recollections of the Royal Norfolk Show. There were lots of different stalls or stands and mum was sometimes involved in a large refreshments tent run by churches (see Chapter 106). I also recall there was a large central display ground and I recall seeing motorcycle display teams and horseriding displays there. The photo displayed here is from a slightly later period, 1970. As we were not from an agricultural background, I think some of those aspects of the show were lost on me but I liked seeing the animals, tractors etc. I don't specifically recall going to the Show with the Booths or Jim and Renie but, according to grandad's diary of the time, we did.

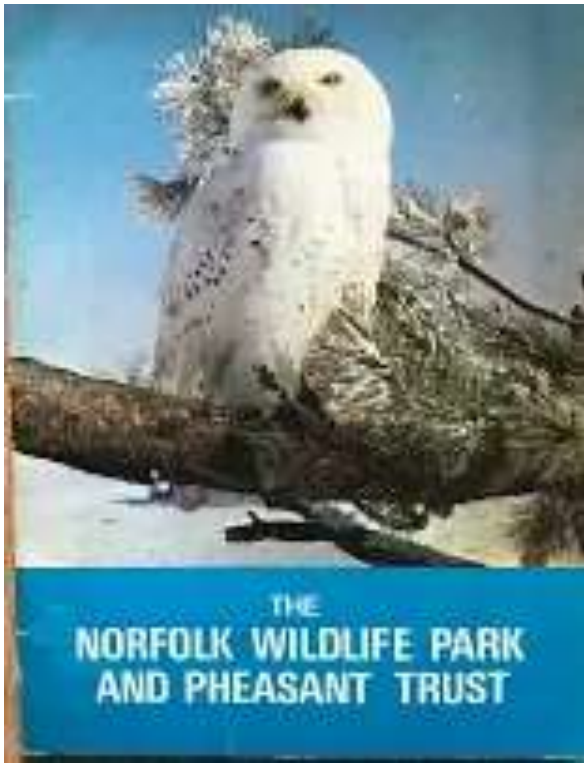
*Advert for the motor-cycle display in the 1970 programme for the Royal Norfolk Show*

Jim and Renie visited during this period[159] and they came by bus. They did explore by bus themselves, e.g. to Cromer, Hadleigh, Norwich, Wroxham and Yarmouth. In 1965, they also went with grandma and grandad to Drayton Fete[160] and with all of us[161] to the caravan at Sea Palling. In 1968, they went with all of us to the Royal Norfolk Show. In 1969, they went with us to a Norwich Union carnival and they also went with grandma to visit Mr and Mrs Hodgson.

[155] In July 1965 and April 1966. The first time was only a few months after his wife, Ella, died in March 1965.
[156] And again in March 1968.
[157] In July 1965, all of us, except Tricia, met him at Thorpe Station. On that trip, when he left, he was heading to visit his daughter, Dorothy. In 1967, dad met Arthur and Jessie at Thorpe station. For the trip in March 1968, they came by bus.
[158] Probably Hellesdon carnival. In July 1966, mum referred to a fair at Hellesdon community centre. Grandad referred to it as a carnival. Grandma and Eva went. Ron took them there and mum brought them back.
[159] In August 1965 for a week, at Easter in 1967, in June/July 1968 and in July 1969 for a week. In 1967, they were there at the same time as Auntie Dolly. In 1969, they came back with grandma after she had been to Bedford.
[160] Grandad noted that it was not busy because of rain.
[161] Except Tricia.

*This was taken in grandma and grandad's back garden on, I think, Easter Sunday 1967 (March 26). It shows mum, dad, Alan, Liz, grandma, Auntie Dolly, Tricia, Renie, Jim and me. Initially, I wondered if mum, dad and Alan had fallen out with the rest of us but I think grandad had positioned us so his windmill was visible.*

One place Jim and Renie visited in 1965, by bus with grandma and Eva by bus, was a bird sanctuary near Lenwade. Although initially I thought this might have been Pensthorpe, this was only developed in the 1980s[162] plus, although it is not that far from Lenswade, I think grandad would more likely have described it as near Fakenham. It seems more likely that he was referring to Norfolk Wildlife Park at Great Witchingham, less than half a mile from Lenwade. This was opened in 1963 by Philip and Jeanne Wayre who later founded the Otter Trust. It changed its name to the Norfolk Wildlife Centre and Country Park and then to The Animal Ark before closing in 2011.[163]



THE NORFOLK WILDLIFE PARK
& PHEASANT TRUST

This booklet sets out to tell you something about the Wildlife Park and the Pheasant Trust and the many different creatures you will meet.

TIMES OF OPENING
Daily 10.30 a.m. – 6.30 p.m. or sunset
OPEN ALL THE YEAR ROUND

30p Prices of Admission
Adults ~~5/- or 25p~~ 30p Children 3/- or 15p
Coach Parties ~~2/- or 10p~~ each
Officially Organised School Parties
accompanied by teachers 2/- or 10p each
A responsible adult must take
charge of a maximum of 20 children

Free CAR PARK at Entrance

BUSES: Eastern Counties Omnibus Co. Nos. 29 and 402 stop near the Entrance.

REFRESHMENTS: Light luncheons, teas, ices and other refreshments are available in the licensed restaurant.

THE SHOP: The shop supplies postcards, films, stationery, souvenirs etc. and specializes in the sale of unusual gifts.

DOGS: Dogs are not allowed in the Park under any circumstances.

FEEDING OF ANIMALS: The feeding of birds and mammals is not allowed as many of them have specialized diets.

STILES: It is possible to walk right round the Park without climbing a stile – entry to the Willow Pen and Island Pen excepted.

LITTER: Please help to keep this Park tidy and place all your litter in the bins provided.

CHILDREN: Please do not allow children to chase or tease the birds and mammals.

PLAN: A plan of the Park is on the inside of the front cover.

[162] Pensthorpe Natural Park is approximately one mile from Fakenham..

[163] See this article and video. I came across a 2013 obituary for Jeanne Wayre.

*Bottom of previous page and this - extracts from brochure for the Norfolk Wildlife Park and Pheasant Trust*
*<u>Previous page bottom left</u> – front cover*
*<u>Previous page bottom right</u> – inside page giving information about the park including opening times and prices. It is interesting that the price is given in both shillings and (new) pence so presumably that dates the brochure to early 70s. Whoever visited appears to have overwritten the price with a new price.*
*<u>Above left</u> – inside front cover showing plan of the park*
*<u>Above right</u> – back page showing photograph of the site. This is orientated differently from the plan. So, the car park is at the top on the plan and at the bottom on the photograph.*

Other people who visited during this period included Simon Parkin and a friend[164], dad's parents[165], Doris and Peter Cirket[166], Bill Purvis, Verlie and Alan[167], Derrick, Mary and Kathryn Leach[168] and Doris, Peter, Rita and family.[169]

We, as a family, and grandma and grandad took part in various local activities sometimes with and, at other times, without visitors. In July 1966, grandma went to a Norwich Union garden party. Dad picked her up and brought her home. In May 1968, grandma took Tricia, me, Liz and Caroline into Drayton

[164] They came in February 1965 to bring a parcel from Minnie. I am not sure who the friend was but Simon married Joyce Foreman the following year so it might have been her. Certainly, she was with him when they brought Cyril and Minnie to stay with grandma and grandad in June 1965.
[165] Mum noted that they came in July 1965 for two weeks. Little other detail is recorded except that dad took them home and I assume this was to Kirkby.
[166] Doris and her grandson, Peter, came for the day on an excursion bus from Hastings in July 1966.
[167] Who called for about 45 minutes in August 1966. They were doing a tour of the coast from Cleethorpes to Felixstowe.
[168] They stayed with us in April 1969 and went with us for tea at grandma and grandad's on the 12th. Tricia did not come that day as she had gone with friends to Yarmouth.
[169] Doris and her grandson, Peter, stayed at grandma and grandad's while the rest stayed with us.

village. In June 1968, I stayed with grandad while others went to a garden party that I did not want to go to.[170] In January 1969, grandma went with dad to the opening of the Ockenden[171] Exhibition by the Lord Mayor of Norwich.[172] In February 1969, grandad noted that grandma and others went to mum's for what he described as "*a ladies' underware*[173] *show*".[174]

Sometimes, mum went out for meals. For example, she went to "*The Feathers*"[175] in Holt for dinner in June 1965 and to the Northrepps[176] Hotel and Country Club[177] in June 1966.[178] In September 1967, dad went to a dinner given by the Lord Mayor of Norwich.

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*Top – vintage US invitation for a Tupperware party*
*Above – The Feathers, Holt*
*Left – Northrepps Cottage*

In August 1966, mum and dad went to Sheringham for the day[179] and grandma, Eva and Auntie Dolly came to look after us. In September 1966, mum, Alan and Liz went with grandma to Framlingham.[180] In September 1967, mum and dad took Tricia, me and Alan to Yarmouth.[181] Liz stayed with grandma and grandad until the early evening then Mr Beckett took grandma and Liz to ours where grandma

[170] I had just turned eight at the time and I am surprised I was given the choice!
[171] Based on an article at the time, this exhibition was organised by the Norwich Group of Friends of the Ockenden Venture. It was held at the Assembly House and included pictures by Tibetan refugee children. Most of the exhibits were by local artists and were donated. Most were of local scenes, such as Geoffrey Lefever's *Marshland Fen*. But, there were some more international scenes including *Galilee* by Robin Harrison and *River Bank Baghdad* by the late E W Faircloth.
[172] Norwich has had a mayor and then a Lord Mayor since 1403. In January 1969, the Lord Mayor was Edward Albert Gambling.
[173] I presume he meant underwear but this is how he spelled it.
[174] I have vague recollections of mum hosting Pippa Dee parties. They were organised on a similar model to Tupperware parties where a local agent organised events to sell to friends and family and received a commission for what she sold. Apparently, the company had 13,000 women working in this way in the 1970s. According to the Companies House website, the company remains active.
[175] There is still a hotel by this name in Holt. According to their Facebook page, the long-time owners retired at the end of October 2021. It is a grade II listed building dating back to 1650.
[176] Which mum recorded as North Repps.
[177] I think this has also been called Northrepps Cottage Country Hotel and is now referred to as Northrepps Cottage.
[178] On both occasions, she did not give details of why or with whom.
[179] I don't know why. This was Monday 1 August which was not a bank holiday so dad must have taken a day off work. Perhaps it was something to do with the caravan at Sea Palling. Perhaps they were selling it as it is not mentioned in the diaries after this – see footnote 97.
[180] I am not sure why but it is possible it was church-related. Grandma did go on other occasions to Framlingham for church activities – see Chapter 90.
[181] I don't know precisely why, perhaps to see a show or the circus?

stayed until we got back.[182] In September 1969, grandma, mum, dad and the four of us went to Bressingham[183] to see a show of steam engines.

*Bressingham Steam from a night-time visit in November 2021*

In addition, we and grandma and grandad sometimes made trips further afield including for holidays. It was rare for grandad to make such trips so grandma often went by herself. Consequently, grandad did not note what she had done while she was away, simply that she had gone and come back! Such trips included to Bedford[184], Mansfield [185]and Nottingham.[186] One exception to grandma going on her own was in August 1965 when mum took both grandma and grandad to Ilkeston for Minnie and Cyril's Golden Wedding.[187]

During this period, grandma took each of us to see Doris Cirket in St Leonard's on Sea. In August 1967, grandma took Tricia there by bus for five days. In March 1969, mum, grandma and Liz went there for

[182] About 10.20pm.
[183] Which grandad noted was near Diss. The first railway in Bressingham was established in 1965 and it has expanded considerably since then. We visited in November 2021 as part of "*Bressingham at Night*". There are now three railways there – the original "*Garden*" line and the newer "*Fen*" and "*Waveney*" lines.
[184] She went to Bedford at least once per year. For example, in May 1965, she went twice, once on her own by bus for a few days and once for the day with Tom, Amy and grandad. She also went in July 1966 with Eva and, in May 1967 and June 1968, on her own. In July 1968, dad took grandma, Auntie Bertha, Mrs Merry and Liz to Bedford for the day. In July 1969, grandma visited Bedford with a church group (see Chapter 90) and came home with Jim and Renie.
[185] In November 1965.
[186] In February 1965.
[187] See Chapter 89. They were married on 2 August 1915.

three days. They dropped Rev Michael Parker at a conference nearby. In August 1969, grandma took me and Alan there.[188] I have some vague recollections of meeting Doris so these are perhaps from this trip. I would have been nine at the time.

During this period, grandma and grandad did not really go away on holiday as such but there was one exception, in June 1966, when they went on a touring holiday in Scotland with Tom and Amy. On the first day, they drove to Edinburgh where they stayed overnight.[189] In the evening, they had a walk down Princes Street. The next day, they had a bus ride[190] on the Royal Mile[191] and saw Holyrood House[192] etc. They had lunch in a café[193] and then went to the castle.[194] Grandma and grandad also visited St Giles. Cathedral.[195]

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*Top left –Princes Street in 1969 Top right – Edinburgh Castle in 2016*
*Above left – Holyrood House Above right – St Giles' Cathedral*

[188] Grandad noted that the cost of a return fare for all of us was £6 15 0. On the 15th, we left at 8.15am and went via London.
[189] Grandad noted that they left home at 06.57 and crossed the border at 15.20 arriving in Edinburgh at 17.20. He also noted that bed and breakfast cost 22/- each. He noted that their bedroom was 76 steps from ground level!
[190] For which they paid 4d each.
[191] See here..
[192] The queen's official residence in Scotland. This is not to be confused with the Scottish Parliament building which is also referred to as Holyrood as that is the area in which it is located. The parliament building was only constructed from 1999.
[193] I don't know why grandad agreed to eat out on this trip but not on other day trips from home.
[194] See here.
[195] See here.

They then left Edinburgh for Perth and crossed the new Forth road bridge.[196] They stayed the night in Perth.[197] The next day, they had a walk round Perth and then went to Pitlochry via Coupar Angus and Blairgowrie.[198] After they found somewhere to stay in Pitlochry, they went to see the hydroelectric dam which grandad considered worth seeing.[199] They then had a ride round Tummel Loch.[200] The next day, they went from Pitlochry to Glenshee.[201] Grandma and grandad went up the mountain by chair lift.[202] They then went on to Braemar and Ballater passing the entrance to Balmoral Castle[203] and they then returned to Pitlochry by the same route. Grandad noted that there was snow on the top of several mountains. The next day, they went from Pitlochry to the Trossachs, Crieff, Callander and Killin returning to Pitlochry. The next day, they left Pitlochry and went to Nairn, and they stayed in a place where Tom and Amy had stayed before.[204] The next day, they went from Nairn to Inverness where they saw Dr and Mrs Farquharson who grandad said were very pleased to see them. They had a ride on the south bank of Loch Ness then to Fort George and back to Nairn. The next day, they left Nairn and went to Fort William.[205] They then made a 13 mile round journey[206] and grandad again noted that there was snow on the mountain tops. The next day, they went on a bus and boat tour from Fort William to Glenfinnan by bus, boat on Loch Shiel to Acharcle[207] and then bus to Strontian and Ardgour. They left the bus there and got the ferry to a waiting bus and then back to Fort William.[208] The next day, they left Fort William and went through Blantyre, where David Livingstone had been born, and they stayed at Crawford.[209] The next day, they went from Crawford to Ingleton.[210] They came through the Lake District and there was a 30 minutes thunderstorm as they passed Ullswater and neared Windermere. The next day, they left Ingleton and passed over Ilkley Moor calling at Ilkley. They then went to Auntie Bertha's in Mansfield. When they arrived, she was at Jim and Renie's so they went there. They had tea there as it was Jim's birthday. After tea, they went to Auntie Bertha's and Linda and Clarence came over for an hour or two. They travelled home the next day, calling at Newark on the way.

*Fort George*

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[196] See Chapter 86. Grandad noted that the toll was 2/6 for the car and people.
[197] At a cost of 21/- each
[198] Rather than the more direct route along the A9. This adds about 14 miles to a 27 mile journey.
[199] I think this is Pitlochry Dam. There is a visitor centre there now that was constructed in 2017.
[200] Loch Tummel is a long, narrow loch to the north west of Pitlochry.
[201] The ski centre here opened in 1962.
[202] For which they paid 5/- each. I think this was Cairnwell Chairlift.
[203] The Royal Family's holiday home in Scotland.
[204] The price was 16/6 each.
[205] Where bed and breakfast cost them 15/- each.
[206] Which grandad described as down Ben Glen. I m not sure where he was referring to. Perhaps they went some way on the Glencoe Road?
[207] Which took 1 hour 55 minutes.
[208] Grandad noted that the tour started at 11am and they were back by 6.25pm.
[209] At a cost of 21/- each.
[210] Where they stayed for 18/6 each

*Photos of grandma and Amy on holiday in Scotland in June 1966*

In June 1965, we all went with grandma to Harby for Carole and Tony's wedding.[211] In January 1967, dad went on a trip with the Chartered Insurance Institute to Pinewood Studios.[212]

Mum and dad still sometimes went back to Kirkby. For example, in April 1965, they went to Kirkby to see dad's parents and to Heanor to see Edna and Sylvia Bust.[213] They also went in July 1966.[214] We all went at the end of November 1968. We had dinner at Tom and Amy's and then went to Mansfield to Jim[215] and Renie's. Just before Christmas, in December 1969, dad and grandma went to Mansfield and Kirkby. Dad went to see his father who was not well.[216] Grandma went to Auntie Bertha's. Jim and Renie were there and Tom and Amy came there for an hour or two.

[211] See Chapter 89.
[212] Well-known film studio west of London, which has operated since the 1930s and is still operating.
[213] This was only a few days after Tom Bust died. Sylvia was 18. Mum noted that they took Edna and Sylvia to Grange Farm (see Chapter 66) for dinner. The four of us did not go on that trip. Grandma came to stay with us for the day.
[214] They went for the day, leaving at 5am. They slept at grandma and grandad's so they could leave without disturbing us. Grandma and Eva stayed with us.
[215] Who at this point grandad was calling Frank.
[216] See Chapter 88.

During some of this period, we had a static caravan at Sea Palling.[217] Mum and dad bought this in October 1964[218]. I am not sure how long we had the caravan for or how often we used it. Grandma and grandad went there in April 1965 to see the caravan with Linda and Clarence Reeve. In July that year, mum and Alan went to Sea Palling for the day while Liz stayed with grandma and grandad. It was a Wednesday so presumably Tricia and I were at school. In August that year, the four of us and mum went there with Ken, Pearl and Andrew Hodges, Eva and grandma and we all, except Tricia, went there with Jim and Renie. In August 1966, Tricia, Alan and I stayed overnight at the caravan with grandma. Mum, dad and Liz picked us up the next day. That same month, grandma and grandad went with mum and the four of us to the caravan. Grandad had gone to replace a window in the caravan that had fallen out. However, I am not sure it was successful as he went there again the following week with Tom and he said that they made a job of the window at the caravan. The caravan is not mentioned again after that so it is possible we sold it in or after the summer of 1966. It is also possible that we went there at different times and that these were not all recorded by grandad. However, while I have some memories of having had the caravan, they are not as strong as other memories, such as family trips to the seaside at Walcott or holidays at Butlins. I do recall, from Hellesdon, going to the coast using White Woman Lane but I see this was basically a way to get to the North Walsham Road and this route could be used to go to both Sea Palling and Walcott.

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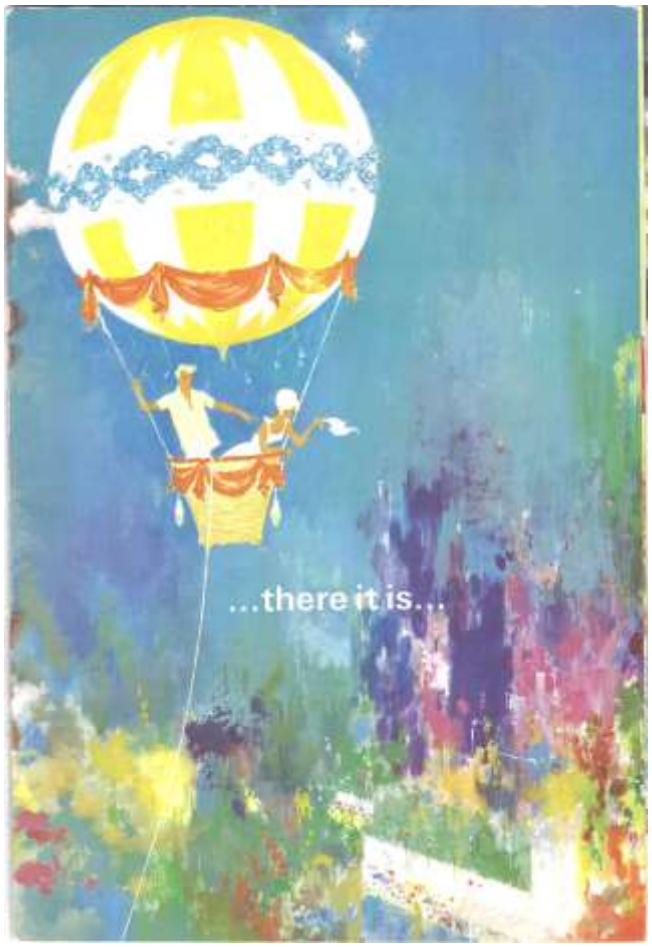
*Above left – Static caravan site*
*Above right – beach area in Sea Palling*

We also took holidays each year. Our main holiday during this period was an annual trip to Butlins. We had first gone there, to Clacton, in 1964.[219] In June 1965, we went to Skegness, in August 1966 to Clacton again, in July 1967 to Minehead, in May 1968 to Barry and, in July 1969, to Filey. I am not sure why and how we managed to go at those times. Presumably, we had to miss school for the trip to Skegness in June 1965 and perhaps the same for Barry in 1968 although that might have been half-term. I have a 1965 Butlins brochure/booking form and that contains a price list. If my calculations are correct, we would have paid £47 10 0[220] to go to Skegness that year as compared to £56 5 0 if we had gone at the peak period in July.[221]

[217] I don't know precisely where this was. There are currently three caravan sites/parks in Sea Palling. However, Keith Farm looks more like a camp and caravan site where you would take a touring caravan. Golden Beach and Dune Lodge are both caravan parks in Sea Palling. I could not find details of when these two parks opened but it seems that Golden Beach Holiday Park is the most longstanding. But, Dune Lodge is closer to the beach and the sand dunes. It looks more familiar and I think you could get from the caravan to the beach without going on a road but I am not sure. I do have recollections of the beach area in Sea Palling.
[218] See Chapter 81.
[219] See Chapter 81.
[220] This is based on £13 10 each for mum and dad, £6 for Tricia (junior), £5 each for Alan and me (child) and £4 10 for Liz (infant).
[221] It is worth noting that this was a special form for people who had never been to Butlins before. However, I have assumed that the prices were the same for people who had been there before but perhaps without the offer of a £2 refund if the person did not agree that it was one of the best holidays they ever had.

*1952 Butlins newspaper advert*




*Extracts from 1965 Butlins brochure/special booking form*
*<u>Above</u> – front cover*
*<u>Right</u> – inside page with offer to refund £2 profit if the person does not agree that their stay was one of the best holidays they ever had.*

Butlin's
MODERN HOLIDAY CAMPS

**1965 SEASON**

# Special Booking Form

***For people who have never stayed at a Butlin Holiday Camp***

We are so certain that you, too, will enjoy a Butlin Holiday that we want to make a special offer to those who have never stayed at Butlin's before. Because our Butlin Holiday Camps are large and modern, designed and built exclusively as holiday resorts, we can offer you tremendous holiday value with the finest amenities and extensive entertainments. Our average profit on the weekly tariff works out at about £2 per adult guest. We will return this £2 profit to every adult booked on this special booking form if after your Butlin Holiday, you do not agree that it was one of the best holidays you ever had. Please post this special booking form which *guarantees* this offer, direct to the camp of your choice and not through an agent.

CHALETS accommodate 2, 3 or 4 persons. If more than one applicant, the relationship between each should be inserted in the space provided. The most suitable accommodation will then be made available.

CHILDREN'S AGES must be clearly stated.

HOLIDAY CLUB subscription is included in the tariff. Persons signing the form will be proposed as members and may use the Club facilities after 24 hours have elapsed from their election.

ALIENS must state their nationality in the space provided.

PETS cannot be admitted to the Camp.

DEPOSITS. The deposit is a booking fee and will be forfeited if you are unable to take your holiday through circumstances beyond our control. If, however, notice of cancellation is given at least 21 days before arrival or if a Medical Certificate is produced, a voucher for 50% of the deposit paid will be sent to you for use as a deposit for a future holiday taken at a Butlin Camp.

IT IS AN EXPRESS CONDITION of this booking that the management is relieved of liability for any accident, loss or damage which may be sustained by the applicants or their property.

*The Management reserves the right to decline accommodation.*

**Butlin's**
**MODERN HOLIDAY CAMPS**

# 1965 SEASON

## SPECIAL BOOKING FORM

***for people who have never stayed at a Butlin Holiday Camp, see over for tariff rates***

**PLEASE SEND THIS FORM WHICH GUARANTEES OUR OFFER DIRECT TO THE CAMP OF YOUR CHOICE AND NOT THROUGH AN AGENT.**

THE FORM SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN SECTIONS FROM 1 TO 5, SIGNED BY EACH ADULT AND SENT TOGETHER WITH THE DEPOSIT, **ADDRESSED TO "THE REGISTRAR, BUTLIN'S HOLIDAY CAMP,"** AT THE CAMP SELECTED.

**PLEASE NOTE: THE BOOKING OFFICE AT EACH CAMP IS OPEN ALL THROUGH THE WINTER**

### 1. HOW MANY

Please reserve at the selected Holiday Camp accommodation for:—

| Gentlemen | Ladies | Young Campers | Juniors | Children | Infants under 2 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Age 14 and over | Age 14 and over | Age 9 and under 14 | Age 6 and under 9 | Age 2 and under 6 | Under 1 | Under 2 |
| | | | | | | |

### 2. WHEN

I/We arrive on.....1965

and depart on .....1965

### 3. WHERE

*indicate with a cross the camp selected.*

**AYR** Scotland ☐
**FILEY** Yorkshire ☐
**SKEGNESS** Lincs. ☐
**CLACTON** Essex ☐
**PWLLHELI** N. Wales ☐
**BOGNOR REGIS** Sussex ☐
**MINEHEAD** Somerset ☐

### 4. DEPOSIT

Cheques, Postal Orders or Money Orders ONLY made payable to "Butlin's Ltd." and crossed "& Co."

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH**

Cheque/Postal/Money Order value £ ..... is enclosed as deposit at the rate of £3 per adult (14 years and over) and £1 per child (under 14 years) FOR EACH WEEK BOOKED.

I/We agree to pay the balance on arrival at the Camp.

**FOR BUTLIN OFFICE USE ONLY**

MONEY RECEIVED

Date ..... Initials .....

AMT. REC. £.....:.....:.....d.

BAL. DUE £.....:.....:.....d.

RECEIPT No.

**COTS** are provided for all infants under 2. If your child is over 2 but requires a cot, please mark a X in this square ☐

**CHALETS FOR ONE PERSON** Any camper wishing to occupy a chalet to him or herself may do so at an additional payment of £1 per week or 4/- per day. If you wish to occupy a chalet on this condition, please mark a X in this square. ☐

**PRIVATE BATHROOMS** All Camps have a limited number of special chalets with private bathrooms and toilet attached. These chalets can be reserved at an additional charge of £1 per week per person or 4/- per day per person (under 14, half price). If you wish to occupy this type of chalet please mark a X in this square. ☐

THIS FORM TO BE SENT DIRECT TO THE CAMP OF YOUR CHOICE AND NOT THROUGH AN AGENT

PLEASE CAREFULLY DETACH WHOLE FORM WITHOUT TEARING

### 5. WHO

PLEASE INSERT YOUR NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS

**All persons named below have never stayed at a Butlin Holiday Camp before.**

| | | Nationality if not British | State if Husband, Wife, Daughter, Son or Friend | Insert actual age if under 16 on date of arrival | AGE ON DATE OF ARRIVAL AT CAMP Mark with a X in the appropriate column | | | | May your Child share Your Chalet Yes or No. | FOR OFFICE USE ONLY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 16-25 | 26-40 | 41-60 | Over 60 | | |
| Mr, Mrs, Miss | The Booking Receipt will be sent to the person whose name is inserted here✱<br>Signature✱ .....<br>NAME .....<br>No. & Street .....<br>Town ..... County ..... | | | | | | | | | |
| | Signature .....<br>NAME .....<br>No. & Street .....<br>Town ..... County ..... | | | | | | | | | |
| | Signature .....<br>NAME .....<br>No. & Street .....<br>Town ..... County ..... | | | | | | | | | |
| | Signature .....<br>NAME .....<br>No. & Street .....<br>Town ..... County ..... | | | | | | | | | |
| | Signature .....<br>NAME .....<br>No. & Street .....<br>Town ..... County ..... | | | | | | | | | |

If there is not space to enter all the names in your party, please write for additional Special Offer Booking Forms to Dept. Guaranteed Holidays, Butlin's Ltd., 439 Oxford Street, London, W.1. (P)

*1965 Butlins booking form*

**BUTLINS MODERN HOLIDAY CAMPS** **1965 TARIFFS**

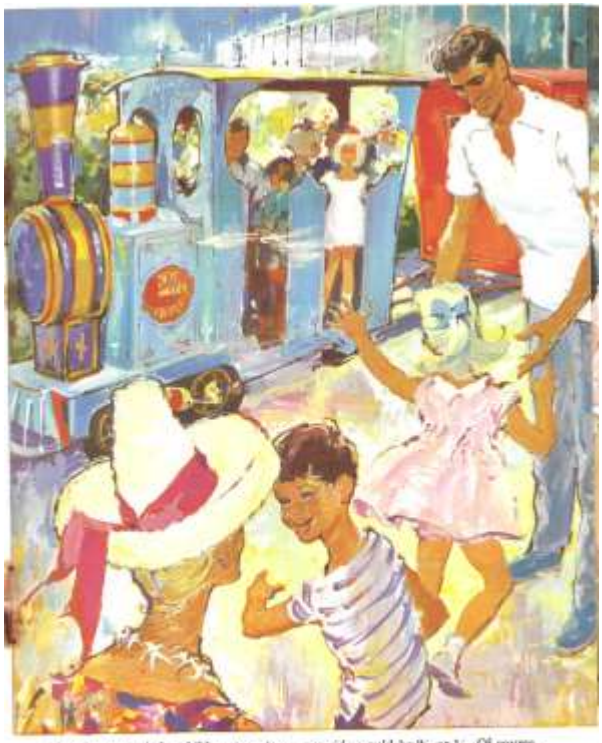
*BOOKINGS ARE FROM SATURDAY TO SATURDAY ONLY*

PER PERSON (14 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER) PER WEEK

| HOLIDAY CAMPS ▶ Week Commencing | AYR £. s. d. | CLACTON £. s. d. | SKEGNESS £. s. d. | FILEY £. s. d. | BOGNOR REGIS £. s. d. | PWLLHELI £. s. d. | MINEHEAD £. s. d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C June 5 | 12. 0.0 | 13. 5.0 | 13. 0.0 | 13.10.0 | 15.10.0 | 14. 5.0 | 14. 5.0 |
| D June 12 | 12. 5.0 | 13. 5.0 | 13. 0.0 | 13.10.0 | 15.10.0 | 14. 5.0 | 14. 5.0 |
| E June 19 | 13. 5.0 | 13.10.0 | 13. 5.0 | 13.15.0 | 15.10.0 | 14.15.0 | 14.10.0 |
| F June 26 | 14. 5.0 | 13.15.0 | 13.10.0 | 14. 0.0 | 15.15.0 | 15. 5.0 | 14.15.0 |
| G July 3 | 15. 5.0 | 14. 0.0 | 13.15.0 | 14.10.0 | 15.15.0 | 15. 5.0 | 15. 0.0 |
| H July 10 | 15. 5.0 | 14.10.0 | 14.10.0 | 14.10.0 | 16. 5.0 | 15. 5.0 | 15.10.0 |
| I July 17 | 16. 5.0 | 15. 0.0 | 15. 5.0 | 15.10.0 | 16.15.0 | 16. 0.0 | 15.15.0 |
| J July 24 | 16. 5.0 | 16. 0.0 | 16. 0.0 | 16.10.0 | 16.15.0 | 16.15.0 | 16.15.0 |
| K July 31 | 16. 0.0 | 16. 0.0 | 16. 0.0 | 16.10.0 | 16.15.0 | 16.15.0 | 16.15.0 |
| L August 7 | 15. 0.0 | 15.10.0 | 15. 5.0 | 16. 0.0 | 16.15.0 | 16. 0.0 | 16. 5.0 |
| M August 14 | 14. 0.0 | 15. 0.0 | 14.10.0 | 15. 5.0 | 16.10.0 | 15.10.0 | 16. 0.0 |
| N August 21 | 13. 0.0 | 14.10.0 | 14. 5.0 | 15. 5.0 | 16.10.0 | 15. 5.0 | 15.15.0 |
| O August 28 | | 14. 0.0 | 13.10.0 | 14.10.0 | 16. 0.0 | 14.15.0 | 15. 0.0 |
| P Sept. 4 | | 13.15.0 | 13. 5.0 | 13. 5.0 | 14.15.0 | 13.10.0 | 13.15.0 |
| Q Sept. 11 | | | | | 13.10.0 | 13. 5.0 | 13.10.0 |

ALL CAMPS WEEKLY TARIFFS FOR THE UNDER 14's

| Week Commencing | Young Campers Age 9 and under 14 on arrival at Camp £. s. d. | Juniors Age 4 and under 9 on arrival at Camp £. s. d. | Children Age 2 and under 4 on arrival at Camp £. s. d. | Infants Under 2 years on arrival at Camp £. s. d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| C June 5 | 6.15.0 | 5.15.0 | 5. 0.0 | 4. 0.0 |
| D June 12 | 6.15.0 | 5.15.0 | 5. 0.0 | 4. 0.0 |
| E June 19 | 6.15.0 | 5.15.0 | 5. 0.0 | 4.10.0 |
| F June 26 | 7. 0.0 | 6. 0.0 | 5. 0.0 | 4.10.0 |
| G July 3 | 7. 5.0 | 6. 0.0 | 5. 0.0 | 4.10.0 |
| H July 10 | 7. 5.0 | 6. 0.0 | 5. 0.0 | 4.10.0 |
| I July 17 | 7.10.0 | 6. 5.0 | 5. 5.0 | 4.10.0 |
| J July 24 | 8.10.0 | 7. 5.0 | 6. 5.0 | 4.10.0 |
| K July 31 | 8.10.0 | 7. 5.0 | 6. 5.0 | 4.10.0 |
| L August 7 | 8.10.0 | 7. 5.0 | 6. 5.0 | 4.10.0 |
| M August 14 | 8.10.0 | 7. 5.0 | 6. 5.0 | 4.10.0 |
| N August 21 | 8. 5.0 | 7. 0.0 | 6. 0.0 | 4.10.0 |
| O August 28 | 8. 0.0 | 6.15.0 | 5.15.0 | 4.10.0 |
| P Sept. 4 | 7.10.0 | 6. 5.0 | 5. 5.0 | 4.10.0 |
| Q Sept. 11 | 7. 0.0 | 5.15.0 | 4.15.0 | 4. 0.0 |



There is so much for children to enjoy at Butlin's that parents are left free to pursue their own interests. There is a fabulous Amusement Park with modern equipment where the usual charge per ride would be 2/- or 1/-. Of course, the kiddies enjoy all of these rides as often as they like without any payment whatsoever. There are other special entertainments laid on for them, too.

*Further extracts from 1965 Butlins brochure/special booking form*
*<u>Above left</u> – details of 1965 tariffs with the prices for the week we went to Skegness highlighted*
*<u>Above right</u> – marketing information targeting parents with children*

*Cheddar Gorge*

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Although the diaries mostly only shared basic details, such as that we went and came back[222], mum did note that, in 1967, we did stay one night in Bridgwater[223] en route to Minehead, so that we could visit Cheddar Gorge.[224] I vaguely recall this.[225]

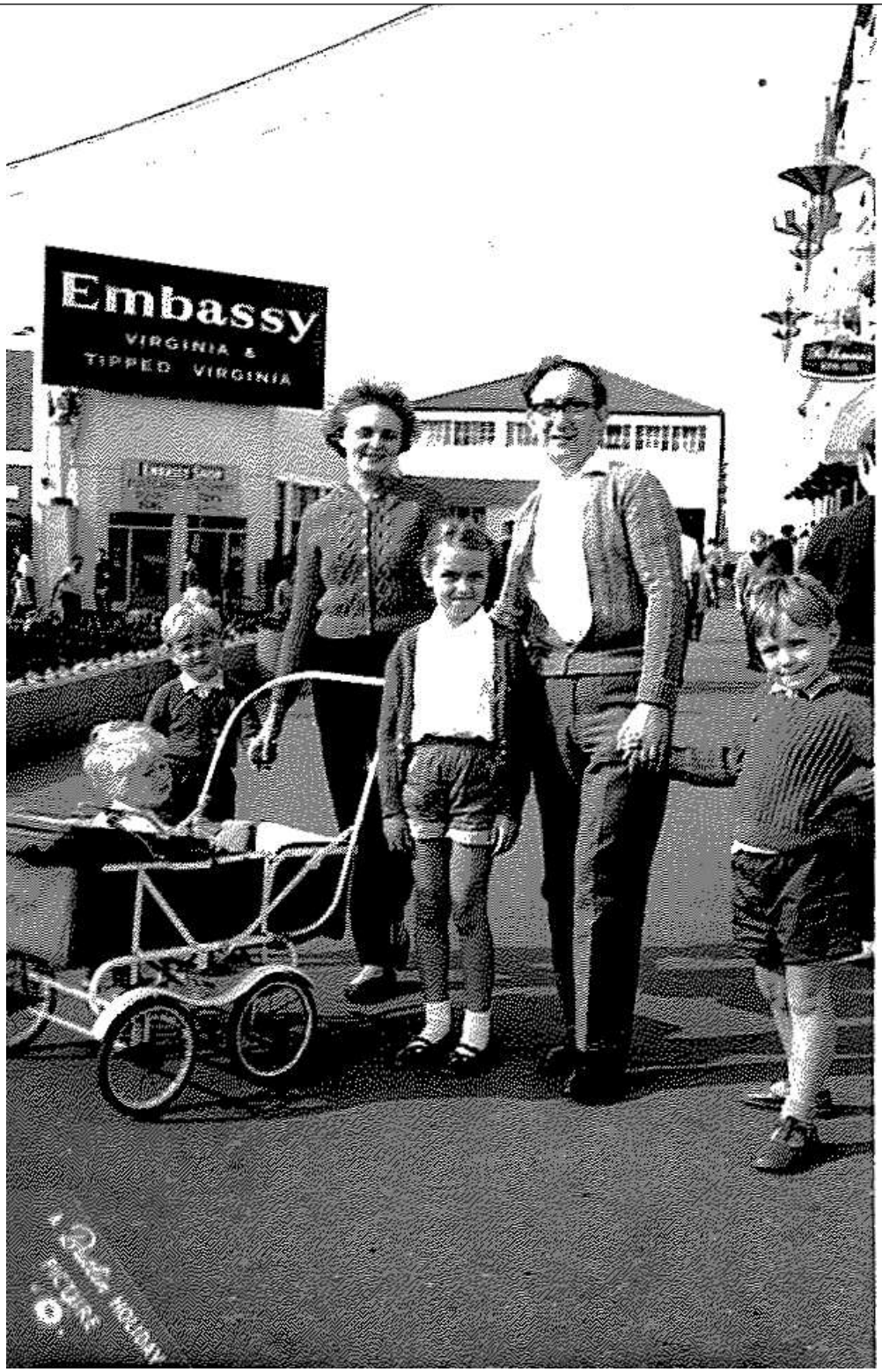
I have pieced together other material from memories, from photos among mum's papers and from some online sources.[226]

I vaguely recall that arriving and checking in took up much of Saturday and there was not that much to do that day, apart from

[222] Grandad's main focus was on what he was doing while we were away. For example, in 1967, he mentioned that he and grandma were keeping an eye on our house including feeding my fish.
[223] Mum spelled this as Bridgewater.
[224] Cheddar Gorge is a well-known limestone gorge in South West England. Most of the land around the gorge is owned by the National Trust.
[225] We may have done this because it is over 300 miles from Norwich to Minehead but only 27 miles to Minehead from Bridgwater. I don't recall when we had to check in at Butlins but this would have allowed us to do this earlier. I vaguely recall it being on a Saturday morning but perhaps it was afternoon to give the previous week's campers time to leave. I am not sure we did this when we went to other distant Butlins camps, e.g. Barry Island (285 miles from Norwich) and Filey (180 miles from Norwich). However, according to grandad, we left to go to Barry on a Friday and to Filey on the Saturday. I suspect we did stay over somewhere en route to Barry but the details were not recorded in the diaries. We also went to Cheddar Gorge on a later holiday in 1972 (see Chapter 106).
[226] In particular, from the excellent Butlin Memories website.

planning what we might do for the rest of the week. Cars had to be parked in a central car park and there was a central reception where keys were collected and I think that is probably when we got the programme for the week which also included the all-important camp map. The sites were big, particularly to us as children. Luggage had to then be collected from the car and taken to the chalet.

*This is us at Butlins in Clacton in 1966. Liz (in pram), Alan, mum. Tricia, dad and me. One thing to note here – and in a number of other Butlins' photos – is that mum is wearing trousers (slacks). Also, the prominent cigarette advert is interesting. Although such adverts were common then they are banned now.*



*Front cover of Butlin's programme from Clacton 1966*

## CAMP INFORMATION CLACTON

**CAR PARKS**
are opposite the Camp entrance and behind "U" row chalets. For the safety of others, cars must not be parked on Camp roads.

**BADGES**
Please wear your Camp Club badges at all times. Only members of the Butlin Club are allowed to use Butlin bars, theatres, ballrooms, etc. Your Club Badge proves membership.

**BARCLAYS AT BUTLIN'S**

For the convenience of Campers (whether you have an account with us or not) we have a branch in the

**Reception Building**
**9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.**
**Mondays to Fridays**

The staff will be pleased to tell you (if you haven't a bank account already) just how useful an account with Barclays could be to you.

**BARCLAYS BANK**
MONEY IS OUR BUSINESS

**MEAL TIMES**
are broadcast daily by Radio Butlin and your dining hall allocation is quoted on the front of your reservation receipt.

**EARLY MORNING TEA OR COFFEE**
can be obtained in the Coffee Bars from 7.30 a.m. Inexpensive Vacuum Flasks are on sale in all Coffee Bars for campers wishing to take hot beverages to their chalets.

**NEWSAGENTS**
Daily and Sunday newspapers available from Newsagents in Viennese Shopping Centre and also a selection of newspapers outside the dining halls at breakfast and evening meal times.

**FREE NAPPY WASHING SERVICE**
and bottle preparation room at the Infants' Centre.

**PETROL PUMPS**
at Parkway Garage opposite Camp entrance.

**CHALET PATROL**
operates from 5.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. Parents should register at Infants' Centre before 5.30 p.m.

**STROLLER HIRE**
Prams and push-chairs are available for hire. All enquiries to be made at the Reception Desk.

**CAMPERS' FRIENDS**
can visit the Camp at reduced rates between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Tickets may be purchased by the camper from the Reception Centre between the hours of 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. on the day of visit.

**PUBLIC TELEPHONES**
are located at Reception: opposite Foyer Coffee Bar; at the corner of the Dining Hall; facing Down's Dress shop and at Main Camp Gate, ZG-ZF Chalet Rows.

**CAMP POST OFFICE**
is at the Viennese Shopping Arcade.

**CAMPERS' MAIL**
can be collected from the Mail Office in Reception between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. and on Sundays 10 a.m. and 12 noon.

**HAIRDRESSING**
Ladies' and Gentlemen's Hairdressing Salons are situated in the Arcade of the Indoor Pool Building.

**PRIVATE SAFE DEPOSITS**
for your valuables are in the Reception Building.

**SPORTS EQUIPMENT**
can be obtained on loan free of charge on deposit of chalet key. Tennis, putting and skates equipment are obtainable from the Skating Rink and table tennis, billiards, etc., from attendant in Games Room.

**SWIMMING POOLS**
Indoor Heated Pool closes at 9 p.m. Outdoor Pool is supervised by an attendant until 6.30 p.m.; closes 9 p.m.

**GOLF**
Clacton-on-Sea Golf Club adjoins the Camp on the west side. Enquiries at Main Reception counter.



## CLACTON CAMP INFORMATION

**LOST PROPERTY**
should be returned and recovered at Reception.

**AFTER DARK**
the Management request quiet in the chalet lines out of consideration for elderly campers and children.

**FIRST AID POSTS**
Adults, next door to Camp Chapel. Children under 9 years (Chalet Line) K-L 46.

**BENDIX LAUNDERETTE**
and ironing room are at the rear of the Safari Bar facing South Camp Chalets.

**CHILDREN'S AMUSEMENT PARK**
Situated by the Gaiety Theatre. Open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. FREE RIDES FOR ALL THE CHILDREN.

**LICENSED BARS AND COFFEE BARS**

**COFFEE & TEA BARS**

**Foyer Coffee Bar** (Gaiety Theatre) 7.30 a.m. to 9 a.m., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. to midnight.

**LICENSED LOUNGES**

**South Seas Bar.** Monday to Saturday 11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., 6.30 p.m. onwards. Sunday, 12 noon to 1.30 p.m., 7.30 p.m. onwards.

**Hooting Owl.** Monday to Saturday 11 a.m. to 2.30 p.m., 7.30 p.m. onwards. Sunday 12 noon to 2.00 p.m., 7.30 p.m. onwards.

**Viennese Ballroom Bar.** 8 p.m. onwards.

**CIGARETTES**
are available from Shops and Kiosks until 11.30 p.m. and from 10 p.m. until 9 a.m. from machines situated opposite Embassy Shop.

**ALSO FREE AMUSEMENT PARK**
situated just inside Main Gate. Times as for Children's Park.

**FREE BOATING LAKE**
and model yacht pond are behind the Dining Hall. Open 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

**A SHILLING A DAY . . .**
hires a camera from the Photo Shop

- Films left for developing and Printing before 10 a.m. ready same day
- Official photographers are at your service to shoot in black and white or colour
- Watch the Photo Shop's display of group photographs at almost every competition and suitable event of this exciting week

**Butlin's Photographic Services**

**THE HOUSE COMMITTEE BADGE**
Any camper requiring help or information may approach any Committee Member wearing this badge. They will be pleased to try to help you.

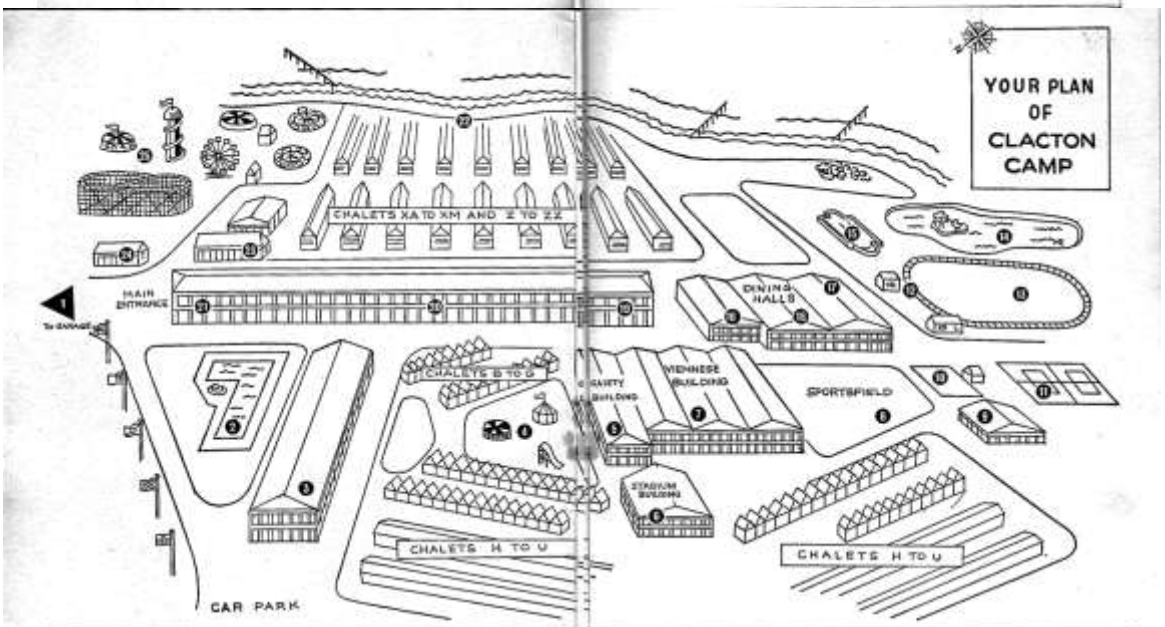
**REGENCY GRILL**
Open daily for hot meals at reasonable prices for day-visitors and campers' friends. Also open every evening for tasty suppers.

**RAILWAY ENQUIRIES**
at Railway Office adjacent Camp Chapel.

**LUNCHEON PACKS**
for campers returning home on Saturday morning can be purchased from the Reception Coffee Bar from 7 a.m. on Saturday morning.

**DEPARTURES**
Chalets should be vacated by 10 a.m. on the day of departure and the chalet key handed in at the Key Office in Reception Hall, where the deposit will be returned to you. Campers' hand luggage is conveyed to the Railway Station at a small charge. This service operates from the Western Lounge at the rear of Reception.






## YOUR GUIDE AT BUTLIN'S CLACTON

1. MAIN ENTRANCE—GARAGE
2. OUTDOOR HEATED POOL
3. RECEPTION BUILDING
   First Floor includes: Playhouse Theatre, Sea Horse Lounge.
   Ground Floor includes: Reception, Campers' Mail, Lost Property, Barclays Bank.
4. FREE AMUSEMENTS PARK
5. GAIETY BUILDING
   includes Gaiety Theatre and Foyer Coffee Bar, General Shop.
6. STADIUM BUILDING
   Cash Bingo.
7. VIENNESE BUILDING
   Ground Floor includes: "Hooting Owl" Bar, Newsagents, Camp Post Office, Amusements Arcade, and Shopping Arcade.
   First Floor includes: Viennese Ballroom, Viennese Bar.
8. SPORTSFIELD
9. CHILDREN'S BUILDING
   includes Bunny Lodge, Kiddies' Theatre, Pram Hire, Infants' Nursery and Creche, Parents' Quiz Lounge.
10. ROLLER SKATING RINK
11. TENNIS COURTS
12. MINIATURE RAILWAY
13. FOOTBALL PITCH
14. BOATING LAKE
15. MODEL YACHT POND
16. EMBASSY SHOP
17. SENIOR CAMPERS' QUIET LOUNGE
18. KENT AND GLOUCESTER DINING HALLS
19. CAMPS BUILDING
    Ground Floor includes: Laundrette, Ironing Room, and "Be-Gay" Shoe Shop and "Down's" Fashion Shop, Amusements Arcade, Main Chalet Office.
    First Floor includes: Table Tennis, Billiards and Snooker, Darts and Amusements Arcade.
20. REGENCY BUILDING
    Ground Floor includes: Toy Shop, General Shop, Rock Ballroom, Regency Grill.
    First Floor includes: T.V. Rooms (B.B.C. and I.T.V.), and Regency Old Time Ballroom.
21. INDOOR POOL BUILDING
    Ground Floor includes: South Seas Bar, Lyons Maid Bar, Photographic Shop, Hairdressing Salons, Ice Cream Kiosk.
    First Floor includes: Indoor Pool, Toilets, Changing Rooms, and Wine Lounge.
22. SUN TERRACE
23. FIRST AID POST AND BRITISH RAILWAYS OFFICE
24. CHAPEL
25. MAIN AMUSEMENT PARK





*I managed to acquire some Entertainment Guides for different Butlins camps for different years including this one for Clacton from 1966, the year we were there.*
*Top – camp information – I have highlighted meal times and also the chalet patrol. In 1966, all those coming to Butlins were on full board.*
*Above – the all-important camp map. For a map of Skegness camp in 1969 see here.*

## WEDNESDAY

**CASH BINGO**
Daily Sessions

In the CASH BINGO STADIUM (rear of Gaiety Theatre)
A SESSION OF 3 HOUSES EVERY HALF HOUR from
Morning Commencing 10.00 a.m. Last Session 1.00 p.m.
Afternoon Commencing 2.30 p.m. Last Session 5.00 p.m.
Evening Commencing 8.00 p.m. Last Session 10.30 p.m.

"EYES DOWN"
During the 9.30 a.m. Bumper Cash Bingo Session a special prize to the value of £20 will be awarded by John Player & Sons, the makers of No. 6 cigarettes.

### morning

**8.30**
**Holy Communion**
in the Camp Chapel

**9.15**
**Table Tennis Eliminations**
for 1st sitting Lasses

**9.15**
**"Double Diamond" Darts Tournament** for 1st sitting Lads
Sponsored by Ind Coope Ltd.

**9.15 to 10.00**
**Final Boxing Practice**
for 1st sitting Lads

**10.00**
**Tennis Finals**
Lads and Lasses

**10.00**
**Life Begins at Forty**
a talent contest for the over 40 years. Auditions in the Gaiety Theatre

**10.15 to 10.45**
**Up and About**
Fun and Games on the Sportsfield

**10.30 to 11.45**
**Old Time Dancing Instruction**
in the Regency Ballroom

**10.45 to 11.15**
**Hi-Fi Jive**
in the Rock Ballroom

**11.00**
**Trampoline Eliminations**
1st sitting Lads and Lasses on the Sportsfield

**11.15 to 12.00**
**Under the Bar**
Limbo practice in the Rock Ballroom

★ **11.15 to 12.00**
**Junior's Swimming Gala**
at the Outdoor Pool

**11.45 to 1.15**
**Music** in the South Seas Bar

★ **12.00 to 1.00**
**Clacton Canters**
The tote has re-opened and you have a chance to have a further holiday flutter in the Blinking Owl

### afternoon

★ **1.15 to 2.15**
**Clacton Canters**
The Tote has re-opened and you have a chance to have a further holiday flutter in the Blinking Owl Bar

**2.30**
**"Daily Mail" 1966 Snooker Tournament.**
Southern area first semi-final under the direction of John Pulman, world Snooker champion

★ **2.30 to 3.15**
**The Bonny Babies Contest**
three age groups up to not quite 3 years of age
Sponsored by "All About Children and Nursery World"
in the Viennese Ballroom

**2.30 to 3.30**
**1966 Area Final of "The People" National Talent Contest.** Heat 3 in the Gaiety Theatre

**3.00 to 4.30**
**Jive Awhile**
in the Rock Ballroom

★ **3.00 to 4.30**
**Adults Sports Meeting**
on the Sportsfield

**3.30 to 4.30**
**Whist Drive**
in the Whist Lounge

**4.00**
**Table Tennis Eliminations** for 2nd sitting Lasses

**4.00**
**"Double Diamond" Darts Tournament** for 2nd sitting Lads
Sponsored by Ind Coope Ltd.

**4.00 to 5.00**
**Tea Dance**
in the Old Time Ballroom

★ **4.30 to 5.00**
**Children's Competition Time,** Viennese Ballroom

**4.30 to 5.00**
**Miss Elegance**
For young ladies 14 & 15 years. Rock Ballroom

**5.30 to 6.15**
**Final Boxing Practice**
for 2nd sitting lads

**6.30 to 7.15**
**Guess the Stars Names**
for 1st sitting campers in the Regency Ballroom

★ DENOTES HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS YOU SHOULD NOT MISS



## WEDNESDAY

### TO-NIGHT IN THE THEATRES

**GAIETY THEATRE**

★
**7.45 to 8.45** HOLIDAY FROLICS
Featuring Reg Dixon and the Resident Revue Company

**PLAYHOUSE THEATRE**
**5.30 to 6.30** THE HAPPY GO LUCKY DIP SHOW
For 2nd sitting Campers
**9.45 to 11.15** FILM CLASSIC. Your Late Night Film

REGENCY GRILL IS OPEN FOR LATE NIGHT SUPPERS

### TO-NIGHT IN THE BALLROOMS, BARS AND LOUNGES

**VIENNESE BALLROOM**
**8.30 to 9.15** Disc Dance Date
**9.15 to 11.15** **Dancing Time** with Len Rooker and his Orchestra
★ **9.45** **Dancing Stars of Tomorrow.** Modern Dancing Competition in association with the "News of the World"

**REGENCY BALLROOM**
**8.30 to 11.00** **Old Time Dancing**
★ **10.15** The **Butlin National Amateur Veleta Competition** sponsored by the "News of the World"

**ROCK BALLROOM**
**8.30 to 11.15** **Hi-Fi Jive**

**SOUTH SEAS BAR**
(opens at 7.30 p.m.)
**8.00 to 10.45** **Easy on the Ear.** Music for listening pleasure

**BLINKING OWL BAR**
(opens at 7.30 p.m.)
**8.00 to 11.00** **Music and Entertainment**
**9.30** **"Life Begins at Forty" Show.** The over 40 Talent Show sponsored by The Pianoforte Publicity Association

**WHIST LOUNGE**
**9.30 to 10.30** **Whist Drive**

### THE BUTLIN DRAW

**4 CARS AND 100 FREE HOLIDAYS TO BE WON**

Tickets for Butlin's Grand Draw in 1966 will be sold tomorrow morning at breakfast time at 2/6 each from your friends the Redcoats. This year the prizes are

**4 FABULOUS HILLMAN IMP DE LUXE SALOONS**

*Total proceeds of this draw go to the National Playing Fields Association and other worthy charities*



## CLACTON ★ JUNIORS' AND CHILDREN'S

**The Famous REDCOAT SHOW**
The children's favourite

**Kiddies own FILM SHOWS**

**ENTER THE TIT-BITS FAMILY ALBUM CONTEST**
with MUM and DAD
CASH PRIZES

**FREE AMUSEMENT PARK**
Miniature Railway
Free Boating

Get your Dad to join you for the
**DAD and his LAD Contest**

**Mother and Child**
£10 Cash Prize

**The BONNY BABIES CONTEST**
in three age groups

You can join the
**BUTLIN BEAVER CLUB**

**SWIMMING INSTRUCTION**
SUNDAY to FRIDAY
10.00 to 11.00 2nd sitting
4.45 to 5.45 1st sitting
With the "News of the World" Swimming Coach

You can always have
**Fun & Games**
with the
**CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINER Uncle Len**

**JUNIOR TALENT CONTEST**
Cash Prize and Free Holidays

**The RIBENA picture of HEALTH CONTEST**
Excellent Prizes

**Children's own FANCY DRESS COMPETITION**

**Junior's own Sports Meeting**
with races for all ages

Have Fun on the
**TRAMPOLINE**

**Junior Dancing Club**

**Butlin Movie News**
See yourself on holiday in the
**NEWS FILMS**

**LOST CHILDREN**
All lost children are taken to
**THE INFANT CENTRE**

Southern Area Finals of the "NEWS OF THE WORLD" NATIONAL TABLE TENNIS COACHING SCHEME
Directed by Chester Barnes
England No. 1 Player

**ALL THE REDCOATS WISH YOU A HAPPY HOLIDAY**

## ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ JUNIORS' AND CHILDREN'S

6 to under 14 YEARS

### SATURDAY

**Amusement Park is Open**
**4.30** **Meet Some of the Redcoats** in the Viennese Ballroom
**7.45 to 8.45** **The Welcome Show** in the Gaiety Theatre

### SUNDAY

**Morning**
**9.00 to 10.00** **The Skating Rink** is specially reserved for you
**9.45 to 10.00** **Juniors' Church Service** in the Regency Ballroom
**10.00** **Meet Uncle Len and Your Own Redcoat Aunties** at the Junior Campers Who's Who. Regency Ballroom
**10.45 to 11.45** **Matchbox Treasure Hunt** (bring an empty matchbox with you) in the Junior Playroom

**Afternoon**
**2.30 to 3.00** **Uncle Len Entertains** in the Children's Theatre
**2.30 to 4.30** **Join in the Fun** on the Trampoline
**3.00 to 3.45** **Rounders** Meet by the Skating Rink
**4.00 to 5.00** **"Weekend" Junior Talent Contest.** This week's auditions in the Playhouse Theatre. Age groups 6 to under 9 years and 9 to under 14 years
**4.00 to 5.00** **More Skating** on the specially reserved rink
**4.30 to 5.00** **Fun and Games** in the Playroom

**Evening**
**7.30 to 8.00** **Children's Own Film Show** in the Junior Theatre
**8.15 to 9.15** **Well Hello There.** Another of Uncle Len's special shows in the Viennese Ballroom

### MONDAY

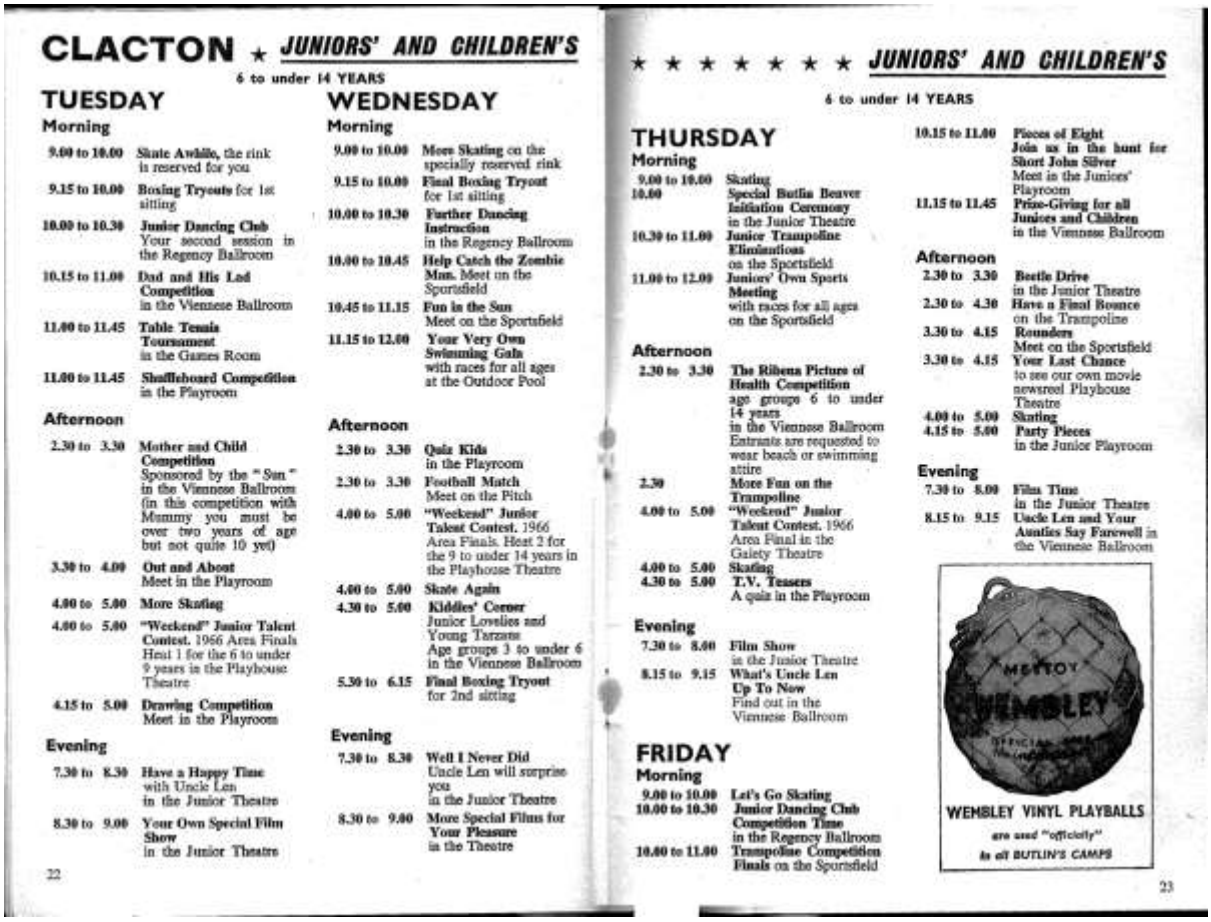
**Morning**
**9.00 to 10.00** **Skating Time** specially for Juniors
**10.00 to 10.30** **Juniors' Own Dancing Club** Meet the Instructors in the Regency Ballroom
**10.00 to 11.00** **Indian Pow-Wow** Meet at the Junior Theatre ready to visit the camp of Big Chief Saddle Sore
**11.00 to 12.00** **Juniors' Own Fancy Dress Competition** age groups: 2 to under 6, 6 to under 9, 9 to under 14 in the Viennese Ballroom

**Afternoon**
**2.30 to 3.30** **Tit Bits Family Album Contest** in the Viennese Ballroom
**2.30 to 4.30** **Trampoline Practice** on the Sportsfield
**3.45 to 4.30** **Football Practice—Lads** on the Sportsfield
**4.00 to 500** **"Weekend" Junior Talent Contest.** This week's final in the Playhouse Theatre
**4.00 to 5.00** **Skating Time**
**5.30 to 6.15** **Boxing Practice** for 2nd sitting in the Stadium

**Evening**
**7.30 to 8.00** **Children's Own Film Show** Junior Theatre
**8.15 to 9.15** **Here We Go Again** with Uncle Len in the Viennese Ballroom



*Extracts from the 1966 Clacton Entertainment Guide*
*<u>Top</u> – programme for Wednesday*
*<u>Above</u> – junior and children's programme including details of the names of competitions and details of where lost children would be taken*



**CLACTON ★ JUNIORS' AND CHILDREN'S**

6 to under 14 YEARS

**TUESDAY**

**Morning**

9.00 to 10.00 **Skate Awhile,** the rink is reserved for you

9.15 to 10.00 **Boxing Tryouts** for 1st sitting

10.00 to 10.30 **Junior Dancing Club** Your second session in the Regency Ballroom

10.15 to 11.00 **Dad and His Lad Competition** in the Viennese Ballroom

11.00 to 11.45 **Table Tennis Tournament** in the Games Room

11.00 to 11.45 **Shuffleboard Competition** in the Playroom

**Afternoon**

2.30 to 3.30 **Mother and Child Competition** Sponsored by the "Sun" in the Viennese Ballroom (in this competition with Mummy you must be over two years of age but not quite 10 yet)

3.30 to 4.00 **Out and About** Meet in the Playroom

4.00 to 5.00 **More Skating**

4.00 to 5.00 **"Weekend" Junior Talent Contest.** 1966 Area Finals Heat 1 for the 6 to under 9 years in the Playhouse Theatre

4.15 to 5.00 **Drawing Competition** Meet in the Playroom

**Evening**

7.30 to 8.30 **Have a Happy Time** with Uncle Len in the Junior Theatre

8.30 to 9.00 **Your Own Special Film Show** in the Junior Theatre

22

**WEDNESDAY**

**Morning**

9.00 to 10.00 **More Skating** on the specially reserved rink

9.15 to 10.00 **Final Boxing Tryout** for 1st sitting

10.00 to 10.30 **Further Dancing Instruction** in the Regency Ballroom

10.00 to 10.45 **Help Catch the Zombie Man.** Meet on the Sportsfield

10.45 to 11.15 **Fun in the Sun** Meet on the Sportsfield

11.15 to 12.00 **Your Very Own Swimming Gala** with races for all ages at the Outdoor Pool

**Afternoon**

2.30 to 3.30 **Quiz Kids** in the Playroom

2.30 to 3.30 **Football Match** Meet on the Pitch

4.00 to 5.00 **"Weekend" Junior Talent Contest.** 1966 Area Finals. Heat 2 for the 9 to under 14 years in the Playhouse Theatre

4.00 to 5.00 **Skate Again**

4.30 to 5.00 **Kiddies' Corner** Junior Lovelies and Young Tarzans Age groups 3 to under 6 in the Viennese Ballroom

5.30 to 6.15 **Final Boxing Tryout** for 2nd sitting

**Evening**

7.30 to 8.30 **Well I Never Did** Uncle Len will surprise you in the Junior Theatre

8.30 to 9.00 **More Special Films for Your Pleasure** in the Theatre

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **JUNIORS' AND CHILDREN'S**

6 to under 14 YEARS

**THURSDAY**

**Morning**

9.00 to 10.00 **Skating**

10.00 **Special Butlin Beaver Initiation Ceremony** in the Junior Theatre

10.30 to 11.00 **Junior Trampoline Eliminations** on the Sportsfield

11.00 to 12.00 **Juniors' Own Sports Meeting** with races for all ages on the Sportsfield

**Afternoon**

2.30 to 3.30 **The Ribena Picture of Health Competition** age groups 6 to under 14 years in the Viennese Ballroom Entrants are requested to wear beach or swimming attire

2.30 **More Fun on the Trampoline**

4.00 to 5.00 **"Weekend" Junior Talent Contest.** 1966 Area Final in the Gaiety Theatre

4.00 to 5.00 **Skating**

4.30 to 5.00 **T.V. Teasers** A quiz in the Playroom

**Evening**

7.30 to 8.00 **Film Show** in the Junior Theatre

8.15 to 9.15 **What's Uncle Len Up To Now** Find out in the Viennese Ballroom

**FRIDAY**

**Morning**

9.00 to 10.00 **Let's Go Skating**

10.00 to 10.30 **Junior Dancing Club Competition Time** in the Regency Ballroom

10.40 to 11.00 **Trampoline Competition Finals** on the Sportsfield

10.15 to 11.00 **Pieces of Eight Join us in the hunt for Short John Silver** Meet in the Juniors' Playroom

11.15 to 11.45 **Prize-Giving for all Juniors and Children** in the Viennese Ballroom

**Afternoon**

2.30 to 3.30 **Bottle Drive** in the Junior Theatre

2.30 to 4.30 **Have a Final Bounce** on the Trampoline

3.30 to 4.15 **Rounders** Meet on the Sportsfield

3.30 to 4.15 **Your Last Chance** to see our own movie newsreel Playhouse Theatre

4.00 to 5.00 **Skating**

4.15 to 5.00 **Party Pieces** in the Junior Playroom

**Evening**

7.30 to 8.00 **Film Time** in the Junior Theatre

8.15 to 9.15 **Uncle Len and Your Aunties Say Farewell** in the Viennese Ballroom



23

*<u>Top</u> - Junior and Children's Programme for Tuesday to Friday in Clacton in 1966*
*<u>Above</u> – us outside our chalet in Skegness in 1965. Left – Tricia, mum, Liz, me and Alan Right – Tricia, Liz, dad, Alan and me*

I recall that the chalets were in long lines, that they occupied much of the camp and they were colour-coded. I am aware that they were considered quite basic, certainly by today's standards. They definitely did not have televisions but that is not something we would have expected. As far as I recall, they did have hot water and a bathroom but I could be wrong on this. To be honest, those things were not that important to me at that age plus we were not in the chalet much! We really only went there to sleep. We took our meals in the dining room and we were out at one activity or another all day, every day! The chalet keys included a deposit token, which costs 2/6. Keys and their deposit tokens were used in the camp as deposits for various kinds of equipment, such as snooker cues. I don't recall if we children had our own chalet keys but I assume not.

*<u>Above and right</u> – Chalet token from Clacton*
*<u>Below</u> – set of chalet keys with red deposit paid token – possibly from Filey*

Initially, I understand the only catering option at Butlins was full board and this is the option we took even when other options were becoming available. I think mum agreed with Billy Butlin that holidays were a time to escape the chores of cooking and cleaning. We were allocated a table in a particular

dining room for either first or second sitting. I vaguely recall that some of the dining rooms had names like Kent or Windsor. There was a relatively basic, fixed menu and food was delivered to the table. I really don't know how mum and dad handled the need for a gluten-free diet for Alan. I suspect mum took some things and then gave him naturally gluten-free things that were available. I imagine most of the cooked meals were "*meat and two veg*" as that was the norm then. I think I have a dining room photo from each of the camps we went to during this period and they look as if they are from breakfast. From memory, I think Butlins had a photographer who took meal-time photos which you could later purchase. In the photos, until 1967, we appear to be wearing some kind of clothes protector/apron/bib. I don't know if these were supplied by Butlins or mum, but the latter seems more likely! In the photo from Clacton 1966, the waiter can be seen holding a multi-plate rack which I vaguely recall and must have been one of the features Butlins used to get everyone served quickly.

*<u>Top</u> – Skegness 1965 showing Tricia, mum, Alan, me and dad*
*<u>Above</u> – Clacton 1966 showing me, dad, Tricia, mum and Alan*
*I am not sure where Liz is in either of these pictures. Plus I note that Alan doesn't have food in either of them!*

*<u>Top</u> – Minehead 1967 showing unknown, dad, Liz, Tricia, Alan, mum and me*
*<u>Middle</u> – Barry 1968 showing me, dad, Tricia, Liz, mum and Alan*
*<u>Above</u> – Filey 1969 showing Tricia, mum, Alan, Liz, dad and me  Liz is in these photos and Alan has food (although Tricia does not in 1967 and I don't in either 1968 or 1969!) Mum does not look too well in the 1967 and 1968 photos*

I think one of the reasons why we children loved Butlins so much was that there was so much for us to do and presumably that was why mum and dad liked it too![227] There were competitions and other organised events, such as swimming instruction, films, sports days, games, skating, trampolining, quizzes, beetle drives etc. In addition, there were facilities we could use as much as we wanted, such as amusement parks, boating lakes, miniature railways etc. In addition, children could take part in activities for adults and families. I believe Tricia and I did ballroom-type dancing, including something called the Boston Two Step. One of the main attractions was that everything was "*free*"[228] This meant that children could do everything they wanted to do without having to keep asking parents for money. I confess that this was my first experience of funfairs etc., at a very young age, so I recall being surprised at having to pay for individual rides at funfairs outside Butlins! I recall being allowed, even from a very young age, to wander around the entirety of the site. There were Redcoats specifically to work with children plus the site was fully enclosed but I can't imagine that such roaming would be allowed now! I believe we had to wear some kind of ID round our necks[229] and there was a designated place where lost children were taken. Although there were no mobile phones, there was a tannoy system and I think this was used to alert parents to lost children. At night, there was a chalet patrol service which would report to parents any children crying or making other noises. I am not sure if mum and dad used this but I can't imagine such a service being allowed now!

On the Butlins Memories website, it says that there was so much to do that it "*was quite possible for a family to remain on Butlins soil for the entire duration of their trip, and many did*". We largely did. I think it was possible to get to the beach from some (possibly all) of the camps. I seem to recall going to the beach once but being concerned that I was missing out on activities back in the camp! Mum and dad must have gone out of the camp sometimes, not least in 1966 in Clacton, when Alan was in hospital with asthma. But, mostly I think we stayed in the camp.

Perhaps one of the things Butlins was most known for was the various competitions they held, some of which were decidedly wacky, such as the glamorous grandmother and knobbly knees. Some were "*of their time*" such as various beauty contests and "*Junior Tarzan*". Some of the talent competitions were relatively serious. Most of the photos in mum's albums were of us in various such competitions.

*There was some kind of family photo competition that might have been called "Happy Families" or some such thing. I recall this being very stressful with a lot of yelling and arguments getting ready. Needless to say, we never won this although I think mum put quite a lot of effort in as can be seen from the matching outfits in some of the years. This photo is of us taking part in this competition in Skegness in 1965. It shows Alan, dad, me, Tricia, mum and Liz.*

[227] The camps were certainly marketed on this basis.
[228] I'm sure grandad or one of my parents would have pointed out that it was not really free but was included in the price of admission!
[229] Although I don't see this in any of the photos.

*More "Happy Families" photos*
*<u>Top left</u> – Clacton 1966 showing Alan, mum, Tricia, Liz, dad and me*
*<u>Above</u> – Minehead 1967 showing me, Liz, dad, Alan, mum and Tricia*
*<u>Above left</u> – Barry Island 1968 showing me, Liz, dad, mum, Alan and Tricia*
*<u>Left</u> – Filey 1969 showing me, Liz, dad, Alan, mum and Tricia*

*I think Alan and I are in coordinated clothes in all the photos. Mum and Tricia are coordinated in Clacton, Liz and Tricia in Filey and all three of them in Minehead.*

*I don't know if I am reading too much into it but the 1968 photo looks particularly forced. Mum does not look well and there is a noticeable gap between mum and dad and me and everyone! In all the photos (except for 1965), Liz is with dad.*

According to the entertainment programmes for Minehead in 1968 and Skegness in 1969, there was a mother and child contest which required the child to be over two but under ten. It appears that mum took part with Tricia in 1965 and 1966 but with me in 1967. I am not sure why as Tricia was only nine in 1967 so would still have been young enough to take part.

*Mother and child competitions*
*Top left – mum and Tricia (#22) in Skegness in 1965*
*Above – mum and Tricia (#27) in Clacton in 2966*
*Left – mum and me (#9) in Minehead in 1967*

There was also a Father and Son competition.[230] Mum only had one photo of me and dad in this and that was from Clacton in 1966.

There was also a Bonny Baby competition for the under threes so Liz was eligible from 1965 to 1967 and there are photos of her in this in each of those years, with mum in Skegness in 1965 and with dad in Clacton in 1966 and in Minehead in 1967.

*<u>Top right</u> - dad and me #71) in the Father and Son competition in Clacton in 1966*
*<u>Top left</u> – mum and Liz (#21) in the Bonny Baby competition in Skegness in 1965. It is worth noting that mum and one of the other mothers are wearing trousers (slacks)*
*<u>Above left</u> – dad and Liz (#62) in the Bonny Baby competition in Clacton in 1966. Again, the mother in this picture is wearing trousers (slacks)*
*<u>Above right</u> – dad and Liz (#22) in the Bonny Baby competition in Minehead in 1967*

[230] I have no idea why it was Father and Son but Mother and Child.

One of the things that strikes me from these photos is that there must have been a considerable amount of thought and planning put into the outfits for these various competitions, not to mention simply the amount of packing involved. This was particularly the case for the Fancy Dress competitions we were involved in over that period. These outfits were not shop-bought or rented. They appear to have been home-made and were often quite elaborate and bulky! I don't know if they were made on site or brought from home but I suspect the latter. In Skegness in 1965, Alan competed as Andy Pandy and I suspect this was the same costume that I had previously worn to a Mile Cross Fancy Dress competition.[231] Tricia and I had fairly simple costumes as Jack and Jill from the nursery rhyme. It appears that there may have been different competitions for different age groups.

*Fancy Dress competition in Skegness in 1965*
*Left – Alan as Andy Pandy with mum. He is number 22 but he is not holding up his number very well!*
*Right – me and Tricia as Jack and Jill (#9)*

In Clacton in 1966 and Minehead in 1967[232], we had the same costumes and these were particularly elaborate.[233] Alan was dressed as a milk bottle with a sign saying "*I'm your extra pinta*". This alluded to a well-known TV advertising campaign promoting milk. Tricia and I competed dressed as a bottle of medicine and a packet of sugar with the sign "*a spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down*" referring to the well-known song in "*Mary Poppins*". I don't know if the standard of competition was declining but we won two second prizes with these outfits in Minehead in 1967.[234]

There is only one photo of Liz in Fancy Dress and that is from Minehead in 1967. This has her carrying a chamber pot with a label saying "*one for the pot*". I confess I don't really understand this but I imagine it is meant to be humorous! I think my problem is that I don't know "*one for the pot*" as a particularly well-known phrase. There was a stage farce by that name in London that ran from 1959 to 1963 so perhaps that was well-known at the time and the outfit is alluding to that? I really don't know!

[231] See Chapter 79.
[232] At least, that is how the pictures are presented in mum's photo album. But, all the Butlins photos are together which makes me think that mum did not put them into the albums at the time but sometime later so it is possible that some photos are mis-classified. In this case, in particular, the four photos may all be from Minehead as the first two seem to relate to the actual competition and the second two to the prize ceremony. On the one hand, Tricia and I appear to be wearing the same shoes, which might indicate they are from the same year. But, Alan is wearing different shoes. So assuming, any prize ceremony was directly after the competition, might this indicate it was different years? From what I know of mum, it seems relatively unlikely to me that she would have reused a non-winning entry from one year the next year but I could be wrong!
[233] And our children seem to have found these particularly amusing!
[234] I have the certificate for the second prize won by me and Tricia but assume that I passed Alan's certificate to his family after mum's death.

Butlin's

MINEHEAD, SOMERSET

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

was awarded

SECOND PRIZE

in the

*Top left – Alan as "your extra pinta" (#38) in the Fancy Dress Competition.*
*Top right – me and Tricia as "a spoonful of sugar" in the Fancy Dress Competition. According to mum's album, these were in Clacton in 1966. But, I wonder if they were, in fact, in Minehead in 1967*

*Middle left – Alan winning second prize for fancy dress in Minehead, 1967*
*Above left – Tricia and me winning second prize for fancy dress in Minehead, 1967*
*Above right – the certificate Tricia and I won for second prize in the Fancy Dress Competition in Minehead in 1967*

*Liz with dad in the Fancy Dress competition in Minehead in 1967. Her sign reads "one for the pot" but I am not sure entirely what that is alluding to!*

There are a number of photos of Alan and I appearing in Junior Tarzan competitions.[235] Tricia took part in similar competitions for girls which I think were called Junior Princess. Alan won first prize in the Junior Tarzan competition in Clacton in 1966 and then promptly spent much of the holiday in hospital with asthma![236] I believe that the first prize was a free week at Butlins that could be used the following year. Of course, that meant that the rest of the family needed to go as well and pay. But, in our case, we would have gone anyway so I imagine this might have been thought of as quite a considerable prize by mum and dad.

[235] In Clacton, in 1964, I won third prize – see Chapter 81.

[236] See Chapter 88. On 2 September, grandma, grandad, Tom and Amy came to visit us at Butlins. Grandad noted that Alan was still in hospital.

*<u>Top left</u> – Alan and me (#26 and #27) in Junior Tarzan in Skegness in 1965*
*<u>Top right</u> – Alan (#49) in Junior Tarzan in Clacton in 1966 <u>Middle left</u> – me (#35) in Junior Tarzan in Clacton in 1966*
*<u>Middle right</u>- me (#48) in Junior Tarzan in Minehead in 1967*
*<u>Above left</u> – Tricia in Junior Princess in Clacton in 1966 (#49) and <u>Above right</u> – in Minehead in 1967 (#16)*

Many aspects of the camps were seen as very modern at the time[237], and even futuristic, such as the monorail at Skegness. This was built in 1965, the year we went there, and was around a mile long. It was the first commercial monorail in the UK although another was added in Minehead in 1967 and this operated until 1998 when it was closed following an accident. In Skegness, new trains were installed in 1993 but the monorail was scrapped in 2003. A train then spent 18 years in a field in Lincolnshire before becoming part of a festival set.

*Top – on the monorail in Skegness in 1965 – mum, Tricia, me, Alan and dad*
*Above – 1965 postcard showing the monorail in Skegness*
*Right – 1974 postcard showing the monorail in Skegness*

[237] And they were marketed on this basis.

Also, among mum's papers, I found a number of little red plastic photo viewers. If you hold them up to the light, they contain small photos of us children. I passed those of the others to them after mum died but I still have the one of me and understand that these were keyrings from Butlins.[238]

*<u>Above</u> – red photo viewer from Butlins*
*<u>Right</u> – image of me contained in photo viewer. I don't know which Butlins this is from but I would guess Filey in 1969. I would have been nine at the time and the shirt looks like the same one I was wearing in the dining room picture from that year!*

Going through all this old Butlins stuff, photos and online memorabilia, has brought back lots of memories. I think I recall having one (or more) of the souvenir tins from Butlins and the photo shows the design that I think I recall which I believe was a tea caddy.

*Vintage Butlins tin – I believe this was a tea caddy*

[238] Although mine no longer has the metallic chain.

In February 1967[239], mum went on her own to Preston to stay with Mary and Derrick Leach. I am not sure why but this was at a time when her mental health was poor so perhaps she turned to them, as her friends, for support. She started a course of ECT within two weeks of returning from Preston.[240] Mum does not say anything about the arrangements for us while she was away. I can only assume that dad took some time off work. On Friday the 9th, grandad noted that he and grandma had Liz and Alan all day. Tom and Amy were staying with them and Tom picked me and Tricia up for tea.[241] Dad picked us up about 17.30 and had tea at grandma and grandad's. On Monday the 13th, grandad noted that dad brought washing for grandma to do. She took it back the next day and she spent the Tuesday at ours.[242] Mum came back on the 16th. In June 1969, mum went on her own with Gwen Hart for a holiday in Iona.[243]

In April 1968, mum, dad and the four of us visited Dorothy Taylor in Ripon and then we went on to Jennifer Seville's wedding in Driffield. We got back on the 16th. On Friday 19th, we all went for tea at grandma and grandad's as dad was still on holiday. I think I recall going to Dorothy's on this occasion. I certainly remember visiting a farm in Ripon around that age. I also presume the photos that were among mum's slides were from that trip. I don't recall Jennifer's wedding and I have not yet found any photos from that.

*I think these photos were taken on that trip to Ripon in April 1968*
*Above left – Heather, Dorothy and Jill*
*Top right -Tricia, Liz, me, Jill and Dorothy Above right – Tricia, me and Heather*

[239] According to mum, she went on the 8th and, according to grandad, on the 9th.
[240] See Chapter 88.
[241] Presumably after school.
[242] From 9am to 4pm – presumably so dad could go to work. She also came to us babysitting the next day. However, grandad's diary does not give the impression of any sort of crisis or that they were called on particularly excessively that week. Most of the diary's focus that week is on trips he and grandma made with Tom and Amy.
[243] See Chapter 90.

In August 1968, dad, Tricia and I went youth hostelling[244] in Derbyshire for a week. Mum took us to Dovedale where we were starting. We left Alan and Liz with grandma and grandad for the day. Grandad noted that Tom dropped them back at our house at 6.30pm. We came home after just over a week.[245] Edna Bust picked us up in Matlock and brought us home.[246]

I suppose it was odd that we went on a separate holiday with dad and not with mum as well. I don't know how this was decided or why Alan and Liz were not involved. I guess they would not have managed a walking holiday of this nature at their age but that does not really explain why we took a holiday of this type.[247] I confess I never really gave it much consideration at the time nor since as it did not seem odd to me then. It was just how it was. With the benefit of hindsight, I think I can see that there were problems between mum and dad, which ultimately led them to separate and divorce, and they were already beginning to live separate lives. But, I was really not aware of this at the time. I loved those walking holidays with dad and have very strong memories of them.[248] We did later do a youth hostelling holiday in Cornwall[249] with the whole family but I don't think I enjoyed it as much. I didn't like travelling by car when dad had always told us that the idea of youth hostels was to travel under your own steam, e.g. walking or biking.[250] In addition, mum and dad had very different attitudes to planning, particularly in relation to meals. With dad, he would just decide something on the day. For lunch, we would just buy bread, butter, jam etc and he would make sandwiches by the roadside. For breakfast and evening meal, I think we ate at the hostel using their catering where possible. From what I recall, when we went with mum, she had a whole menu planned out for the week. I guess she would have argued that you needed to with more to cater for and Alan's dietary needs but I think mum and dad were just completely different in this regard.

**My recollections**

I remember dad telling this story many times and I may recall the actual event! One lunchtime while we were walking, it was raining really hard so Tricia and I were outside in the rain while dad was under his cape making sandwiches for us! A woman went by and tutted saying it was terrible that he had left us outside in the rain, not realising that he was making sandwiches for us!

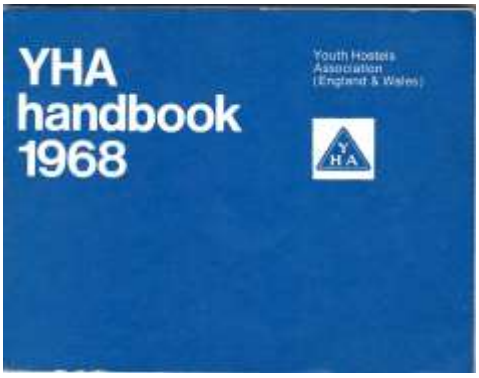
Reading the YHA Handbook for 1968 reminded me of the rule about having sheet sleeping bags as the hostel just supplied blankets and not sheets. I recall these as mum insisted that I use one with my sleeping bag when I went on school camping trips. While it might seem sensible, to protect the main sleeping bag, I was the only one required to do this which was not a comfortable position to be in!

Although it is not recorded in the diaries, I can probably recall the itinerary for that first trip. It is possible that I might get something wrong and may conflate it with later trips but I am fairly confident that what I remember is roughly correct. I know for sure we started in Dovedale on the 9th and finished in Matlock on the 18th. From memory, Tricia and I had our own small rucksacks which we carried while dad carried a bigger one.[251] I recall them having thin straps which we padded with sponge to stop them cutting into our shoulders too much. I also recall the things inside the bag being wrapped in plastic to stop them getting wet when it rained, a practice I later followed on travels on my own.

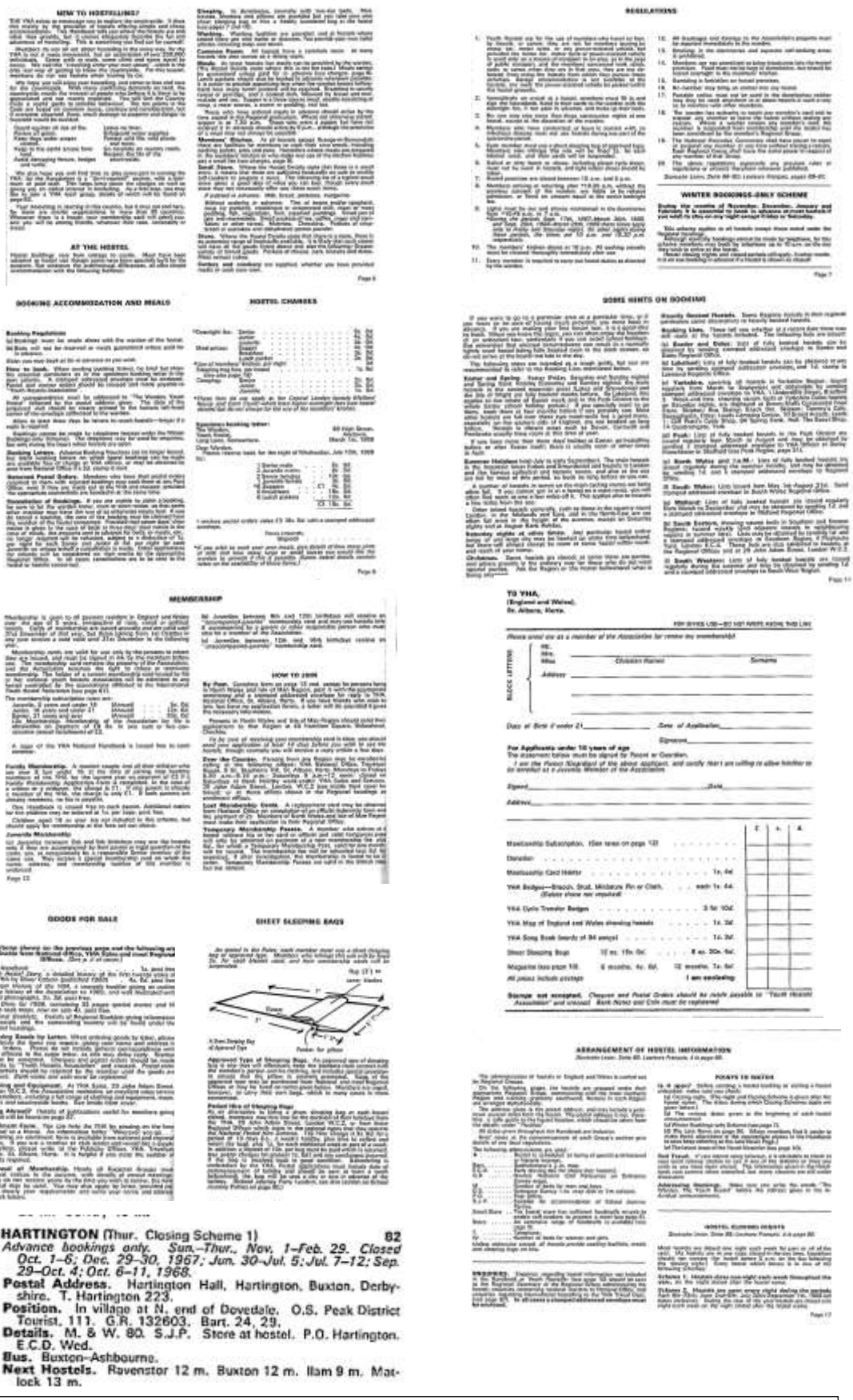
[244] Britain's first youth hostel opened in 1929 . By 1950, the Youth Hostels Association had more than 300 hostels and more than 230,000 members.
[245] We went on Friday 9 August 1968 and returned on Sunday 18th.
[246] Sadly, that is about all the diaries say about this trip and I don't have any photographs. So, most things here are pieced together from memory and online sources. In addition, I have my diary which covers a youth hostelling trip I made in 1976 and, in 2023, my wife Jo and I took a nostalgic trip walking in Derbyshire.
[247] I believe dad had been on youth hostelling holidays in the Peak District with friends when he was younger, before he was married, and I think that is why he wanted to take us.
[248] They inspired me to take similar holidays as a teenager both with friends and on my own. I think they are probably responsible, at least in part, for my continued love of travelling, exploring and walking.
[249] See Chapter 106.
[250] Apparently, this had been a rule but was changing by the late 1960s although the rule still featured prominently in the 1968 handbook. Also, while walking youth hostelling holidays were practical in the Peak District where the hostels were close together, they were less practical elsewhere. I don't know why but we never cycled for youth hostelling. I don't recall either of my parents being cyclists.
[251] And, in reality, probably carried most of the stuff!

Another thing I recall about staying at youth hostels at that time was that everyone who was staying there was given a chore in the morning that they were expected to carry out before leaving that day.

*Above – large YHA sign*
*Left – YHA Peak District badge*



*<u>Top</u> – enamel youth hostel sign*
*<u>Middle left</u> – YHA car mascot with iconic triangular green sign*
*<u>Middle right</u> – rucksack that reminds me of the small rucksacks Tricia and I carried while youth hostelling. I particularly recall the thin straps!*
*<u>Above</u> – YHA handbook 1968 showing (<u>left</u>) front cover and (<u>right</u>) first page which shows that the rule about travelling under your own steam was still in place in 1968, the year we first went youth hostelling with dad.*



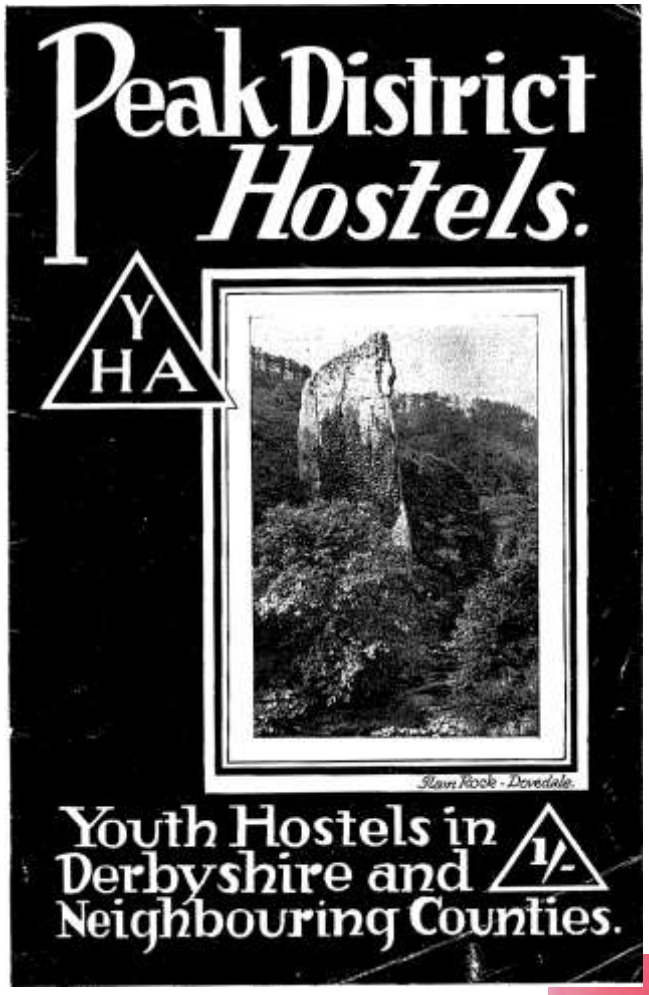
**★HARTINGTON** (Thur. Closing Scheme 1) **82**
*Advance bookings only. Sun.–Thur., Nov. 1–Feb. 29. Closed Oct. 1–6; Dec. 29–30, 1967; Jan. 30–Jul. 5; Jul. 7–12; Sep. 29–Oct. 4; Oct. 6–11, 1968.*
**Postal Address.** Hartington Hall, Hartington, Buxton, Derbyshire. T. Hartington 223.
**Position.** In village at N. end of Dovedale. O.S. Peak District Tourist, 111. G.R. 132603. Bart. 24, 29.
**Details.** M. & W. 80. S.J.P. Store at hostel. P.O. Hartington. E.C.D. Wed.
**Bus.** Buxton–Ashbourne.
**Next Hostels.** Ravenstor 12 m. Buxton 12 m. Ilam 9 m. Matlock 13 m.

*Information from YHA Handbook 1968. Regulation 11 specifies that members need to carry out duties as assigned by the warden. The hostel charges were 5/- per night for dad and 3/- for me and Tricia as juvenile members.*

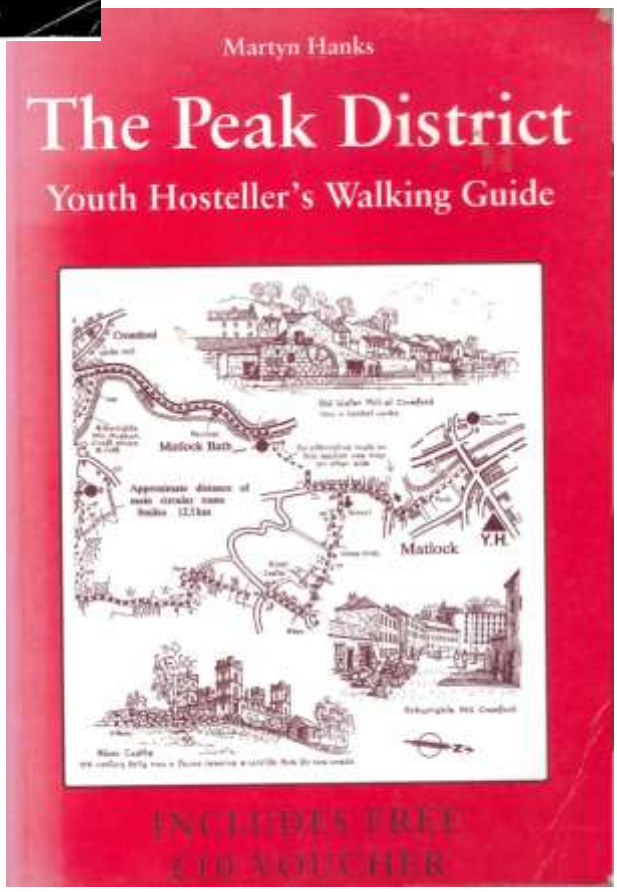
*For our youth hostelling holidays, we were members of the Youth Hostel Association (YHA) and we had membership cards. Sadly, I no longer have mine but this photo (<u>above</u>) shows what the adult (senior) cards were like in the period from 1949 to 1968. They show the price of membership which rose from 10/- in 1949 to 20/- in 1968.*

*I recall that these cards had a page (<u>left</u>) where each hostel you stayed at could stamp the card to show you had stayed there.*

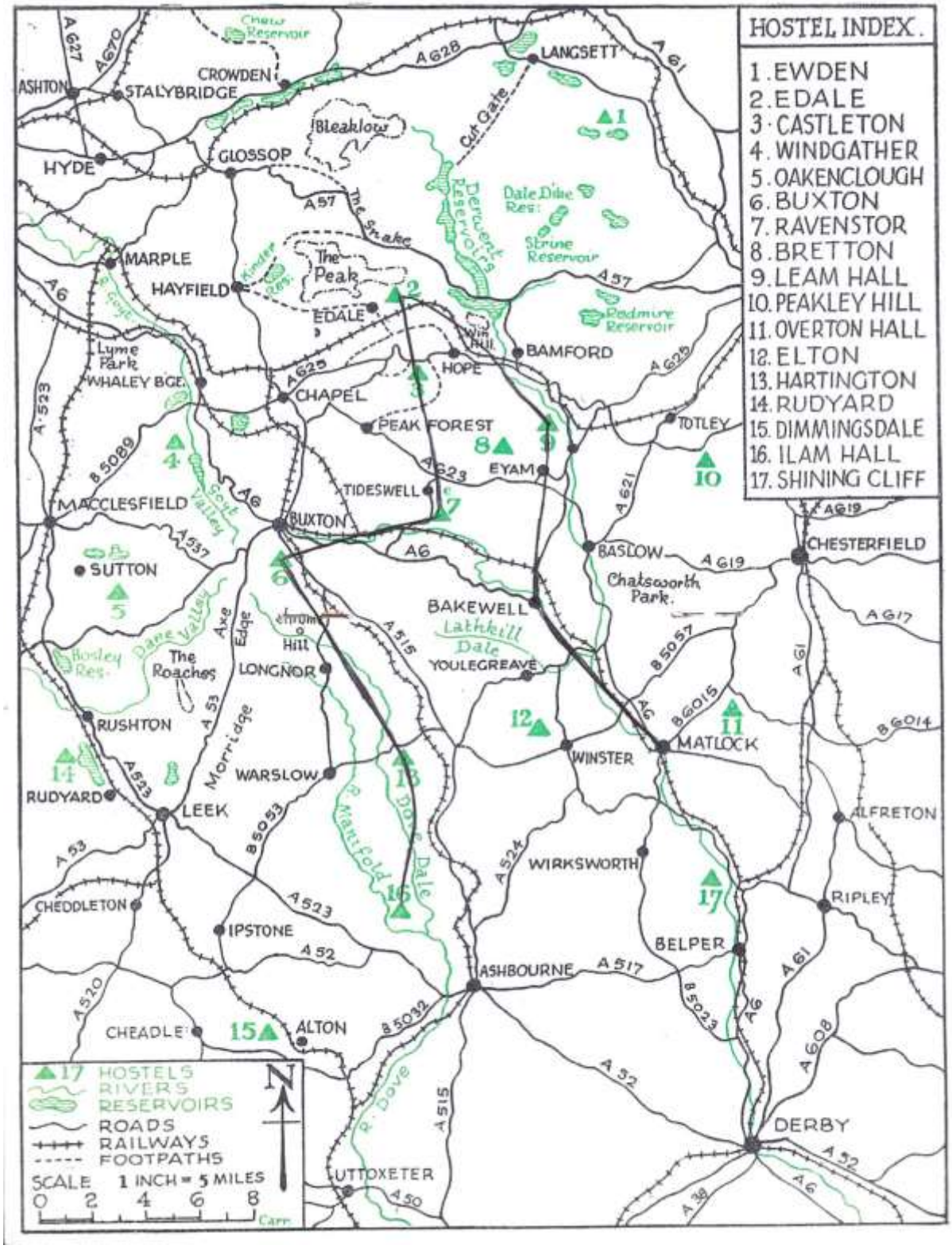
*<u>Inset above</u> is a YHA badge from around that time. I recall the green triangle symbol as this was displayed outside all youth hostels at the time.*




*Front cover of the book Peak District Hostels: Youth Hostels in Derbyshire and Neighbouring Counties. I don't know the precise date of the book but it is early, pre-1956, as it does not include the hostels at Matlock or Bakewell*




*This book is described as the youth hosteller's guide to the Peak District. It was published in 1998. Mainly, it consists of route descriptions. It is beautifully illustrated with excellent drawings of many of the hostels in the Peak District*




*Map of youth hostels in the Peak District from the book Peak District Hostels: Youth Hostels in Derbyshire and Neighbouring Counties. I have annotated this copy of it to show the route of our trip. I have included the hostels in Bakewell and Matlock even though they are not on the map.*

I think the first hostel we stayed in was Ilam Hall.[252] From there, we walked to Hartington[253] and I think the first part of that would have been through Dovedale to Milldale.

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*Top left – the stepping stones in Dovedale*
*Top right – Ilam Hall in Dovedale*
*Above – postcard of Ilam Hall with badge inset*

[252] This remains open as a youth hostel set within National Trust parkland. I came across an excellent document with historical details of all YHA hostels. The version I found is dated March 2020. Based on this, it seems it opened in 1932. In 1934, Robert McDougal gifted the property to the National Trust on the condition that the Hall should be available to the Youth Hostel Association (YHA).
[253] About eight miles.

We then stayed at the youth hostel at Hartington Hall.[254]

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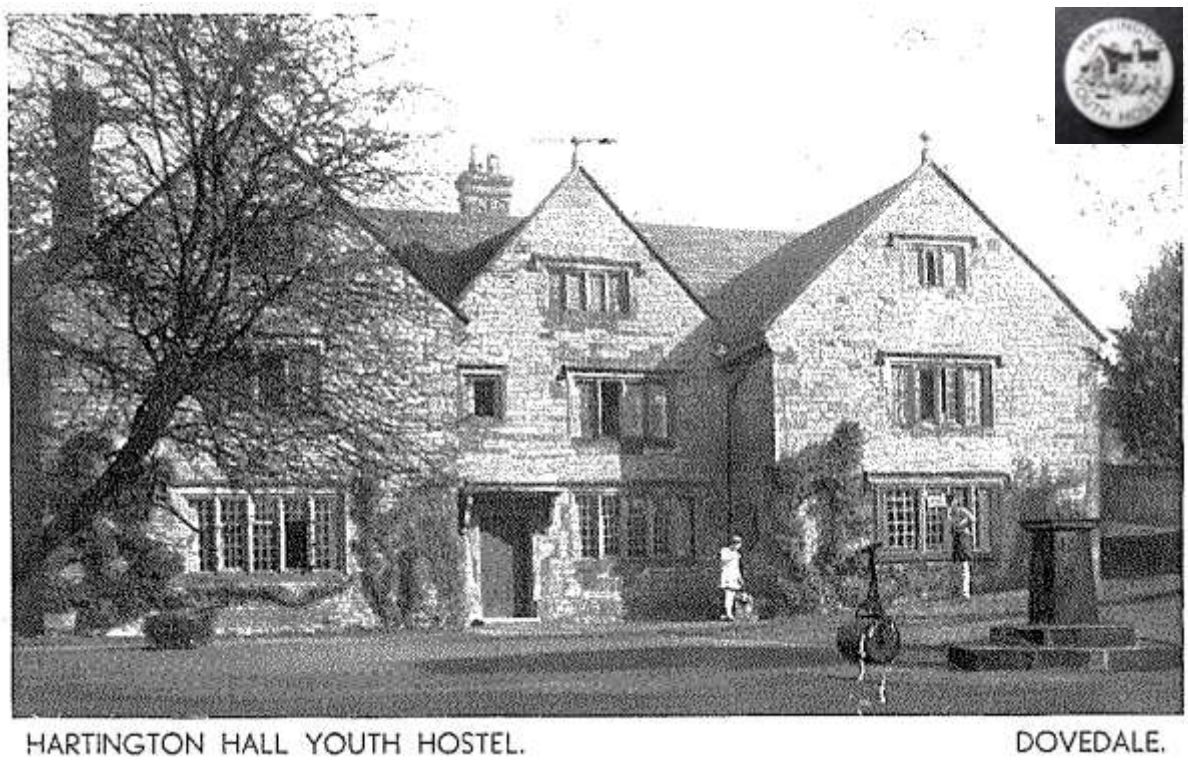


*Top – Hartington Hall with cloth badge inset*
*Above – postcard of Hartington Hall Youth Hostel with metal badge inset*

[254] Which became a youth hostel in 1934 and remains one.

From there, we walked to Buxton where we stayed in the youth hostel.[255] I am confident that we made this particular journey on this trip as it assumed almost legendary status within dad's "*book*" of stories! I recall it being a very long way and, in my head, I remember it as 14 miles.[256] I always remember dad encouraging us to continue, on this trip and others, by saying it was easier if you kept going and harder if you kept stopping!

SHERBROOK LODGE, BUXTON

I believe we walked to Ravenstor Youth Hostel in Miller's Dale.[257] I recall that Miller's Dale was one of dad's favourite places in the Peak District and that he preferred it to Dovedale. The Ravenstor Youth Hostel was one of our favourites and it is still in operation.[258]

*Above – postcard of former youth hostel in Buxton with badge inset*
*Right – Ravenstor Youth Hostel in 1983*

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[255] The youth hostel in Buxton is now no longer in existence. It opened in 1940 and closed in 2003. Apparently, it was sold for £360,000 in the aftermath of the foot and mouth epidemic. Shortly afterwards it was demolished. It was located at the bottom of Harpur Hill Road and was known as Sherbrook Lodge. In 2007, there was a planning application to build 14 houses on the site.
[256] Although Google has it as nearer to 11. Regardless, I guess it was some kind of achievement for an eight year old.
[257] A distance of about eight miles.
[258] It opened in 1938.

Jo and I started our 2023 walk in Buxton close to the site of the former youth hostel and walked to Ravenstor. I am not sure of the route we took with dad in 1968 but it would have been different from 2023 as, on the recent trip, we ended up on the Monsal Trail which only opened in 1981.

*Top – postcard of Ravenstor Youth Hostel with badge inset*
*Above left – the Monsal Trail follows the route of an old railway and is noted for having multiple Tunnels. On our way from Buxton to Ravenstor, we went through three of them – Rusher Cutting and Chee Dale 1 and 2. This image shows Chee Dale 2 first followed by Chee Dale 1.*
*Above right – Ravenstor Youth Hostel August 2023*
*Right – one of the bunk beds in our room at Ravenstor. We had a six-bedded dorm for our exclusive use*

In 1968, we then went from Ravenstor to Castleton[259] and stayed in the youth hostel there.[260] Over the years, we spent time in Castleton including at Peveril castle[261] and the various caverns. Dad had strong views about the relative merits of the different Castleton caverns believing that Treak Clff was the best and that Speedwell was the most over-rated![262]

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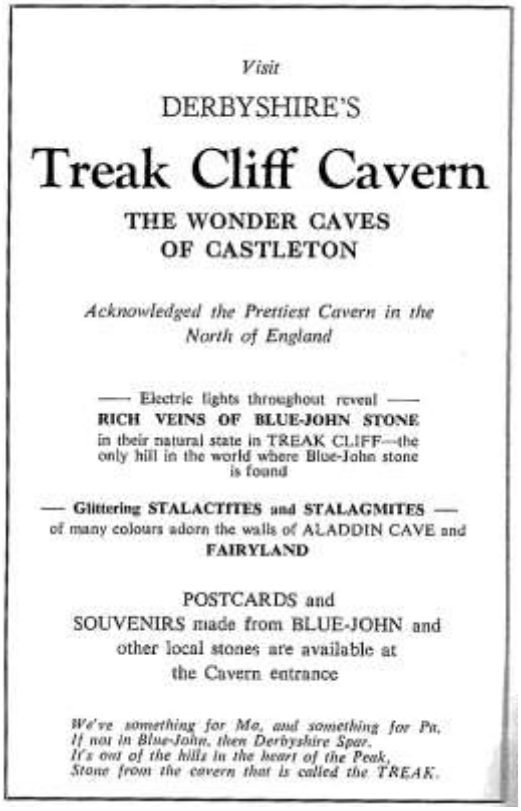
© Beep boop beep and licensed for reuse under this Creative Commons Licence



*Visit*

DERBYSHIRE'S

**Treak Cliff Cavern**

**THE WONDER CAVES OF CASTLETON**

*Acknowledged the Prettiest Cavern in the North of England*

— Electric lights throughout reveal —
**RICH VEINS OF BLUE-JOHN STONE**
in their natural state in TREAK CLIFF—the only hill in the world where Blue-John stone is found

— **Glittering STALACTITES and STALAGMITES** —
of many colours adorn the walls of ALADDIN CAVE and **FAIRYLAND**

POSTCARDS and SOUVENIRS made from BLUE-JOHN and other local stones are available at the Cavern entrance

*We've something for Me, and something for Pa,*
*If not in Blue-John, then Derbyshire Spar.*
*It's out of the hills in the heart of the Peak,*
*Stone from the cavern that is called the TREAK.*

*Top left – Peveril Castle*
*Top right – Castleton Hall – former youth hostel in the centre of Castleton with cloth badge inset*
*Above – postcard of Castleton Hall Youth Hostel*
*Left – advert for Treak Cliff Cavern from the book Peak District Hostels: Youth Hostels in Derbyshire and Neighbouring Counties*

[259] Which is about another eight mile walk.

[260] Nowadays, the youth hostel in Castleton is at Losehill Hall but it was only acquired by YHA in 2011 and is not the building I recall which was Castleton Hall in the centre of Castleton on Castle Street close to The George pub. YHA records show that this opened in 1943 and, until 1946, was known as Castleton B as there was a Castleton A in Hollowford from 1936 to 1946. The hostel closed at the end of January 2012. In 2013, there was a planning application to repair and alter the hall so that it could be two private residences. This generated a lot of correspondence and documentation and the application was withdrawn in 2015. It was also up for sale at some point but I think this may have been in 2015.

[261] There is a sign for the castle just outside Castleton Hall, the former youth hostel.

[262] He considered it a glorified boat ride! I don't think he ever took us there although I have been there since. He did take us to both Peak and Blue John Caverns.

On our nostalgic walk in 2023, Jo and I did go to Castleton. However, we did not go there directly from Ravenstor but via Bakewell and Eyam. We stayed there for two nights. We did not stay in the current youth hostel but in a place called Haddock Hideaway behind Castleton Hall. It is in fact part of the old youth hostel. We visited both Peveril Castle and Treak Cliff Cavern while we were in Castleton.

*Top left – Castleton Hall in August 2023 Top right – the George Pub in Castleton in August 2023*
*Middle left – bedroom in Upper Styx Haddock Hideaway in August 2023 Middle right – view of metal staircase leading to Upper Styx Haddock Hideaway with Peveril Castle in the distance*
*Bottom left – Peveril Castle in August 2023 Bottom right – Entrance to Treak Cliff Cavern in August 20923*

In 1968, from Castleton, we walked to Edale. This was (and is) one of my favourite and most memorable walks in the Peak District not least, as a child, because it was so short, barely three miles. It involved crossing the Great Ridge at Hollins Cross to the east of Mam Tor. On one occasion, I think on this walk, it was pouring with rain and we were soaked. When we got to Edale, dad found some sort of café and they gave us tea in the biggest mugs I had ever seen! I have been back to Hollins Cross a few times since. I went with dad when I was in my twenties, and he must have been in his fifties, and I recall that, on this occasion, he was the one who struggled with the going up part! More recently, I went there with my wife, Jo and two of our children, Emma and Stephen, in 2012.

*Photos from 2012 visit*
*Top left – Stephen, Jo and Emma on the Great Ridge, I think they are walking towards Hollins Cross*
*Top right – Mam Tor*
*Above – Hollins Cross*

In Edale, we stayed at the youth hostel.[263] Edale is a memorable place for me as it marked the northernmost point of these walking trips. It also is the start of the Pennine Way, a walk I always hoped to do but never did (yet!) It is also strategically placed for Kinder Scout which dad talked about a lot but in a way which was quite intimidating, i.e. if you went there, there was a serious risk of getting lost and not coming back! He also talked about the mass trespass on Kinder Scout and the Glorious Twelfth.[264] If my calculations are right, my first visit there would have been on 14 August 1968 when I was eight. I think I came away with the impression that, if I went on Kinder Scout, I would either get lost or be shot!

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*Edale Youth Hostel, Rowland Cote with badge inset*

On our nostalgic walk in 2023, Jo and I also went from Castleton to Edale via Hollins Cross. We walked with friends of ours, Dave and Janet Brown. We also stayed at Edale Youth Hostel. However, this marked the end of our trip as we had a shorter time and we were joining other family members in Sheffield.

*Above – Hollins Cross in August 2023*
*Above right – Edale youth hostel in August 2023*
*Right – accommodation at Edale youth hostel in August 2023*

[263] Which is still operational. It is called Rowland Cote and opened in 1945.
[264] Which marks the start of grouse shooting season.

In 1968, after Edale, the trip details become a little more hazy, particularly in relation to where we stayed next! There is a youth hostel at Hathersage, some eight miles from Edale, and I think I have stayed there but it was not on this trip as the hostel did not open until 1970. I had thought that the most likely candidate for where we stayed was the youth hostel at Eyam as I have definitely stayed there and it is located between Edale and Bakewell. But, it could not have been there as it did not open until 1971! I vaguely recalled the name Leam Hall and I believe this is where we stayed the night after we had been at Edale. Leam Hall was a youth hostel between 1939 and 1970 when it was replaced by the hostel in Eyam.

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*Top right – Hathersage youth hostel with three badges inset*
*Top left – Eyam youth hostel with badge inset*
*Above left – postcard of Leam Hall youth hostel circa 1940s. The reverse is blank apart from the words "YOUTH HOSTELS ASSOCIATION, NORTH MIDLANDS REGION"*
*Above right – Leam Hall Hostel from the book Peak District Hostels: Youth Hostels in Derbyshire and Neighbouring Counties with badge inset*

Leam Hall was a ten mile walk from Edale. On one occasion, perhaps on this trip, we took a train from Edale to Hope. It is a relatively short train journey, less than ten minutes[265], and I recall that we waited much longer for the train than we spent on it! I think we took the train because I was desperate to go on a train! Dad may also have seen this as a way of reducing the distance we had to walk as it is only about a five mile walk from Hope to Leam Hall.[266]

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We definitely visited the village of Eyam with dad, possibly on this trip as it is roughly en route between Leam Hall and Bakewell[267] where I think we stayed the next night. Dad was intrigued by Eyam as the "*plague village*" and was very knowledgeable about it and the practice of well dressings.[268] I recall taking our own children there.[269] On our nostalgic walk in 2023, Jo and I visited Eyam. However, we were heading in roughly the opposite direction from that we had taken in 1968 as we were heading from Bakewell to Castleton. We did not stay at the youth hostel. I think this was because it was not available. We stayed at a bed and breakfast called Innisfree Cottage.

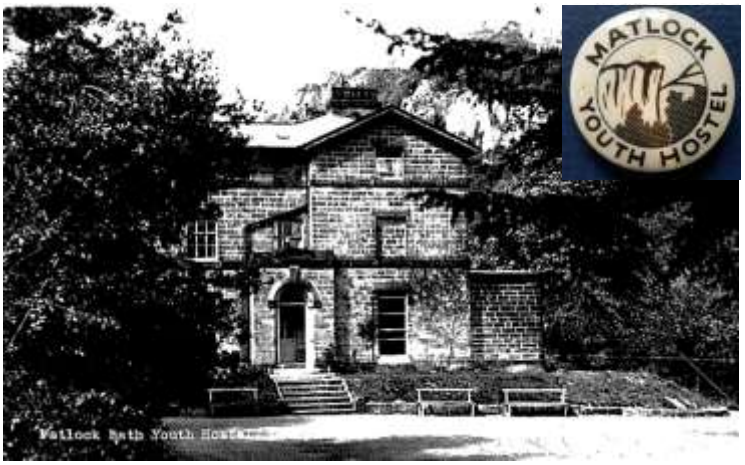
*Top right – Northern Rail train leaving Edale station heading for Hope*
*Above left – St Lawrences' Church Eyam in August 2023*
*Above right – leaflet for the B&B we stayed at in Eyam in August 2023*

[265] These stations are still open and there is an hourly service between Edale and Hope. Journey time is 6-7 minutes. The service is operated by Northern between Manchester Piccadilly and Sheffield. The train route follows the road so loops quite a bit to the north before reaching Hope. The route is extremely picturesque.
[266] It is very possible, even likely, that it was dad's idea originally to get the train, to avoid another relatively long walk, and that he sold it to me as my idea as I was very enthusiastic about the idea of getting a train.
[267] It is about an eight mile walk from Leam Hall to Bakewell.
[268] Also see Chapter 69 for details of a chapel visit to Tissington well dressings in 1959.
[269] Although I don't recall when it was or how old they were but I do recall they were much less interested in the village and its story than I had been!

In 1968, I think Dad, Tricia and I stayed at the youth hostel in Bakewell which was still pretty new at that point having only opened in 1965. It closed in 2007. It now functions as Sleep Lodge which operates with Bagshaw Hall and provides suites with self-catering facilities. In 2023, on our nostalgic walk, we went to Bakewell from Ravenstor and then on to Eyam. We walked over Longstone Edge and I imagine we would have taken a similar route in 1968, but in the reverse direction.

*Top left – we saw this sign on our way from Bakewell to Eyam in August 2023. I suspect we walked a similar route but in the opposite direction in 1968*
*Top right – postcard of youth hostel in Bakewell. This shows very well the sign at the entrance. I believe this is the kind of sign I now have*
*Middle right – by way of contrast, this is Sleep Lodge in August 2023. I was intrigued to know if the YHA sign was still behind the Sleep Lodge sign but it was not possible to see*
*Bottom right – postcard of drawing of Bakewell youth hostel*
*Bottom left – our room at Sleep Lodge was a bit grander than I imagine it was as a youth hostel! Note that everything is packed in plastic bags. My dad would have been proud! Youth hostel badge inset*

In 1968, from Bakewell, we walked to Matlock[270], where we stayed in the youth hostel, which at that time was in Matlock Bath.[271] We visited various of the tourist sites in Matlock Bath, including the Heights of Abraham. One place I particularly recall was Riber Castle and, at that time, there was a wildlife park there.[272]




*Postcard of former youth hostel at Matlock Bath with badge inset*

*Former youth hostel in Matlock Bath when it was being used by the Derbyshire Probation Trust*

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*Riber Castle*

[270] Around 10 miles.
[271] This was located in an old vicarage in Brunswood Road and operated from 1956 to 1983 when it was replaced by a hostel in Bank Road in Matlock which itself closed in 2007, the building was then used as a Probationary Service office and is now a private house.
[272] Although this closed in 2000 amid criticism of the treatment of animals.

As mentioned above, Edna Bust picked us up in Matlock on Sunday 18 August 1968 and brought us home. Dad, Tricia and I went youth hostelling again the following year, in May 1969. I am not sure exactly the day we went but grandad noted that only mum, Alan and Liz came for tea on Sunday 26 May as dad, Tricia and I had gone hiking in Derbyshire. On the 30th, mum came to near Edale[273] to pick us up. Liz and Alan stayed with grandma and grandad. Grandma walked home with them.[274]

Grandad also sometimes noted other people's holidays. For example, in August 1966, Ron, Betty, John and Paul Douglas went to Harrogate[275] and then to Scotland for just over a week.[276] In August 1967, Ron went to his mother's in Harrogate for a week's holiday. He took the three children, Graham, Paul and Caroline. On the day they got back, John went on holiday to Greece.[277] In April 1968, mum called for Linda Bell who was going with a friend to Spain for a six months working holiday. She came back on 2 September 1968.[278] In June 1969, Linda Bell and a friend went hitchhiking to Spain. In July 1969, Olive and Alf Holland went on holiday as Olive's mother, Eva, had been admitted to a nursing home.

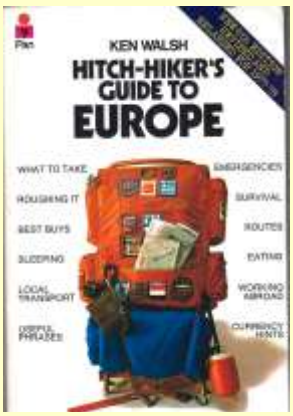
**My recollections**

I don't recall Linda Bell. I doubt if her experiences of foreign travel and holidays influenced me but I recall, as a teenager, being dismissive of foreign "*package*" holidays and being much more attracted to the idea of working abroad, e.g. on a kibbutz, which was very popular at the time or, in particular, the idea of hitchhiking around Europe, which I did in 1978. There was quite a lot of interest in InterRail at the time and I believe I recall Tricia doing some such trip but I regarded this as somewhat tame in comparison to hitching!

I am not sure why our family did not take foreign charter holidays in the seventies and this is a topic to which I aim to return once I get that far in the diaries! I expect there were a number of factors including the family disruption we were experiencing because of the breakdown of the relationship between mum and dad, financial concerns and perhaps some unwillingness, on my part in particular, to be involved in any kind of family holiday! I also suspect I was not the only family member to look down a bit on "*package*" holidays.

My interest in hitchhiking in Europe was fuelled in the mid- to late-seventies by coming across Ken Walsh's book, "*Hitch-hiker's Guide to Europe*". I don't know what happened to my copy but I recently acquired a copy which originates from 1977 and looks like the one I had. I found this book extremely inspiring with its slightly anarchic and opinionated approach to travelling. This is in an era before Lonely Planet or Rough Guides were (widely-)available.

While hitch-hiking was once popular, it has largely fallen out of fashion and I cannot recall the last time I saw someone hitching. Actually, apart from the trip to Europe, I did not hitch-hike that much. I recall getting to and from university mostly by train. I do recall us being split up into pairs and then hitch-hiking back to the campsite while on a school trip in France in the seventies, something which I don't think would even be considered these days!




*My current copy of "Hitch-hiker's Guide to Europe"*

[273] I am not sure of where we started and am less sure of the route we took this year. I imagine we started somewhere in the south, maybe Matlock, and worked our way north. I am not entirely sure. Potentially, this route was more similar to the one Jo and I took on our nostalgic walk in 2023. That also ended in Edale.

[274] Dad and I also went youth hostelling in the early seventies, with Alan instead of Tricia, see Chapter 106. I also went youth hostelling at least twice in the later 1970s, once with friends and once on my own, in 1976. I have my own diaries for that latter trip.

[275] Where Ron's mother lived.

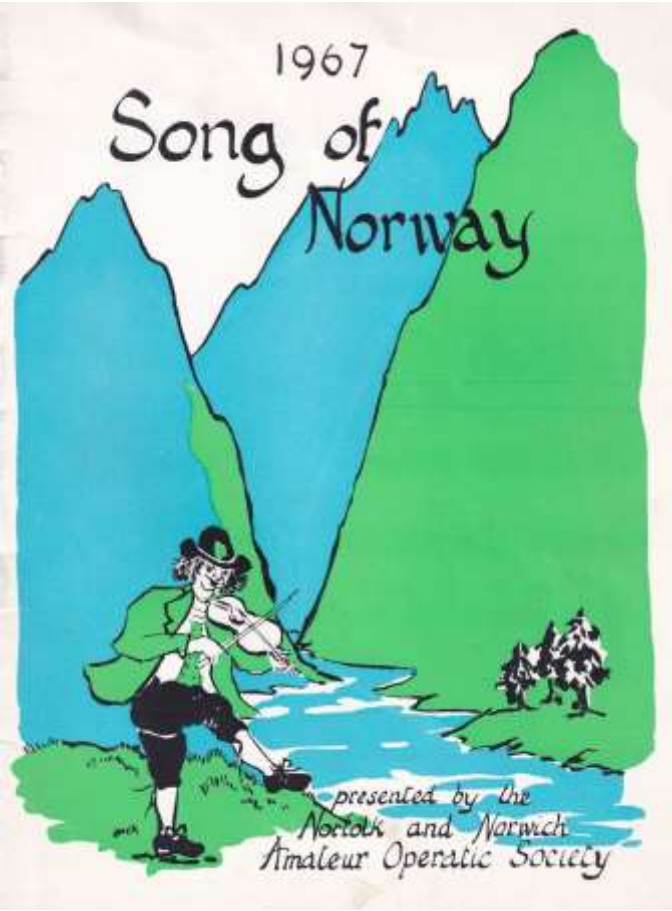
[276] I am not sure why they went to Scotland nor why Graham and Caroline did not go. I don't know if they knew Betty was ill at this point. According to grandad's diary, she had been to hospital in September 1965 but I am not sure if this related to the cancer from which she died in July 1967. As far as I can see, this was only diagnosed in January 1967 – see Chapter 88.

[277] Such foreign holidays were still the exception rather than the rule at this time certainly among our circle of family and friends. I think John Douglas was a manager at Bonds which may explain why he could take such a holiday. Prior to this, Basil and Hilda Parkin took a holiday in Norway in 1963 – see Chapter 81 - but the only other foreign trips documented prior to this related to military service or church activities, such as missionaries, see Chapter 90 [I have assumed that the trip to Africa that Mrs Cooper took was church-related but it could have been a holiday]. Foreign holidays really became widely accessible from the seventies.

[278] Which was just over four months. I don't know if she came back earlier or if the six months was just an estimate.

During this period, family members sometimes went to the theatre, particularly in Norwich. Perhaps unsurprisingly, many of these theatre trips were for pantomimes. Grandma also quite often went to the theatre during this period with visitors, such as Eva or Auntie Dolly, and/or friends, such as Barbara Carpenter, Mrs Douglas and Mrs Smith.

In June 1965, mum took Tricia, me and Alan to see "*Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*" in Norwich.[279] It was a Tuesday and dad met us in Norwich[280] presumably after work. Graham Douglas went with us. Liz went to stay at grandma and grandad's. In March 1966, both mum and grandma went to see "*My Fair Lady*".[281] Mum went with Young Wives and she noted that it was not bad. Grandma went with the ladies from Mile Cross.[282] In May 1966, mum went to see "*Pirates of Penzance*"[283] at night. In January 1967, mum went to the opera "*Song of Norway*".[284] She noted that Janet was in it.[285] In October 1968, mum and dad went to see "*Hobson's Choice*".[286] In March 1969, grandma, Mrs Smith and Mrs Douglas went to see "*No No Nanette*".[287]




*Programme front cover*

[279] While I have found details of "*Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*" being put on as a pantomime in Norwich in 2008, I have not found any details of the 1965 show. I also don't quite understand why this was on in June if it was a pantomime. For all the productions in this paragraph, the diaries did not state which theatre they were in although I have since found this out in some cases.

[280] I have some recollections of going into Norwich on my own on the bus from Hellesdon to meet dad in Norwich. I guess I would have been around ten years old. Mum would put me on the bus and dad met me from it. I am not sure of the purpose of these trips but presumably it was to attend something in Norwich in the evening, perhaps the theatre or football.

[281] It was also made into a film in 1964.

[282] And grandad noted that the seat cost 14/6.

[283] Well-known comic opera by Gilbert and Sullivan. Mum loved Gilbert and Sullivan all her life and I think this is the first mention of a Gilbert and Sullivan opera in the diaries. In later life, she regularly attended Gilbert and Sullivan weeks at Willersley Castle and these are mentioned in Chapter 69.

[284] A 1944 operetta that was adapted for film in 1970.

[285] This was a production by the Norfolk and Norwich Operatic Society. Mum did not specify which Janet this was, so it could have been Janet Blyth or Janet Wright. However, from the programme, it is clear that it was Janet Blyth.

[286] This play by Harold Brighouse was first performed in London in 1916. It has been put on in Norwich on several occasions including in its centenary year 2016. I have not found any details of the performance in 1968 but I do recall taking mum to see it in 2008. I recall taking my wife, Jo, our daughter, Emma and a friend of hers. I recall mum and Jo enjoying the play and thought it was, for mum, because grandad had been a shoemaker and Jo enjoyed the northern accents. I also recall that Emma and her friend, who were both around 15 at the time, were baffled by it!

[287] At least I think that is what they saw, see but grandad called it "*No No Nette*".

NORFOLK AND NORWICH A

*Pres*

# SONG OF

**Ladies of the Chorus**

RUBY ADDISON
JANET BLYTH
DOREEN BROWNE
BETTY COLE
MARGARET ELLIOTT
GERTRUDE FREEMAN
PAULINE FINDLOW
BRIDGET GOOSE
NORMA GOWEN
JOSEPHINE GREGORY
BERYL HALLIDAY
DOROTHY HARGREAVES
ELIZABETH HELLARD
FAITH HUMPHREYS
PAMELA JACKSON
JOYCE JOHNSON
ANNE MACJANNET
DIANA NEWBY
PAULINE ROBINSON
NORA PLATT
BERYL SHORE
ALISON SPENCER
ROSALIND WADE
ANN WHITEHEAD

## *Characters in ord*

Rikard Nordraak ..... TOM ASHCROFT
Sigrid ..... JENNIFER HILL
Einar ..... MALCOLM SHAW
Eric ..... KENNETH BROWNING
Gunnar ..... JILL HARVEY
Grimma ..... SALLY-ANNE SPRUCE
Helga ..... SALLY HUDSON
Nina Hagerup ..... PIP JENKINSON
Edvard Grieg ..... GEORGE BAKER
Father Nordraak ..... GEOFFREY DEBENHAM
Father Grieg ..... STANLEY GIBSON
Mother Grieg ..... ELIZABETH GARNER
Freddy ..... LYNN WARDLE
Count Peppi Le Loup ..... MICHAEL RICHARDSON

THE CONCER

Spirit of Norway: Janet Russon; Her Cavalier: William Martin

The Corps

DANC

MARY BILHAM JEAN CARTER PATSY CITRON MARY EDWARDS MA
SARAH MARTIN BARBARA PESKETT ELIZABETH RUSH BERNICE VICKERS JO

SYNOPSIS O

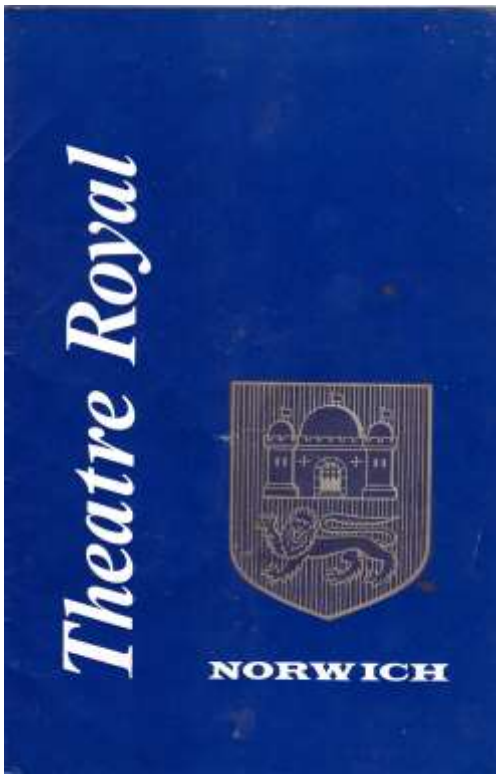
ACT I

SCENE 1. Troldhaugen (Hill of the Trolls). Just outside the town of Bergen in Norway. Midsummer's Eve, 1860.

SCENE 2. A Square on the outskirts of Bergen.

**There will be an interval of fif**

*While I did not find mum's programme among her papers, I have subsequently managed to acquire an original from that performance. The front cover is shown on the previous page.*
*<u>Above</u> – part of the cast list which shows that mum's friend Janet Blyth was one of the ladies of the chorus.*



**THEATRE ROYAL**

Telephone Box Office 23527
Manager 23582

Manager & Licensee Stanley C. Fuller

Monday 10 March 1969 for one week

**PAUL ELLIOTT AND DUNCAN C. WELDON**
(by arrangement with Macdonald and Young)

present

**NO, NO, NANETTE**

Book by **OTTO HARBACH** and **FRANK MANDEL**

Lyrics by **IRVING CAESAR** and **OTTO HARBACH**

Music by **VINCENT YOUMANS**

Directed and Staged by **LIONEL BLAIR**

Designed by **ANASTASIA WADE-BROWN**

Lighting by **JOHN ELEY**

**Box Office.** The Box Office will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Box Office Manageress: Florence L. Ward Tel 23527

**NORMAN VAUGHAN**
was born in the Twenties and comes from Liverpool. He has worked long and hard for his success. Making his stage debut at the age of 13, he has spent more than 25 years in show business —and looks ten years younger than his real age as a result.
During his three marathon seasons as compere of ATV's *Sunday Night at the London Palladium* (he took over on 7 January 1963, and compered over 100 shows up to 1965), Norman not only gave the nation two new catch-phrases in 'swinging' and 'dodgy', but his thumbs-up sign was used by the Labour Party in the 1964 election. Since he left the Palladium Show in 1965, Norman has consolidated his career, in between receiving such accolades as a Royal Variety Performance. He has worked in pantomime, done his own TV series on ITV and BBC, presented his own stage show, and appeared in Cabaret in this country and abroad.
In 1967 he added a further dimension to his career by entering the realms of 'straight' theatre. He made his straight acting debut in Boeing-Boeing; has appeared in other touring play presentations and now breaks into the Musical Comedy field in his own interpretation of Billy Early in *No, No, Nanette*.

**EILEEN GOURLAY**
who was born in Glasgow, started her career as a dancer, progressed through Pantomimes and Revues and Musicals as a singer and comedienne and established herself in many London Cabaret night spots including the *Talk of the Town*.
Eileen got her first major role playing Hedy in *How to succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Then followed the title role of Bebe Patrice in the hit show *Little Me* playing opposite Bruce Forsyth. A break in her career followed whilst she started a family—married to the Musical Director for *No, No, Nanette*, Ed Coleman, they now have three-year old twins.

**McDONALD HOBLEY**
is a 'Kelper'—that's the name given to those who are born in the Falkland Islands.
'Mac' made his first appearance professionally in 1936 in Brighton, to—guess what—*No, No, Nanette*. There followed three years with the Theatre Royal Brighton Repertory Company. After a season at the Festival Theatre, Cambridge, and a long tour with *Time and the Conways*, war was declared.
Seven years later Captain Hobley, RA, returned to the theatre. In 1946 he became one of the BBC's announcers and during the last twenty years has done almost every job on TV that you can think of.
He has appeared in many pantomimes, and perhaps his best radio show, which is still running after ten years is *Does the Team Think*, with Jimmy Edwards, Ted Ray and Tommy Trinder.

Monday 10 March 1969 for one week

## No, No, Nanette

Characters in order of their appearance

| | |
|---|---|
| Pauline, *cook at the Smith's* | **Helena Leaby** |
| Sue Smith, *Jimmy's wife* | **Pauline Garner** |
| Billy Early, *a lawyer* | **Norman Vaughan** |
| Lucille, *Billy's wife* | **Eileen Gourlay** |
| Nanette, *a protégé of Sue's* | **Lesley Hand** |
| Tom Trainor, *Lucille's nephew* | **Leslie Meadows** |
| Jimmy Smith | **McDonald Hobley** |
| Betty, *from Bath* | **Shirley Hafey** |
| Winnie, *from Harrogate* | **Lynne Halliday** |
| Flora, *from Nice* | **Lucille Gaye** |
| The Flappers | **Pat Ellis, Ann Graham, Susan Haines, Debbie Hearnden, Jacki Hearnden, Mandy Lee** |
| The Bachelors | **Brian Jay-Smith** head boy, **Simon Barratt, Garth Harrison, Fred Reford, Alan Stone, Gerry Tebbutt** |

**Synopsis of Scenes**

**ACT I**
**Scene 1** Jimmy Smith's Town House, Mayfair
**Scene 2** The Beach at Sunnycliffe
**Scene 3** Jimmy Smith's Cottage at Sunnycliffe

*INTERVAL*

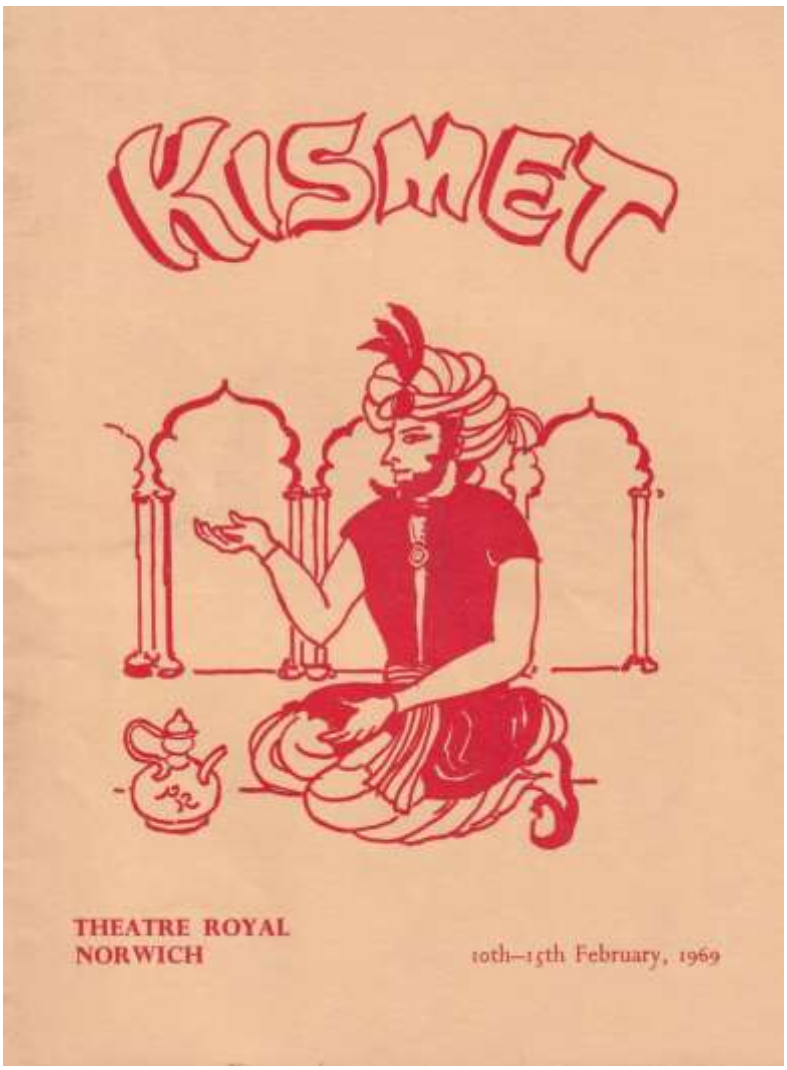
**ACT II**
**The Lounge in the Cottage at Sunnycliffe**

Directed and Staged by **LIONEL BLAIR**
Assistant to the Director **JOHNNY GREENLAND**

**Catering Facilities.** There are fully licensed bars in the stalls and circle for your convenience. Take advantage of our service to order your drinks for the interval. Popular prices. Coffee may be obtained through the circle bar.

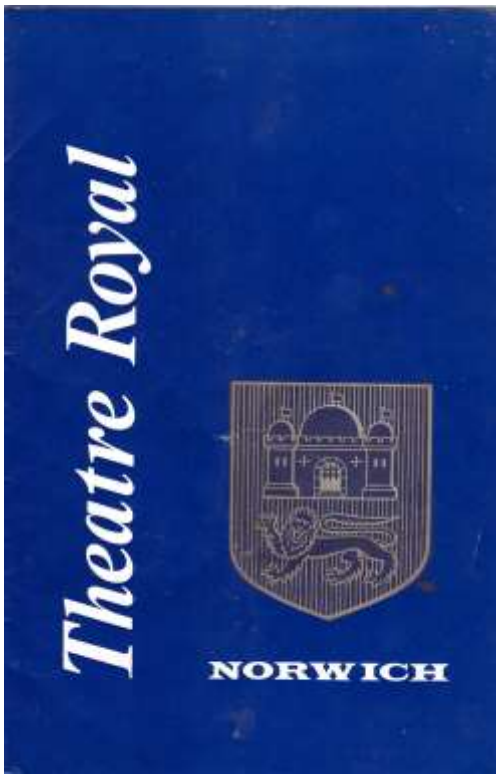
*Pages from the programme for "No No Nanette" which grandma went to see in March 1969 with Mrs Smith and Mrs Douglas*
*<u>Top left</u> – (standard) front cover of Theatre Royal programmes at the time*
*<u>Top right</u> – front page giving details of the production*
*<u>Above left</u> – Details of some of the stars of "No No Nanette"*
*<u>Above right</u> – cast list and outline programme*

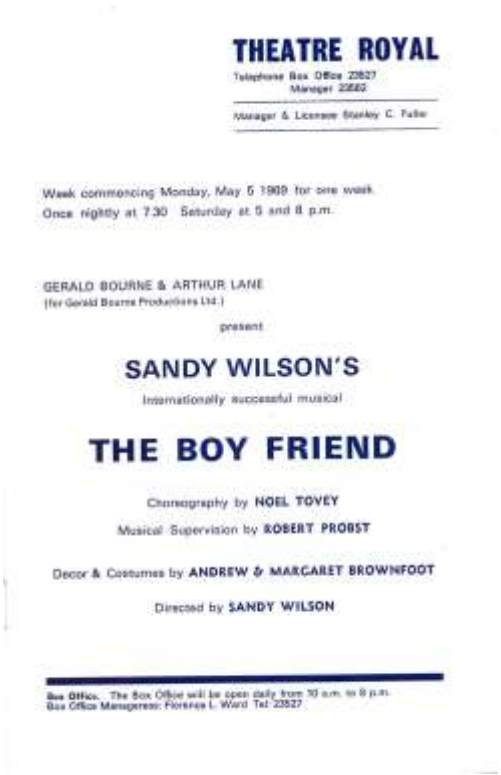
Such theatre trips appear to have been to one of two theatres in Norwich, the Theatre Royal[288] or the Maddermarket.[289] In December 1965, grandma and Auntie Dolly went to see "*Aladdin*" at the Theatre Royal. They were going to go by bus but it did not turn up so mum took them[290] and dad brought them home. In February 1966, mum and grandma took Tricia, me and Alan to see a matinee of "*Peter Pan*" at the Theatre Royal.[291] In January 1968, grandma took Alan to the pantomime "*Robin Hood*" at the Theatre Royal. I went with a party from Sunday School[292] and Tricia was going with some friends on Friday. In January 1969, grandma, Mrs Smith and Mrs Douglas took Alan, Liz and Caroline to the Theatre Royal to see the pantomime "*Sleeping Beauty*". In February 1969, grandma, Mrs Smith and Mrs Douglas went to Norwich to see "*Kismet*"[293] at the Theatre Royal. In April 1969, mum, grandma, Auntie Dolly, Tricia and Mrs Smith went to the Theatre Royal to see "*The Russian Dances*".[294] In May 1969, grandma and Mrs Smith went to the Theatre Royal to see "*Italian Girl in Algiers*"[295] and grandma, Eva, Barbara Carpenter and Mrs Smith went there to see "*The Boy Friend*".[296] In July 1969, grandma and Mrs Smith went to see another play at the Theatre Royal.




*Programme for another production by the Norfolk and Norwich Amateur Operatic Society at the Theatre Royal. This one was Kismet and took place in February 1969. Grandma went to see it with Mrs Smith and Mrs Douglas*

[288] See Chapter 90.
[289] Theatre in St John's Alley in Norwich that was founded in 1921 and is still functioning today.
[290] With the four of us in tow!
[291] This had been a West End performance at La Scala Theatre. It then toured to a number of cities including Norwich.
[292] See Chapter 90.
[293] A musical that appeared on Broadway in 1953 and has also appeared in London's West End. This was a production by the Norfolk and Norwich Operatic Society.
[294] I am not entirely sure what this was. I have not managed to find a play, opera, ballet etc. by this name. It is possible that grandad was referring to Russian dances in general but he writes it in speech marks as "*The Russian Dances*".
[295] Rossini opera.
[296] A musical by Sandy Wilson that first appeared in London's West End in 1954 and ran for over 2,000 productions.



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**SANDY WILSON'S**

Internationally successful musical

**THE BOY FRIEND**

Choreography by **NOEL TOVEY**

Musical Supervision by **ROBERT PROBST**

Decor & Costumes by **ANDREW & MARGARET BROWNFOOT**

Directed by **SANDY WILSON**

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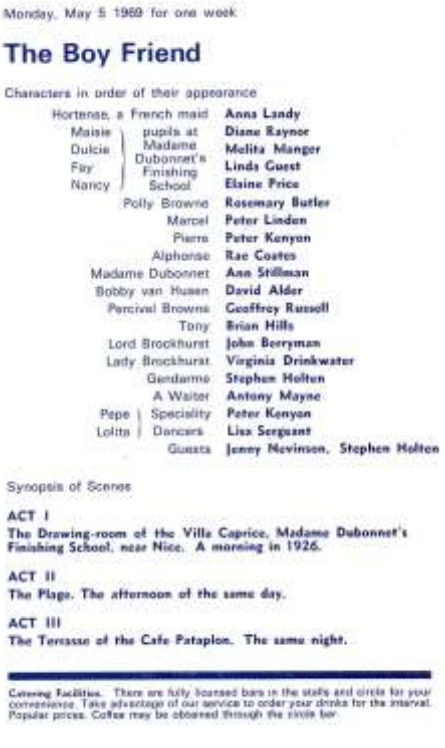


Monday, May 5 1969 for one week

**The Boy Friend**

Characters in order of their appearance

| | |
|---|---|
| Hortense, a French maid | **Anna Landy** |
| Maisie, pupils at Madame Dubonnet's Finishing School | **Diane Raynor** |
| Dulcie | **Melita Manger** |
| Fay | **Linda Guest** |
| Nancy | **Elaine Price** |
| Polly Browne | **Rosemary Butler** |
| Marcel | **Peter Linden** |
| Pierre | **Peter Kenyon** |
| Alphonse | **Rae Coates** |
| Madame Dubonnet | **Ann Stillman** |
| Bobby van Husen | **David Alder** |
| Percival Browne | **Geoffrey Russell** |
| Tony | **Brian Hills** |
| Lord Brockhurst | **John Berryman** |
| Lady Brockhurst | **Virginia Drinkwater** |
| Gendarme | **Stephen Holten** |
| A Waiter | **Antony Mayne** |
| Pepe, Speciality | **Peter Kenyon** |
| Lolita, Dancers | **Lisa Sergeant** |
| Guests | **Jenny Nevinson, Stephen Holten** |

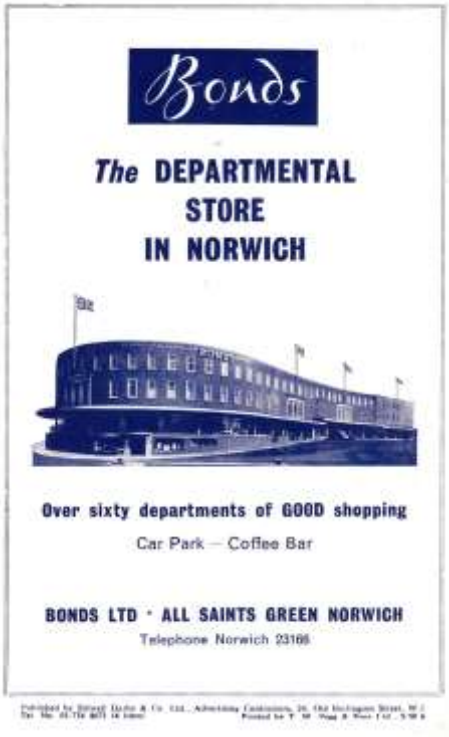
Synopsis of Scenes

**ACT I**
**The Drawing-room of the Villa Caprice, Madame Dubonnet's Finishing School, near Nice. A morning in 1926.**

**ACT II**
**The Plage. The afternoon of the same day.**

**ACT III**
**The Terrasse of the Cafe Pataplon. The same night.**

**Catering Facilities.** There are fully licensed bars in the stalls and circle for your convenience. Take advantage of our service to order your drinks for the interval. Popular prices. Coffee may be obtained through the circle bar



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*Pages from the programme for "The Boy Friend" which grandma went to see in May 1969 with Eva, Barbara Carpenter and Mrs Smith*
*<u>Top left</u> – (standard) front cover of Theatre Royal programmes at the time*
*<u>Top right</u> – front page giving details of the production*
*<u>Above left</u> – cast list and outline programme*
*<u>Above right</u> – advert for Bonds which appeared on the back of all Theatre Royal programmes at the time*

In January 1966, mum went to Maddermarket theatre with Miss Walker.[297] In June 1968, Ron took grandma and his mother to Maddermarket Theatre to see a play.[298] Barbara Carpenter had given her two tickets that she had been unable to use. On 23 November 1968, grandma, Mrs Smith and Mrs Douglas went to the Maddermarket Theatre to see "*The Wild Duck*"[299] but they had got mixed up over the dates as their tickets were for the 30th. They only found out when they examined their tickets. On the 30th, they went and then they went straight through on the bus to Drayton village hall to see "*Chase me Comrade*".[300] In February 1969, grandma went to see "*War and Peace*"[301] at the Maddermarket Theatre.[302] In March 1969, grandma went with Mrs Smith and Mrs Douglas to see "*The Farmer's Wife*"[303] at The Maddermarket Theatre. Auntie Dolly went with grandma, Mrs Smith and Mrs Douglas to the Maddermarket Theatre in April 1969 to see "*My Three Angels*".[304] In June 1969, grandma went with Mrs Smith and Mrs Douglas to the Maddermarket Theatre to see "*The Night Bell*" and also "*The Real*".[305] In July 1969, grandma and Mrs Smith went to the Maddermarket Theatre to see the play "*Let's Have a Divorce*".[306] In September 1969, grandma, Barbara Carpenter and Mrs Smith went to the Maddermarket Theatre to see "*Romeo and Juliet*".[307]

*Maddermarket Theatre. Norwich*

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[297] But mum did not specify what they saw.
[298] But grandad did not specify what they saw. It is possible that it was the play "*Caroline*" which was put on by the Norwich Players that month. They are the in-house company at Maddermarket Theatre and they have put on plays monthly since 1911. However, it is also possible that it was a play by someone other than them. I think the play "*Caroline*" may be a play for eight women by Edward Murch.
[299] A play by Henrik Ibsen.
[300] A farce by Ray Cooney inspired by the true-life story of Rudolf Nureyev defecting to the West.
[301] Epic novel by Leo Tolstoy.
[302] Apparently, this was the Norwich Players production for January 1969 but perhaps it ran into February.
[303] I think grandad may have noted the name of this play incorrectly as the Norwich Players' production for March 1969 was recorded as "*The Country Wife*". There is a restoration comedy by William Wycherley of this name dating from 1675. If this indeed is the right play, I am intrigued that the Norwich Players put it on given that "*the scandalous trick* [of pretending impotence] *and the frank language have for much of the play's history kept it off the stage*". I wonder what grandma and her friends made of it! Interestingly, there is a romantic comedy play of the name *"The Farmer's Wife"* which was written by Eden Phillpotts based on his novel, Widecombe Fair. This seems more suited to grandma and her friends but could the Norwich Players have recorded the name incorrectly? I suppose both plays could have been performed in March 1969 at the Maddermarket but that seems unlikely.
[304] A play by Samuel and Bella Spewack that is based in French Guiana and shows the interaction between three prisoners and a family of French colonists.
[305] I have not found details of either of these plays. The second play could be "*The Deal*".
[306] This was the Norwich Players production for that month and was called "*Let's Get a Divorce*".
[307] At least according to grandad but the Norwich Players' production for that month was "*Romanoff and Juliet*". This is a play by Peter Ustinov which was a comic spoof of the cold war.

# The Maddermarket Theatre

NORWICH

(*founded by Nugent Monck, C.B.E.*)

THE NORWICH PLAYERS

*in*

# THE MISER

*by Moliere*

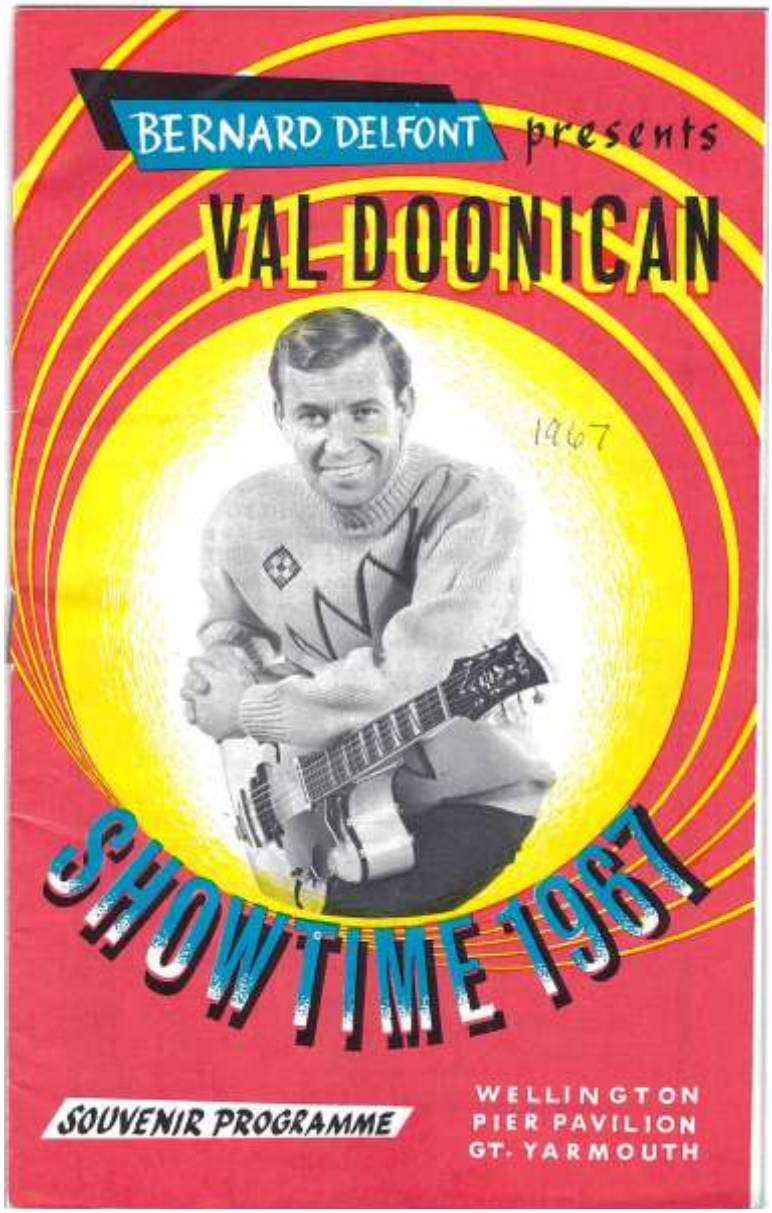
*July 17th to July 25th, 1970 at 7.30 p.m.*

*Matinee : July 25th, at 3 p.m.*

*Programme* *Sixpence*

*Example of Maddermarket programme for a slightly later production in 1970. It consists of a single folded sheet*

Sometimes family members went to a theatre outside Norwich. For example, in October 1965, mum and Tricia went to London to see "*The Sound of Music*" with choir.[308] Sometimes, this involved trips to Yarmouth but perhaps less frequently than had been the case in the early sixties.[309] In July 1967, grandma and Eva went by train to Yarmouth for a show. Arthur Askey was there for the season, appearing in "*Showtime*" with Val Doonican at Wellington Pier Pavilion.[310] Dad picked them up from the train station around 10.15pm. Sometimes, family members went to local, amateur performances. For example, in March 1967, grandma went to Drayton Village Hall to see a play. Two years later,in March 1969, grandma, Mrs Smith and Mrs Douglas went to a play at Drayton Village Hall.[311] In May 1968, on her birthday, grandma went with Mrs Smith and Mrs Carpenter to Hoverton to see "*The Mikado*".[312] In April 1969, grandma went with a bus outing to see a play at Coltishall put on by the RAF. Grandad did not specify what this play was.




*Left - front cover of programme for "Showtime 1967" at Wellington Pier in Yarmouth that grandma went to with Eva. Although it starred Val Doonican, grandad seemed more interested in that it co-starred Arthur Askey*
*Below – advert for Matthes restaurant – see footnote 64*

[308] See Chapter 90.
[309] See Chapter 81.
[310] See Chapter 52.
[311] Grandad did not specify what either of these plays were. However, I suspect these were performances by the Drayton Players who put on two plays per year, see Chapter 106. Based on a record of their past performances, the plays in question are likely to have been "*So Many Children*" and "*Tell Tale Murder*". I have not found details of the first of these..
[312] Comic opera by Gilbert and Sullivan.

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TENTH BRILLIANT RESIDENT SUMMER REVUE

SHOWTIME 1967

Produced by BILL ROBERTON
Choreography by RITA KING

Prices of Admission 10/6, 9/-, 7/- (All Seats Bookable)

Twice Nightly (EXCEPT SUNDAYS) at 6.15 and 8.30

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ARTHUR ASKEY

ARTHUR ASKEY, who has been honoured in seven Royal Variety Performances and has taken special shows to Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace, was born in Liverpool. He says "all the best comedians came from Liverpool".

His song "Big-Hearted Arthur they call me . . ." was whistled by errand-boys everywhere. After that Arthur Askey was in a continuous string of big West End shows.

Where did Arthur Askey learn to sing? He was a choir boy in Liverpool Cathedral and sang the first solo at the consecration of the Lady Chapel. He was a boy soprano, entertaining wounded soldiers in the first world war—concerts that featured ITMA's Tommy Handley as a baritone.

If Arthur Askey has a trade mark it is his celebrated spectacles—"who's got my glasses?"—though he is better known for his catch phrases such as "I thank you" and "Hello playmates". Nobody can utter these remarks quite like him.

Arthur, as ex-President and Captain of the Stage Golfing Society and a member of the Vaudeville Golfing Society is, of course, interested in golf but his real hobby is listening to classical music.

PROGRAMME

1. "SPREAD A LITTLE HAPPINESS" The King Dancers introduce SAMANTHA LEIGH, ARTHUR ASKEY and VAL DOONICAN
2. "A FUNNY THING HAPPENED . . ." ARTHUR ASKEY
3. "LAUGHTIME" BRIAN FREEMAN and AL PAIGE
4. "SONG TIME" The King Dancers introduce SAMANTHA LEIGH
5. "SUDDENLY ITS . . ." ARTHUR ASKEY
6. "FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE" The King Dancers introduce THE UKRAINIAN COSSACKS

INTERVAL

7. "SWINGING ALONG" The King Dancers introduce JACKIE FARN "Mr. Caravan"
8. "FOOLING AROUND" MIKE FELIX
9. "REFLECTIONS" A Ballet based on a Painting by Degas THE KING DANCERS
10. VAL DOONICAN Accompanied by THE JIMMY CURRIE QUARTET
11. "GOODNIGHT" From VAL & ARTHUR and the Company

THE QUEEN

THE RITA KING DANCERS: TRUDY RICHARDS, JOY HEMMINGS, CAROL DAVIES, HEATHER CLIFF, JILL CORAM, CAROL MINNESS, BARBARA BRUCE, PAT COTTRELL

Produced by BILL ROBERTON — Choreography RITA KING — Decor SARON LUCAS

Musical Director STONEY SHARPE — Orchestrations PAUL BURNETT

The Management reserves the right to change, vary or omit any of the items of the Programme rendered necessary by illness or other unavoidable cause without any previous notice.

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Resident Stage Manager, Chief Electrician — For the Corporation — Andrew Taylor, Ray Gardner

*Further extracts from the programme of Showtime 1967*
*<u>Top left</u> – inside page giving show times and prices. Note that there were two shows per day except on Sundays*
*<u>Top right</u> – information about Arthur Askey*
*<u>Above</u> – programme for the production*

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In July 1965, mum took Tricia, me and Alan to see a film in Norwich.[313] In February 1966, grandma went to see a film at Stuart Hall.[314] In July 1966, grandma and Eva went to see "*The Sound of Music*"[315] at the Gaumont cinema.[316] They went to the afternoon matinee as there was a special price[317] for old age pensioners. In August 1966, mum and Auntie Dolly took me and Tricia to see "*The Sound of Music*". In March 1967, grandma, Auntie Dolly, Jim, Renie, Tricia and I went to the Gaumont to see the "*Bible*".[318] In January 1969, grandma, Mrs Smith and Mrs Douglas went to see a film called "*The Star*".[319] In September 1969, grandma and Auntie Dolly went to the Assembly Rooms[320] to see the ballet "*Swan Lake*" as a film.[321]

*Above left – Cinema City, Norwich. I believe Stuart Hall is to the left in this picture*
*Left – Assembly Rooms in Norwich with entrance to what was the Noverre cinema highlighted with the red box*

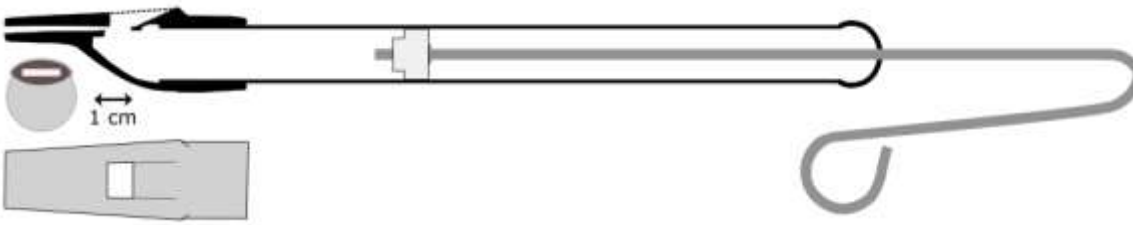
Family and friends also sometimes attended musical performance during this period. For example, in April 1965, Ken and Pearl Hodges went to an evening concert given by the Drayton Silver Band[322] at the village hall.[323] In February 1966, dad also went to a Drayton Silver Band concert. In April 1966, grandma went with Tricia to a concert that Tricia was taking part in. Mum couldn't go as she was not

[313] But grandad did not say what the film was.
[314] Again I am not sure what the film was. Stuart Hall is a brick building that was added to the partly mediaeval Sucking House in 1925. It has housed Cinema City since 1978 but films were shown there before that. I have some recollections of being a volunteer usher there on one or two occasions when it first opened.
[315] The well-known film that was released in 1965.
[316] This opened in 1932 as the Carlton Cinema. It was rebranded as the Gaumont in 1959 until it closed in 1973. The building was demolished in 2014. The site is now occupied by Pablo Fanque House which provides student accommodation and office space. Pablo Fanque was a circus proprietor who was born as William Darby in Norwich probably in 1810.
[317] Of three shillings.
[318] See Chapter 90.
[319] I suspect this was the 1968 film "*Star!*" which was about the life of Gertrude Lawrence.
[320] The cinema here was called the Noverre. It opened in 1950 and closed in 1992. I recall going there but not often.
[321] A Russian-made film.
[322] While today there is no distinction between a brass band and a silver band, the latter term used to refer to bands with silver-plated instruments which were considered superior to brass instruments.
[323] See Chapter 90.

well. In May 1968, grandma went to an old time concert held in Drayton village hall. In June 1969, grandma went to see Drayton Band[324] at St Andrew's Hall.[325]

Family and friends were also involved in producing and enjoying music in their own homes. In May 1969, grandma, Eva and Auntie Dolly went next door to Barbara Carpenter's to listen to records. In June 1969, Mrs Hod(g)son[326] came round after tea and they had a sing song.

Grandad continued his interest with musical instruments during this period. In November 1965, he fixed two wooden keys onto his tenor recorder[327] but he did not consider this a success so he pulled them off. The next month, he tried again[328] and this time it was a success. In January 1966, grandma bought him a pair of half-inch hinges to improve the keys on his C recorder with screws.[329] At the end of January, he made two new wooden keys for his C recorder. In September 1966, Miss Cooke gave grandad her father's piccolo.[330] In December 1966, grandad made a slide recorder out of the mouthpiece of the old plastic recorder that he had bought in 1948.[331] I don't know if grandma was unimpressed with grandad's home-made effort but, in January 1967, she bought him a swanee flute.[332] Grandad noted that he did not think much of it! So, the next day, grandma went back and swapped it for a recorder. In November 1967, grandad traded me his recorder for my old oak desk. In November 1968, grandad sent to Ruislip for a musical instrument that he described as a similar to a recorder but which produced sound using a reed like a clarinet. In early December, he received the recorder clarinet. He commented that the tone was OK but that it would take more playing than the recorder. In February 1969, grandma and grandad bought Alan a Schott's[333] descant recorder.[334]

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*Top – construction of a slide or swanee whistle*
*Above – Schott recorder circa 1960s*

[324] I assume this was the silver band but grandad does not say so explicitly,
[325] For details of St Andrew's Hall, see Chapter 79. In addition to these concerts, grandma and Eva saw Drayton Silver Band at Mile Cross Methodist Church in May 1968 – see Chapter 90.
[326] Grandad mostly spelled her name as Hodson but sometimes as Hodgson. I believe the latter spelling is correct.
[327] Grandad had been interested in recorders since the 1940s – see Chapter 31. I think I recall this recorder, that it was very big and that there were homemade keys to make reaching the bottom holes easier. I assume it is these keys which are being referred to here.
[328] This time referring to it as a C recorder.
[329] He noted that the cost of these was one shilling.
[330] Grandad had tried playing the piccolo in the period between the wars – see Chapter 20.
[331] I am not entirely sure what he was referring to but I wonder if it was what might be called a slide whistle.
[332] Which cost 22/6.
[333] This seems to refer to the music shop in London which, from 1940, sold mass-produced recorders aimed at school children.
[334] This cost £1 although grandad recorded it as twenty shillings.

In December 1967, grandma and grandad bought a small electric organ from Cookes.[335]

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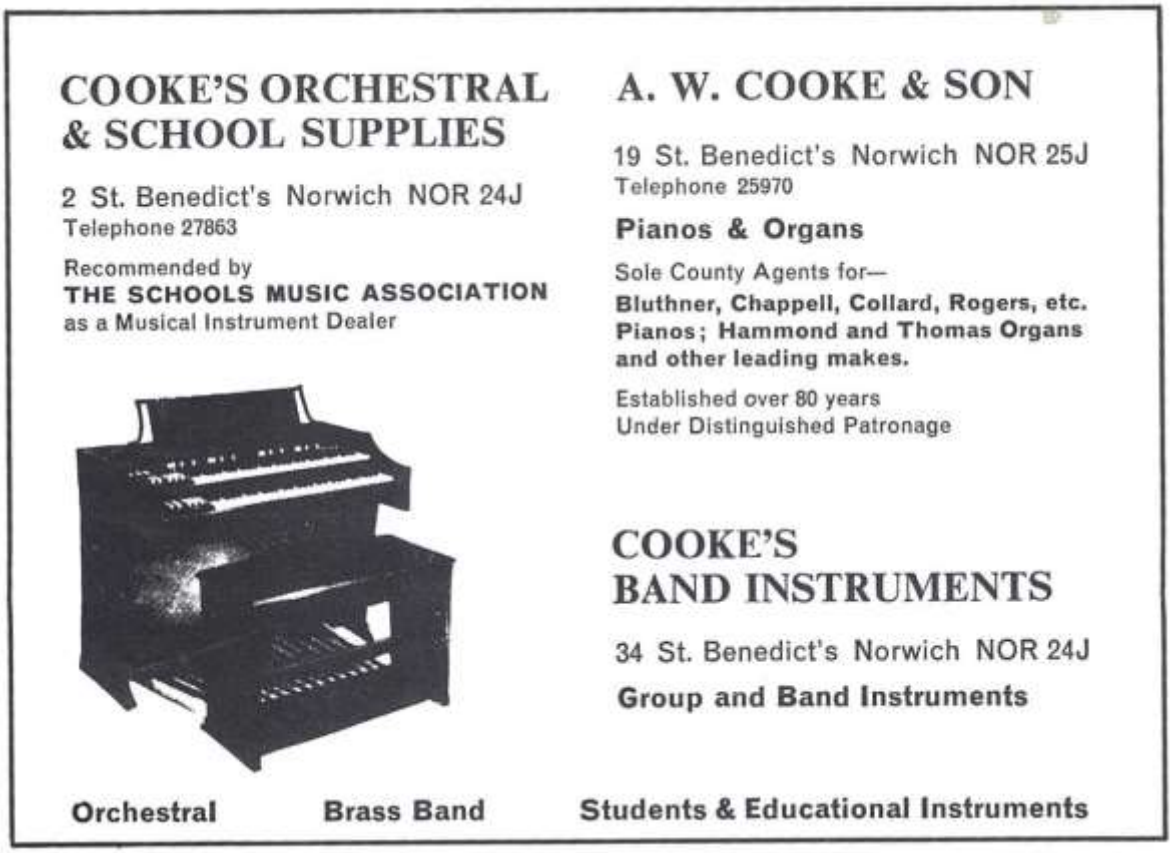



*Top – Cooke's Pianos in St Benedicts Street, Norwich*
*Above – Advert for Cooke's from the Hewett School magazine in 1972*

[335] This operated by battery. Grandad noted that the price was £10 10 but he received a discount of five shillings so paid £10 5. Currently, there seem to be two Cookes' music shops in St Benedicts, one for pianos at number 19 and another for band instruments at number 34. This was also the case in 1972 according to an advert in the Hewett School magazine that year. Cookes' first music shop opened in Norwich in 1887. The piano shop was bought by Millers Music in 2016 and is due to close with the business relocating to Cambridge.

Early in January 1968, grandad went into Norwich to get a transformer for his organ but he could not find one. So, he bought a trickle charger from Halfords[336] and, that afternoon, he managed to get the organ playing on the charger. The next day, he made a gadget for the organ which took the place of batteries and to which he could connect the charger. Two days later, he put a 13 amp plug on the television table which allowed the organ to be plugged in. Three days later, he started making a case for the organ and transformer. A few days after that, he and grandma covered it with Fablon.[337] In May 1966, grandad noted that we brought a guitar that dad had been bought for his birthday to show grandad.

During this period, mum and dad often went dancing.[338] They were often described as old time dances and sometimes as dinner dances and they seem to have been organised by the Norwich Union. Some were at the Norwood Rooms[339] and others at Pinebanks.[339]

Also, during this period, family members sometimes watched, and more rarely took part in, local sporting activities. In June 1965, grandad and Cyril watched cricket on the playing field. According to grandad, it was a match between Drayton and the Anglicans.[340] In addition, in August 1965, grandad saw another cricket match on the park. This was between Horsford and Drayton. Drayton won, scoring 96 for nine in reply to Horsford's 95.

In 1966, mum was involved in Keep Fit[341] activities and she went to a Keep Fit rally in Thorpe in May 1966. Although these activities are not mentioned in later years, I don't know if this was because she stopped doing the activities or because she stopped writing her diary. I recall her doing Keep Fit so presume she may have been involved in this for a longer period than just 1966. Mum also sometimes noted going swimming. From September 1966, she started swimming at Hellesdon Secondary Modern School. In November 1967, grandma and grandad had Liz while the rest of us went swimming at Norwich baths. Grandad also noted mum going swimming in May 1969 as Eva went to babysit. In August 1967, after a meeting of some of the ladies from Drayton, some of them played bowls in grandma and grandad's garden. In July 1968, grandad noted that grandma went to Hellesdon Sports.

Board and card games were not noted as much as in previous periods[342] but grandad did note, in June 1966, playing cards for part of the day with Tom Wilson and Clarence Reeve.

NORFOLK EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Swimming Certificate

This is to Certify that:

Roger Drew

of Hellesdon, Kinsale Avenue C.P. School

has passed the following Test satisfactorily.

BEGINNER'S TEST

SWIM 10 YARDS

November 1969

NORFOLK EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Swimming Certificate

This is to Certify that:

Roger Drew

of Hellesdon, Kinsale Avenue C.P. School

has passed the following Test satisfactorily.

DISTANCE TEST

SWIM FREE STYLE 25 YARDS

December 1969

*My swimming certificates for 10 and 25 yards from November and December 1969*

[336] For details of Halfords, see Chapter 84. The charger cost 37/6.
[337] See Chapter 64.
[338] The frequency of this appears to have declined over time but I don't know if this is genuinely the case or if it is just an artefact of fewer diary records. They also went dancing in 1963 and 1964 – see see Chapter 81.
[339] See Chapter 81.
[340] See Chapter 90.
[341] The Keep Fit Association was established in 1956 and remains active.
[342] See Chapter 81. I don't know if this meant we played these games less during this period or just that the diaries recorded them less.

**My recollections**

As do many people, I have very strong recollections of St Augustine's swimming baths and went there a lot both with my family and on my own when I was older. I recall getting a wire clothes carrier from reception. When you handed that in, you received some kind of coloured wristband which, at busy times, was used to tell you when your time was up and was also used to get your clothes back!

The swimming pool opened in 1961 and was closed in 1997. The building was later demolished.

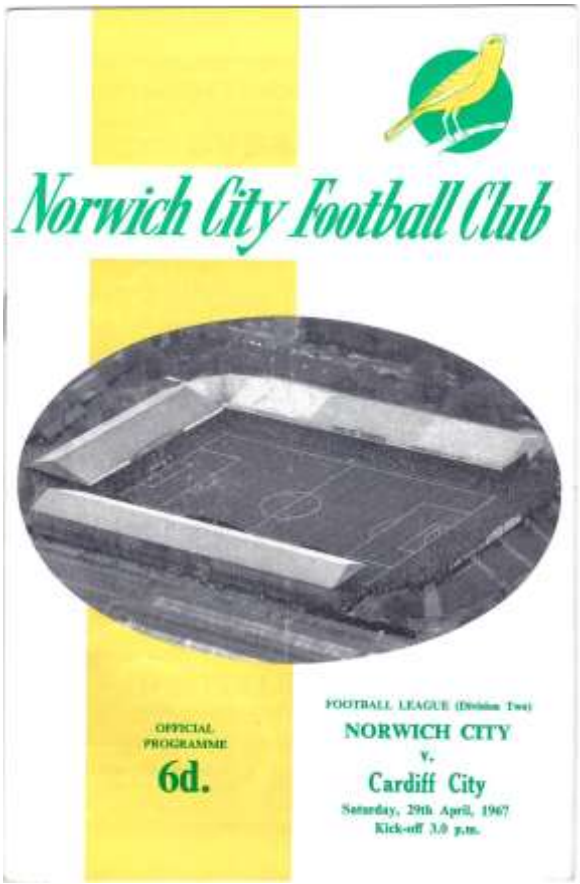
Images Source: Norwich Remembers

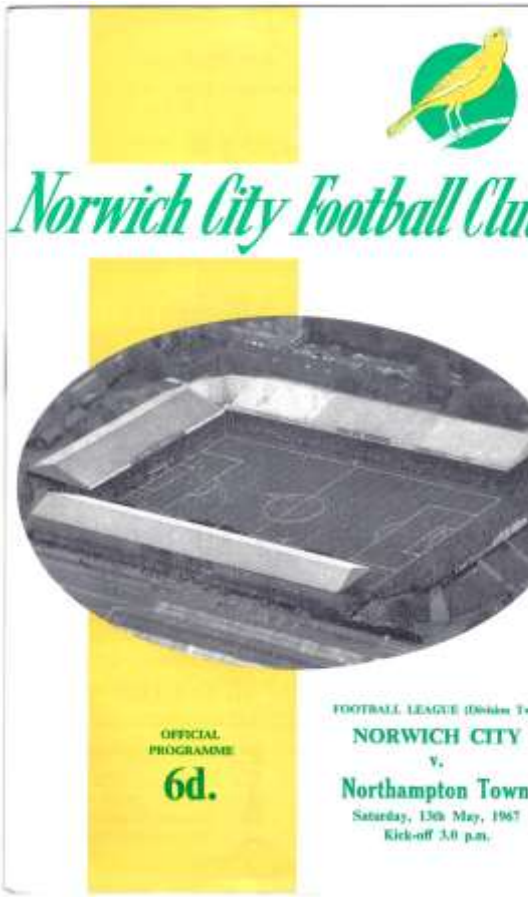
*Above – outside of St Augustine's swimming baths in 1963*
*Above right – wire baskets used for clothes*
*Right – diving boards in St Augustine's*
*For some more great photos of St Augustine's see here.*

During this period, dad took me to see Norwich City play football and I am sure this experience was important for me in terms of my lifelong love of football and support for Norwich City where I am still a season ticket holder. However, it may also be worth noting that this experience did not have the same effect on Tricia who also came on some of these early trips! Grandad first noted dad taking me and Tricia to the football on 29 April 1967. I would have been not quite seven. This game was Norwich's third-from-last game of the season and they beat Cardiff City 3-2.[343] We also went to the last match of the season on 13 May 1967 where Norwich again won, this time 1-0 against Northampton Town.[344] That season, Norwich competed in League Division Two and they finished 11th in the table.[345]

*Framed photo on my study wall which shows what the South Stand was like in the sixties when I first started attending matches*

[343] According to a report of the game, Norwich were behind initially but then scored three goals before Cardiff scored a consolation goal in the 90th minute. Norwich goals were scored by Don Heath and Laurie Sheffield (2).
[344] According to a report of the game, the only goal was scored in the 15th minute by Don Heath. Somewhat oddly perhaps, they played a friendly in Dundalk the next day.
[345] The two teams that we saw them beat finished 20th and 21st. Northampton Town were relegated with Bury. Coventry City won the league and were promoted with Wolverhampton Wanderers. Our rivals, Ipswich Town, finished 5th. This season pre-dated the introduction



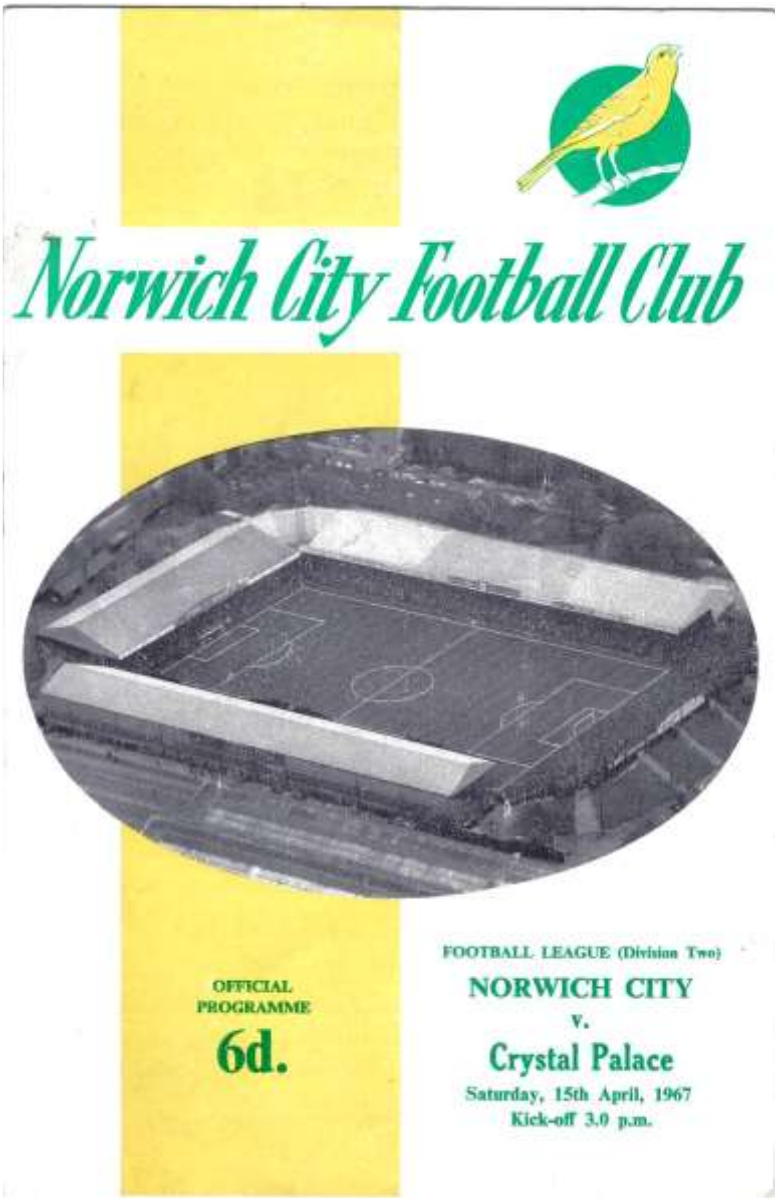
The Barry Butler Memorial Trophy and replica which will be presented to Norwich City first Player of the Year by their donor, club chairman Mr. Geoffrey Watling, at the end of this afternoon's match.

*Extracts from the programmes from Norwich's last two home games of the 1966/67 season.*
*<u>Top left</u> – front cover of programme for game against Cardiff City.*
*<u>Top right</u> – front cover of programme for game against Northampton Town.*
*<u>Above</u> – extract from Northampton Town programme - this year was the first time that Norwich selected a player of the year. This has been called the Barry Butler memorial trophy since that time. Terry Allcock was the trophy's first winner. Fans had been asked to vote at the Cardiff game.*[346]

of play-offs, in 1987, for promotion. The Eastern Daily Press described Norwich's performance as "*limping*" into 11th place even though it was the club's third highest league finish at that point.

[346]Other winners are listed here. Seven players have won it twice – Ken Foggo (1969 & 1971), Kevin Keelan (1973 & 1974), Martin Peters (1976 & 1977), Kevin Drinkell (1986 & 1987), Bryan Gunn (1988 & 1993), Iwan Roberts (1999 & 2000) and Darren Huckerby (2005 & 2007). Only one has won it three times – Grant Holt (2010, 2011 and 2012).

However, I have recollections that the first game I attended was against Crystal Palace and we won 4-3.[347] It turns out that this was the same season and was two weeks earlier than the game against Cardiff City, that is on 15 April 1967.[348]




*Front cover of the programme from what I think is the first game I ever attended at Carrow Road. The cover gives a really good idea of what the ground was like at the time. The River End had no roof at that point, this was only added when the new stand was built in 1979. The only seats were in the City Stand. When I went with dad, we stood in the South Stand close to the Barclay Stand, where the away fans are accommodated now*

[347] According to a news report of the game, this victory considerably eased Norwich's relegation worries that year. They clinched victory with a "*last-gasp*" goal. The article described the game as the most entertaining of the season. Although Norwich took the lead with a Tommy Bryceland goal, they were behind early in the second half. However, Laurie Brown equalised in the 57th minute and Norwich took the lead 11 minutes later when Mike Kenning scored. Norwich only held the lead for four minutes before Palace equalised but Tommy Bryceland scored his second of the game, in the 89th minute, to clinch victory.

[348] It is possible that grandad did not record this trip. On that day, Arthur and Jessie Lofthouse were staying with them and grandma and grandad did work in the garden. It is also possible that I have got my scores and teams mixed up but this seems less likely given that I believe I remember the team and the score and that would be the right year.

## Norwich City (Yellow Shirts, Green Collar and Cuffs, Black Shorts)

(1) KEVIN KEELAN

(2) DAVID STRINGER — (3) JOE MULLETT

(4) MAL LUCAS — (5) LAURIE BROWN — (6) FRED SHARPE

(7) DON HEATH — (8) TOMMY BRYCELAND — (9) LAURIE SHEFFIELD — (10) GORDON BOLLAND — (11) MIKE KENNING

*Substitute*
TERRY ANDERSON

*Referee*
*Mr. J. K. Taylor*
*(Wolverhampton)*

*Linesmen*
*Mr. F. E. Burling*
*Red Flag*
*Mr. A. F. G. Nickels*
*Yellow Flag*

(11) BRIAN O'CONNELL — (10) JOHNNY BYRNE — (9) JOHN DYSON — (8) STEVE KEMBER — (7) BOBBY WOODRUFF

(6) JACK BANNISTER — (5) ALAN STEPHENSON — (4) DAVID PAYNE

(3) EDDIE PRESLAND — (2) JOHN SEWELL

(1) JOHN JACKSON

*Substitute* CLIFF JACKSON

## Crystal Palace (White Shirts, White Shorts)

### FOOTBALL LEAGUE TABLE (DIVISION II)

| | P. | W. | D. | L. | F. | A. | Pts. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wolverhampton Wanderers ... | 37 | 22 | 8 | 7 | 76 | 38 | 52 |
| Coventry City ... ... | 37 | 20 | 11 | 6 | 65 | 39 | 51 |
| Blackburn Rovers ... ... | 37 | 18 | 10 | 9 | 51 | 40 | 46 |
| Ipswich Town ... ... | 37 | 15 | 14 | 8 | 65 | 50 | 44 |
| Huddersfield Town ... ... | 37 | 18 | 8 | 11 | 53 | 42 | 44 |
| Carlisle United ... ... | 37 | 20 | 4 | 13 | 56 | 46 | 44 |
| Millwall ... ... ... | 37 | 17 | 8 | 12 | 43 | 45 | 42 |
| Crystal Palace ... ... | 37 | 16 | 9 | 12 | 47 | 47 | 41 |
| Birmingham City ... ... | 37 | 15 | 8 | 14 | 67 | 59 | 38 |
| Bolton Wanderers ... ... | 35 | 13 | 11 | 11 | 55 | 47 | 37 |
| Hull City ... ... | 38 | 15 | 6 | 17 | 70 | 63 | 36 |
| Preston North End ... ... | 38 | 16 | 4 | 18 | 61 | 62 | 36 |
| Portsmouth ... ... | 38 | 13 | 10 | 15 | 56 | 66 | 36 |
| Bristol City ... ... | 37 | 12 | 11 | 14 | 48 | 52 | 35 |
| Derby County ... ... | 38 | 11 | 10 | 17 | 64 | 68 | 32 |
| Rotherham United ... ... | 37 | 11 | 9 | 17 | 53 | 63 | 31 |
| Plymouth Argyle ... ... | 38 | 11 | 8 | 19 | 50 | 55 | 30 |
| NORWICH CITY ... ... | 36 | 8 | 14 | 14 | 37 | 46 | 30 |
| Cardiff City ... ... | 37 | 11 | 8 | 18 | 54 | 78 | 30 |
| Charlton Athletic ... ... | 37 | 10 | 9 | 18 | 41 | 47 | 29 |
| Northampton Town ... | 37 | 11 | 5 | 21 | 42 | 73 | 27 |
| Bury ... ... ... | 37 | 10 | 5 | 22 | 42 | 71 | 25 |

# LIST OF APPEARANCES AND GOAL SCORERS

| | League and Cup | | Combination | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Apps.* | *Goals* | *Apps.* | *Goals* |
| Allcock, T. | 31 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Anderson, T. | 36 | 4 | 1 | — |
| Barnard, G. | 3 | — | 26 | — |
| Black, A. | 9 | — | 15 | 1 |
| Bolland, G. | 39 | 8 | — | — |
| Boast, T. | — | — | 4 | — |
| Bradley, R. | — | — | 6 | 1 |
| Brown, L. | 30 | — | — | — |
| Bryceland, T. | 34 | 7 | 1 | 1 |
| Curran, H. | 31 | 7 | — | — |
| S. Deere | — | — | 4 | 3 |
| Gladwin, R. | 5 | — | 7 | — |
| Heath, D. | 17 | 1 | 9 | 3 |
| Herd, T. | — | — | 10 | 3 |
| Hill, K. | — | — | 4 | — |
| Howard, T. | — | — | 24 | 5 |
| Keelan, K. | 37 | — | 1 | 1 |
| Kelly, P. | 2 | — | 20 | — |
| Kenning, M. | 16 | 2 | — | — |

| | League and Cup | | Combination | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Apps.* | *Goals* | *Apps.* | *Goals* |
| Lucas, M. | 36 | — | — | — |
| Lincoln, R. | — | — | 2 | — |
| McDonald, C. | — | — | 20 | 5 |
| Morton, M. | — | — | 2 | — |
| Mullett, J. | 34 | — | 1 | 1 |
| O'Donnell, N. | — | — | 17 | 1 |
| Osborne, T. | — | — | 19 | 2 |
| Painter, T. | — | — | 18 | — |
| K. Pointer | — | — | 3 | 2 |
| Payne, C. | — | — | 2 | — |
| Punton, B. | 10 | — | 3 | — |
| Sanderson, W. | — | — | 4 | — |
| Sharpe, F. | 12 | — | 15 | — |
| Sheffield, L. | 21 | 13 | — | — |
| Stringer, D. | 40 | — | — | — |
| Sutton, M. | 7 | — | 18 | 1 |
| Way, E. | — | — | 19 | — |
| Woolmer, A. | 1 | — | 22 | 2 |
| Own Goal | — | — | — | — |

*<u>Previous page – top</u> – team line ups for the game between Norwich and Crystal Palace in April 1967. Unlike today, where line-ups are only announced an hour before kick-off, these were announced enough in advance to allow details to be printed in the programme, although there were sometimes last-minute changes. There was only one substitute. Currently, in the Championship, teams can name nine substitutes of which they can use five*

*<u>Previous page – bottom</u> – league positions at the start of the game between Norwich and Crystal Palace. With six games to go, they only had 30 points and were at risk of relegation. They got ten points from their last six games and finished 11th. [**Note** – at that point, a team received two points for a win. Three points for a win was introduced in 1981 with the aim of encouraging attacking football]*

*<u>Top</u> – this shows the players who played for Norwich in the 1966/67 season, to the Crystal Palace game, and the goals scored. The figures for "combination" are for the reserves*

*<u>Above</u> – Laurie Brown heading in Norwich's second goal in the win against Crystal Palace. This image is from the Local Recall archive which is no longer available*

## SECOND DIVISION

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aug. | 20 | PORTSMOUTH | 0—0 |
| ,, | 27 | Birmingham City | 1—2 |
| ,, | 31 | HULL CITY | 0—2 |
| Sept. | 3 | IPSWICH TOWN | 1—2 |
| ,, | 6 | Northampton Town | 2—1 |
| ,, | 10 | COVENTRY CITY | 1—1 |
| ,, | 17 | Bury | 0—2 |
| ,, | 20 | Hull City | 0—5 |
| ,, | 24 | PRESTON NORTH END | 1—1 |
| ,, | 27 | Carlisle United | 0—1 |
| Oct. | 1 | Rotherham United | 1—2 |
| ,, | 8 | Bristol City | 0—1 |
| ,, | 15 | CARLISLE UNITED | 2—0 |
| ,, | 22 | Blackburn Rovers | 0—0 |
| ,, | 29 | BOLTON WANDERERS | 1—0 |
| Nov. | 5 | Charlton Athletic | 0—0 |
| ,, | 12 | DERBY COUNTY | 4—1 |
| ,, | 19 | Crystal Palace | 0—0 |
| ,, | 26 | (1) HUDDERSFIELD T. | 0—0 |
| Dec. | 3 | Cardiff City | 0—2 |
| ,, | 10 | WOLVERHAMPTON | 1—2 |
| ,, | 17 | Portsmouth | 3—3 |
| ,, | 26 | Millwall | 1—2 |
| ,, | 27 | MILLWALL | 1—1 |
| ,, | 31 | BIRMINGHAM CITY | 3—3 |
| Jan. | 14 | Coventry City | 1—2 |
| ,, | 21 | BURY | 2—0 |
| ,, | 28 | (3) DERBY COUNTY | 3—0 |
| Feb. | 4 | Preston North End | 1—3 |
| ,, | 11 | ROTHERHAM UNITED | 1—0 |
| ,, | 18 | (4) Manchester United | 2—1 |
| ,, | 25 | BRISTOL CITY | 1—0 |
| Mar. | 4 | Bolton Wanderers | 1—1 |
| ,, | 11 | (5) SHEFFIELD WED. | 1—3 |
| ,, | 18 | BLACKBURN ROVERS | 0—1 |
| ,, | 24 | Plymouth Argyle | 2—2 |
| ,, | 27 | PLYMOUTH ARGYLE | 3—1 |
| April | 1 | CHARLTON ATHLETIC | 1—1 |
| ,, | 8 | (6) Derby County | 1—1 |
| ,, | 15 | CRYSTAL PALACE | 4—3 |
| ,, | 18 | Ipswich Town | 2—0 |
| ,, | 22 | Huddersfield Town | 1—0 |
| ,, | 29 | (S.F.) CARDIFF CITY | 3—2 |
| May | 6 | Wolverhampton W. | 1—4 |
| ,, | 13 | NORTHAMPTON T. | — |
| ,, | 20 | (FINAL) | — |

## FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sept. | 14 | BRIGHTON & H. A. | 0—1 |

## FOOTBALL COMBINATION

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aug. | 20 | Ipswich Town (C) | 1—1 |
| ,, | 27 | IPSWICH TOWN (C) | 1—1 |
| Sept. | 7 | PETERBOROUGH (C) | 0—3 |
| ,, | 10 | Peterborough (C) | 0—1 |
| ,, | 27 | Northampton Town (C) | 1—2 |
| Oct. | 1 | NORTHAMPTON T. (C) | 2—1 |
| ,, | 8 | CARDIFF CITY | 1—1 |
| ,, | 15 | Brighton & Hove Albion | 0—1 |
| ,, | 22 | | |
| ,, | 29 | Walsall | 0—5 |
| Nov. | 9 | NOTTS COUNTY | 4—1 |
| ,, | 12 | | — |
| ,, | 15 | Cardiff City | 1—3 |
| ,, | 19 | BRIGHTON & H. A. | 0—3 |
| ,, | 26 | | |
| Dec. | 3 | WALSALL | 1—1 |
| ,, | 10 | Bristol City | 1—2 |
| ,, | 17 | BOURNEMOUTH | 0—3 |
| ,, | 31 | Birmingham City | 3—4 |
| Jan. | 14 | OXFORD UNITED | 1—0 |
| ,, | 21 | Bristol Rovers | 0—4 |
| ,, | 28 | | |
| Feb. | 4 | Swansea Town | 3—0 |
| ,, | 11 | | |
| ,, | 14 | Brentford | 0—1 |
| ,, | 18 | BRISTOL ROVERS | 1—0 |
| ,, | 25 | Notts County | 1—0 |
| Mar. | 4 | BRISTOL CITY | 1—3 |
| ,, | 18 | | |
| ,, | 25 | BIRMINGHAM CITY | 1—2 |
| ,, | 29 | Mansfield Town | 2—2 |
| April | 8 | Oxford United | 1—1 |
| ,, | 12 | MANSFIELD TOWN | 5—1 |
| ,, | 19 | BRENTFORD | 6—0 |
| ,, | 22 | SWANSEA TOWN | 2—0 |
| May | 6 | Bournemouth | 0—3 |

Fixtures Copyright by the Football League Limited (Season 1966/67)

The Fixtures printed in CAPITAL LETTERS are HOME FIXTURES

*This is an extract from the programme for the last game of the season against Northampton Town so shows all results before that game. It is a little difficult to follow as league and FA Cup games are shown in the same list. Rounds of the cup are shown in brackets, e.g. (1), (3), (SF) etc. However, the results on those lines only relate to the FA Cup if Norwich had entered and were still in the cup at that stage, so rounds 3, 4 and 5 only. As now, teams in the top two leagues only entered the cup in the 3rd round. That year, Norwich beat Derby County in the third round and Manchester United in the fourth but lost to Sheffield Wednesday in the fifth round. It is interesting to note that the programme includes results of Norwich Reserves who, at that time, played in the Football Combination. Highlighted in the red box are Norwich's last six games of the season. This shows that they won five of these, including beating Ipswich away 2-0. According to a news report of the game, it was the first time Norwich had won at Ipswich for 15 seasons and was only the second time that Ipswich were beaten at home in the league that season.*

On 12 August 1967, mum noted that dad took me and Alan to a football match. However, this was the week before the season kicked off so I wondered if this was a pre-season friendly. I found something in the Coventry Evening Telegraph of 9 August 1967 which implied that Norwich and Sheffield United were playing a friendly on the 12th. Sheffield United were a First Division team at that point although they were relegated that year. According to a news article at the time, Norwich won that game 3-1. The goals were scored by Tommy Bryceland, Mal Lucas and Hugh Curran.[349]

Friendly matches

| Forecast | | Home goal power in tenths of a goal | | Away goal power in tenths of a goal '66 '67 | '65 '66 | '64 '65 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | 20 | Manchester U. v. Tottenham | 9 | | |
| 1 | | 20 | Aldershot v. Oxford Utd. | 11 | | |
| 2 | | 15 | Brentford v. Reading | 13 | | |
| 2 | | 17 | Brentwood v. Luton | 16 | | |
| 2 | | 18 | Brighton v. Southampton | 16 | | |
| 1 | | 22 | Bury v. Darlington | 10 | | |
| x | 2 | 19 | Colchester U. v. Northampton | 14 | | |
| x | 2 | 17 | Exeter City v. Cardiff City | 11 | | |
| x | 1 | 19 | Hull City v. Sunderland | 12 | | |
| 1 | | 26 | Leeds Utd. v. Bradford City | 11 | | |
| x | 2 | 17 | Morecambe v. Workington | 13 | | |
| 1 | | 22 | Newcastle v. Middlesbro' | 12 | | |
| x | 2 | 16 | Norwich City v. Sheffield U. | 11 | | |
| x | 2 | 19 | Oldham v. Q.P. Rangers | 14 | | |
| 2 | | 20 | Peterborough v. West Ham | 17 | | |
| 2 | | 18 | Portsmouth v. West Brom. | 18 | | |
| 1 | | 19 | Southport v. Preston N.E. | 9 | | |
| x | 2 | 18 | Torquay v. Plymouth Argyle | 12 | | |
| x | 2 | 16 | Walsall v. Fulham | 12 | | |
| 2 | | 15 | Yeovil v. Bournemouth | 13 | | |

*Pools forecast in the Coventry Evening Telegraph for 9 August 1967. This shows that Norwich were playing a friendly against Sheffield United presumably on the 12th. I confirmed this from an article in the Eastern Daily Press. Obtained through paid subscription to Find My Past*

*Photograph that appeared in the Eastern Daily Press on Monday 14 August 1967 showing a moment from the friendly game between Norwich and Sheffield United that I went to with dad and Alan the previous Saturday. Image obtained from Local Recall archive which is no longer available*

On 17 February 1968, grandad noted that dad and I went by bus to London to see the fourth round FA Cup match between Norwich and Chelsea. Norwich lost 1-0.[350] I remember a few away trips with dad

[349] The team was listed as Keelan, Stringer, Gladwin (Mullett), Lucas, Brown, Bolland, Heath, Bryceland, Sheffield, Curran, Anderson.
[350] The only goal was scored by Charlie Cooke in the 20th minute. Norwich had got to this stage of the cup by beating Sunderland in the third round. The first game at Carrow Road was a 1-1 draw but Norwich won the away replay 1-0. Sunderland were a First Division team that season.

travelling on supporter coaches and I recall that, when they were going to London, the coaches always stopped in Baldock. One incident which I remember and I think it was from that trip[351] was two older boys snatching my scarf and dad chasing after them and grabbing hold of one of them until they gave the scarf back. I was quite surprised by him doing this but, on reflection, I think they were probably quite young lads although I did not think so at the time. He always commented that no-one came to his aid but violent scuffles were quite common in relation to football at that time.[352]

*Programme front cover*

[351] Although for many years I thought it was related to a Wembley trip.
[352] Although things got considerably worse in the seventies and eighties.

| Chelsea | | Norwich |
|---|---|---|
| Colours:<br>Shirts: Royal Blue.<br>Shorts: Royal Blue.<br>Stockings: Royal Blue. | | Colours:<br>Shirts: Yellow, Green Collar and Cuffs.<br>Shorts: Green.<br>Stockings: White and Yellow Hoops. |
| PETER BONETTI | 1 | KEVIN KEELAN |
| JOHN HOLLINS | 2 | DAVID STRINGER |
| EDDIE McCREADIE | 3 | ALAN BLACK |
| JOHN BOYLE | 4 | MALCOLM LUCAS |
| MARVIN HINTON | 5 | LAURIE BROWN *(Captain)* |
| RON HARRIS *(Captain)* | 6 | FRED SHARPE |
| CHARLIE COOKE | 7 | KEN FOGGO |
| TOMMY BALDWIN | 8 | TOMMY BRYCELAND |
| PETER OSGOOD | 9 | JOHN MANNING |
| ALAN BIRCHENALL | 10 | HUGH CURRAN |
| BOBBY TAMBLING | 11 | CHARLIE CRICKMORE |
| | *Substitute* | |

Linesman (Red Flag):
Mr. E. Garfield
(Salisbury)

Referee:
**Mr. E. T. JENNINGS**
(Stourbridge)

Linesman (Yellow Flag):
Mr. I. Morrill
(Ryde, Isle of Wight)

2

*Line ups for FA Cup fourth round tie between Chelsea and Norwich*

## NORWICH, GIANTS AMONG GIANTKILLERS:

**1954** City's first goal, scorer Johnston (left) in the fourth round at Highbury. Shock result: Arsenal 1, Norwich 2.

**1959** Round 3 at snow-covered Carrow Road, and Bly (No. 9) turns away triumphantly after scoring the first goal. Shock result: Norwich 3, Man. United 0.

**1959** In Round 5, Jones (extreme left) scores a last minute equaliser for Tottenham. But the shock replay result was: Norwich 1, Spurs 0.

10

## CUP DAYS WHEN THEY SHOOK DIVISION I

**1962** Allcock, only City player seen among five opponents, heads a last-minute replay winner in Round 4. Shock result: Ipswich (League Champions that season) 1, Norwich 2.

**1967** Round 4 at Old Trafford last season. It's all over, as Brown and Keelan do a victory dance, Law offers sporting congratulations on the biggest shock result of them all: Champions-to-be Man. United 1, Norwich 2.

**1968** The goal that brought Norwich to Stamford Bridge today. Manning heads their replay goal at Roker Park to provide yet another shock result: Sunderland 0, Norwich 1.

11

*Highlights of Norwich City's F A Cup exploits in the fourth round programme*

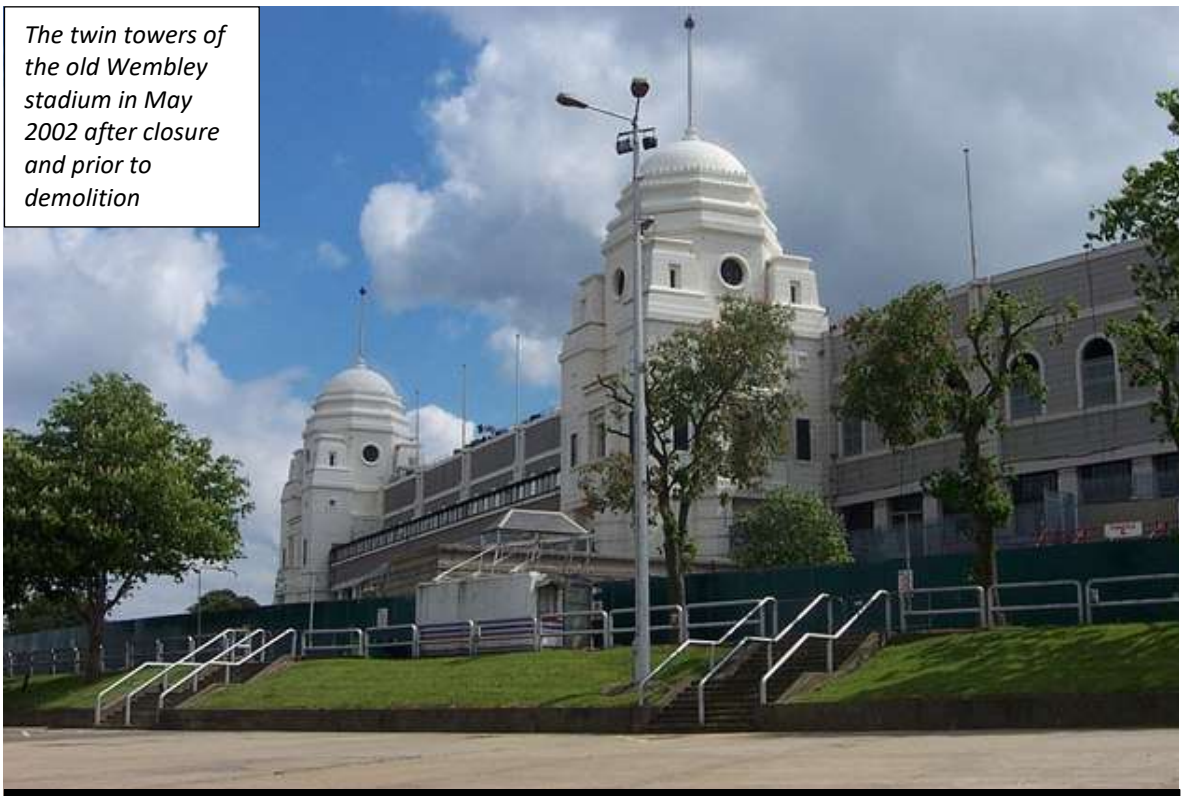
NORWICH CITY 1967-68

*Standing:* D. Stringer, M. Lucas, F. Sharpe, K. Keelan, L. Brown, A. Black.
*Seated:* K. Foggo, T. Anderson, J. Manning, H. Curran, C. Crickmore.

*Norwich City team for 1967/8 as recorded in the F A Cup fourth round programme.*

In April 1969, when I was still eight, dad took me to the FA Cup Final. This did not involve Norwich (sadly) but was contested between Leicester City and Manchester City. I recall it being a tremendous experience and, like many others, remember walking up Wembley Way towards the stadium's twin towers.[353] I recall that Leicester were very much the underdogs. Although both teams were in the First Division, Leicester City were relegated that year. The programme for the match noted that this was Leicester's fourth F A Cup final but that they had not yet won the F A Cup. This experience and this game were referred to a lot in 2021 when Leicester finally won the FA Cup, beating Chelsea in the final. In 1969, I recall that Manchester City won 1-0. Neil Young scored the only goal.[354]

*The twin towers of the old Wembley stadium in May 2002 after closure and prior to demolition*



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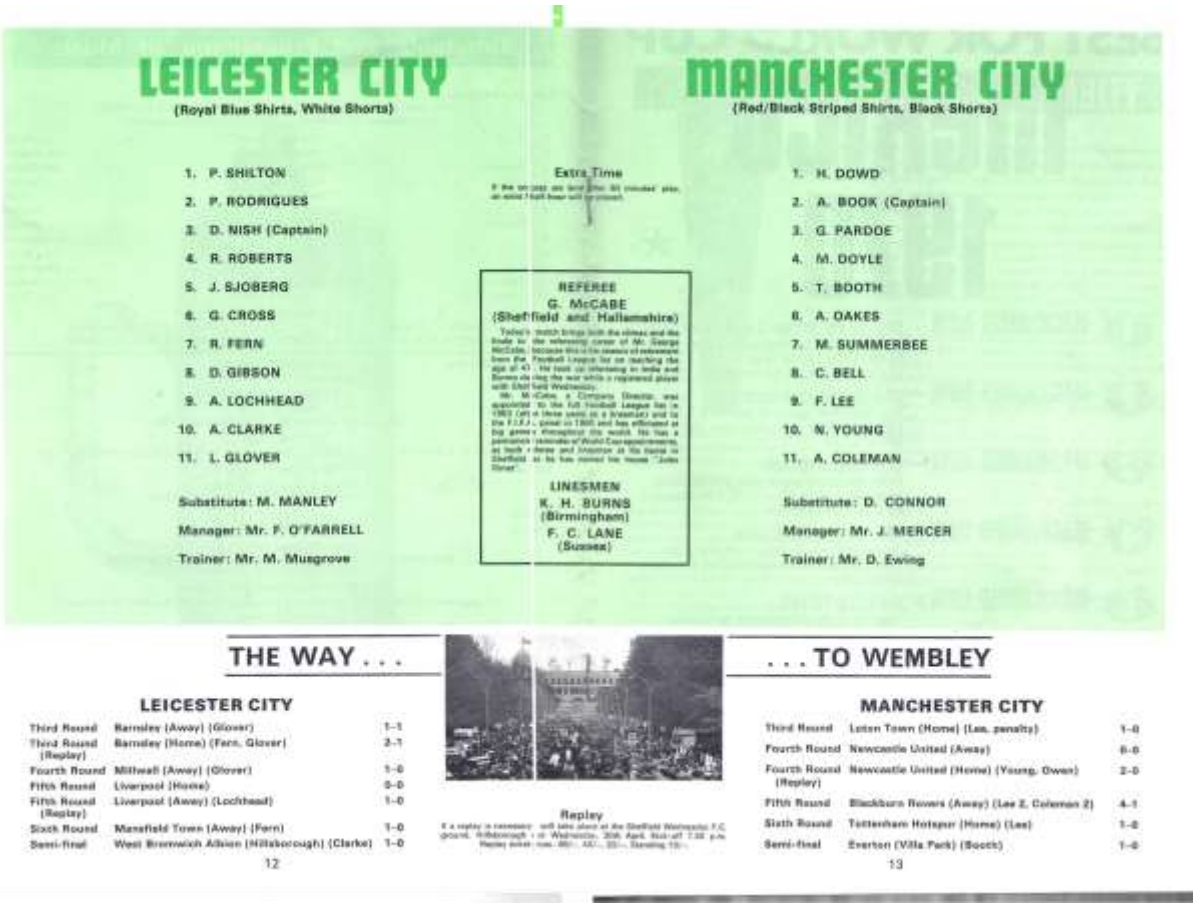
[353] This stadium was built in 1923. It closed in 2000 and was demolished in 2002/03.
[354] A video of the game is available.

*Some extracts from the programme for the FA Cup Final in 1969 that I went to with dad.*
*<u>Left</u> – front cover.*
*<u>Below</u> – team line-ups and how each reached Wembley that year. I find it interesting that the referee is described as a Company Director. I think this was before there were full-time, professional referees.*
*<u>Next page bottom left</u> – a photo of Wembley Way which is pretty much how I remember it.*

*It is interesting to note that if a replay was needed, it would take place at Hillsborough on 30 April. Penalties were only introduced from 2000.*



## LEICESTER CITY
(Royal Blue Shirts, White Shorts)

1. P. SHILTON
2. P. RODRIGUES
3. D. NISH (Captain)
4. R. ROBERTS
5. J. SJOBERG
6. G. CROSS
7. R. FERN
8. D. GIBSON
9. A. LOCHHEAD
10. A. CLARKE
11. L. GLOVER

Substitute: M. MANLEY
Manager: Mr. F. O'FARRELL
Trainer: Mr. M. Musgrove

**Extra Time**

**REFEREE**
G. McCABE
(Sheffield and Hallamshire)

**LINESMEN**
K. H. BURNS
(Birmingham)
F. C. LANE
(Sussex)

## MANCHESTER CITY
(Red/Black Striped Shirts, Black Shorts)

1. H. DOWD
2. A. BOOK (Captain)
3. G. PARDOE
4. M. DOYLE
5. T. BOOTH
6. A. OAKES
7. M. SUMMERBEE
8. C. BELL
9. F. LEE
10. N. YOUNG
11. A. COLEMAN

Substitute: D. CONNOR
Manager: Mr. J. MERCER
Trainer: Mr. D. Ewing

## THE WAY . . . . . TO WEMBLEY

### LEICESTER CITY

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Third Round | Barnsley (Away) (Glover) | 1–1 |
| Third Round (Replay) | Barnsley (Home) (Fern, Glover) | 2–1 |
| Fourth Round | Millwall (Away) (Glover) | 1–0 |
| Fifth Round | Liverpool (Home) | 0–0 |
| Fifth Round (Replay) | Liverpool (Away) (Lochhead) | 1–0 |
| Sixth Round | Mansfield Town (Away) (Fern) | 1–0 |
| Semi-final | West Bromwich Albion (Hillsborough) (Clarke) | 1–0 |

12

**Replay**

### MANCHESTER CITY

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Third Round | Luton Town (Home) (Lee, penalty) | 1–0 |
| Fourth Round | Newcastle United (Away) | 0–0 |
| Fourth Round (Replay) | Newcastle United (Home) (Young, Owen) | 2–0 |
| Fifth Round | Blackburn Rovers (Away) (Lee 2, Coleman 2) | 4–1 |
| Sixth Round | Tottenham Hotspur (Home) (Lee) | 1–0 |
| Semi-final | Everton (Villa Park) (Booth) | 1–0 |

13

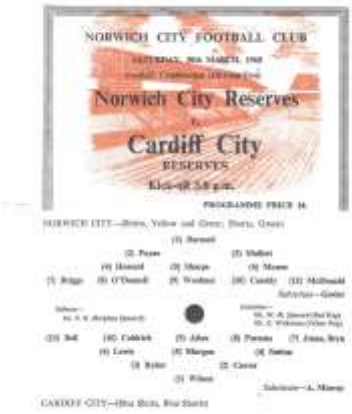
*I am intrigued by some of the adverts in the programme (shown diagonally). These include an advert for trips to the World Cup in Mexico in 1970 (top) and advertising for cigarettes (now banned) and beer.*

*I have not been able to find details of Beachcomber-Lloyd. Player's No 6 was introduced in 1965 and was the best-selling cigarette brand in Britain in the seventies. It declined in popularity in the eighties and stopped being produced in 1993. I have another advert for Player's from the Royal Norfolk Show catalogue for 1970.*

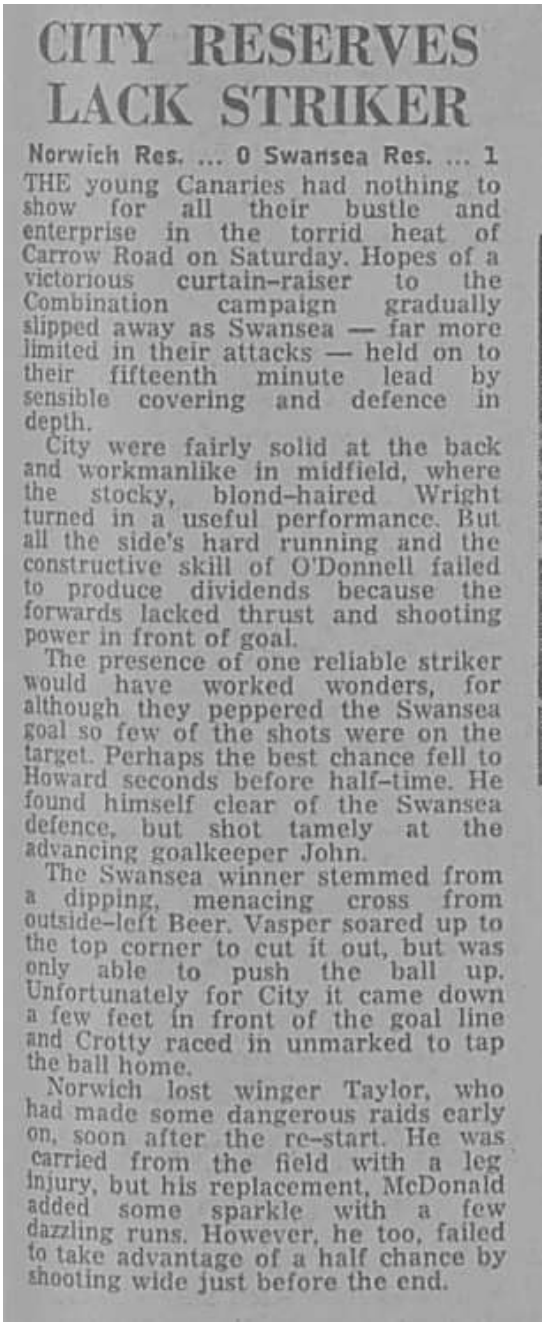
*Double Diamond is a pale ale brewed in Burton. It was very popular in Britain from the 50s to the 70s. It continues to be produced as a keg beer.*

On 9 August 1969, dad took me and Tricia to a football match. I found this slightly odd as Norwich played away at Aston Villa that day and won 1-0. I suspected it was probably a reserves game and I have a vague recollection of going to reserves games with dad. I found details of it on the Local Recall website. Norwich Reserves played Swansea Reserves in a Football Combination match and lost 1-0.[355] This was relatively well-organised. Results featured in the first-team programme and there were write-up of games in the local media. With the formation of the Premier League, a Premier Reserve League was established and operated from 1999 to 2012 before being replaced by various youth leagues. I am not sure this has the same profile as the reserve league once did.

*According to an article accessed from the Local Recall archive, Norwich won this game against Bristol Rovers 6-1 with goals scored by McDonald, Cassidy, Howshall (2), Anderson and Woolmer*




*According to an article accessed from the Local Recall archive, Norwich won this game against Cardiff City 3-0 and apparently "never looked like losing this unexciting match". Scorers were Cassidy (2) and Woolmer*



# CITY RESERVES LACK STRIKER

**Norwich Res. ... 0 Swansea Res. ... 1**

THE young Canaries had nothing to show for all their bustle and enterprise in the torrid heat of Carrow Road on Saturday. Hopes of a victorious curtain-raiser to the Combination campaign gradually slipped away as Swansea — far more limited in their attacks — held on to their fifteenth minute lead by sensible covering and defence in depth.

City were fairly solid at the back and workmanlike in midfield, where the stocky, blond-haired Wright turned in a useful performance. But all the side's hard running and the constructive skill of O'Donnell failed to produce dividends because the forwards lacked thrust and shooting power in front of goal.

The presence of one reliable striker would have worked wonders, for although they peppered the Swansea goal so few of the shots were on the target. Perhaps the best chance fell to Howard seconds before half-time. He found himself clear of the Swansea defence, but shot tamely at the advancing goalkeeper John.

The Swansea winner stemmed from a dipping, menacing cross from outside-left Beer. Vasper soared up to the top corner to cut it out, but was only able to push the ball up. Unfortunately for City it came down a few feet in front of the goal line and Crotty raced in unmarked to tap the ball home.

Norwich lost winger Taylor, who had made some dangerous raids early on, soon after the re-start. He was carried from the field with a leg injury, but his replacement, McDonald added some sparkle with a few dazzling runs. However, he too, failed to take advantage of a half chance by shooting wide just before the end.

*Above -article from the Eastern Daily Press from Monday August 12 1969 relating to the game played by Norwich Reserves against Swansea Reserves on 9 August 1969. This article was obtained from the Local Recall archive which is no longer available*
*Left and above left – examples of reserve programmes from 1968. These consisted of a single sheet of paper and cost 1d.*

[355] This league operated for reserve teams from 1915 to 2012.
[356] For an interesting article about reserve goalkeepers at Norwich who failed to make an impact because of the performances of Kevin Keelan.

During this period, grandad enjoyed visiting the library but did not note what books he borrowed or read. In December 1965, he joined Hellesdon's lending library.[357] Occasionally, he went there with someone else, e.g. Tom Wilson, but I think this was probably when he was having problems with transport. He usually went on his moped but sometimes got a lift particularly when there were problems with the moped. Grandad clearly did read during this period. For example, in October 1966, when grandma had a ladies' practice in the bungalow, he noted that he and Tom sat reading in the kitchen. In November 1969, grandad joined the Norfolk library van[358] that came to Hurn Road every four weeks.

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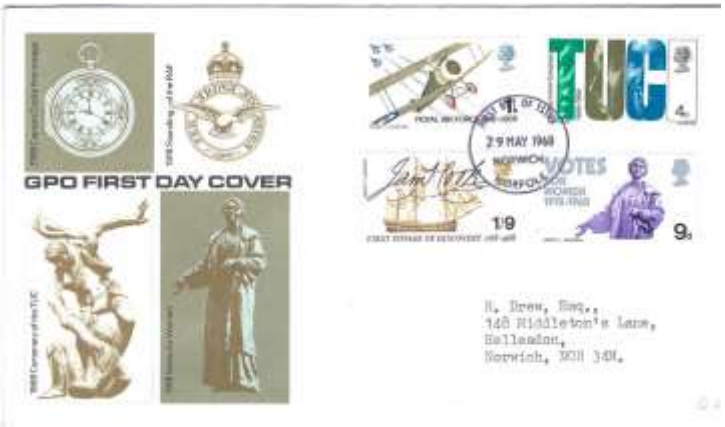
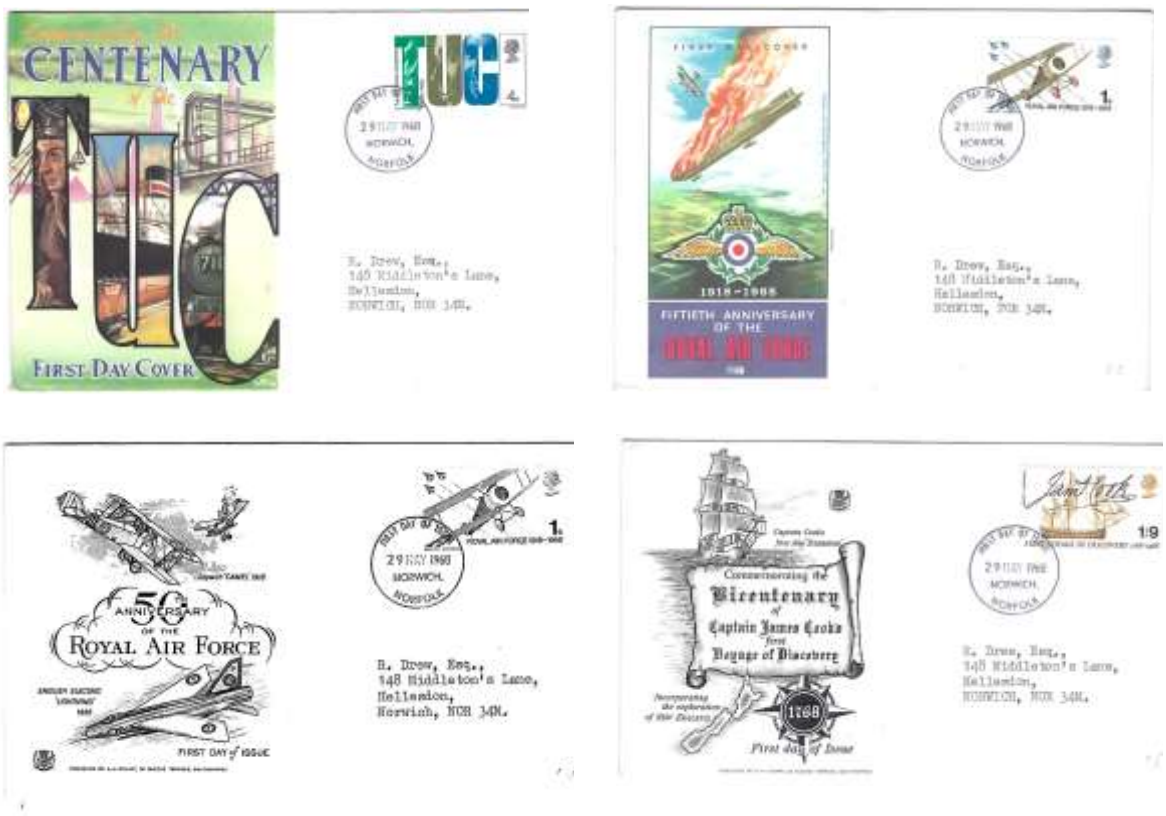
*Above left – Hellesdon Library  Above right – Norfolk mobile library*

In terms of hobbies, dad was interested in and collected coins.[359] In August 1967, he went to a coin sale in North Walsham.[360] Also, most of the family were interested in stamps, including particularly first day covers.[361] When we were at Butlins in Barry in May 1968, grandad went to ours to collect what he referred to as some letters with special stamps and franking on them for dad. I assume these were the First Day covers relating to the British Anniversaries stamps that were issued on 29 May 1968 but I am not sure why grandad needed to collect them and why they could not just wait until we got home.




[357] Mum had been a member there from 1960 but grandad initially joined Mile Cross library on coming to Norwich – see Chapter 81.
[358] Currently, Norfolk County Council offers quite an extensive mobile library service. Route CEN 519 serves Drayton, Taverham and Thorpe Marriott. It calls on a Friday every 28 days. It still stops at Hurn Road, from 10.15 to 10.30 and offers eight other stops in Drayton.
[359] For more details of dad's coin collection, see Chapter 94.
[360] This was described as a special sale of gold, silver and copper coins. It was held at the King's Arms Hotel which dates back to 1750.
[361] Although I associate this more with mum than with dad. Mum had an extensive collection of First Day Covers and these passed to Tricia when mum died. I retained the relatively few First Day Covers with dad's name on.




*I think these were the letters grandad collected for dad. <u>Previous page</u> includes all four stamps. I thought the other four were the four stamps individually but two relate to the RAF and there is not one related to votes for women. I am not sure what this means if anything. Dad did serve in the RAF so perhaps that is why he had two of those and they are different covers. Perhaps he also had the votes for women one and that was lost over time.*