

Looking Back 80 Years from 1927

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I started school at 4 years old at the infant school, which is now the church room. My teachers through infant school were Miss Smith and Miss Late.

At the age of 6 I can remember we had an orchestra, it was a band really. I was made Band Master, I had to wear a suit, had a music stand, stood on a box with a baton. I thought I was the cat's whiskers! We moved to Big School at the age of 7 years old. This building in Victoria Road has now been made into houses. Our teachers here were 1st year, Mrs Warner, 2nd year Mrs Thompson, 3rd year Mrs Armitage, 4th and 5th year, Mr Noise, 6th and 7th year Mr Warner.

In class 3, a roster of 3 girls each day made a cup of Horlicks for all the school, we boiled this large kettle on an open fire then took it into a shed outside and made a free cup of Horlicks each day, then washed up.

In class 4 our teacher, Mr Noise, was giving us a geography lesson about oceans and life in the sea. The question was what is the largest fish in the sea. I jokingly whispered "sardine" and the girl next to me laughed out loud so I was called out in class and given the cane on both hands. I never liked him after that!

In Mr Warner's class, 6 and 7, we had trips out, first to Bristol on the trains. The second trip was to Birkenhead under the Mersey Tunnel, then back on the ferry to Liverpool. Our third trip was to London, lovely interesting places. When we had our picnic some boys and girls fetched cups of tea for all, but the boys had put salt in the cups instead of sugar which made us all sick, not a good joke. I've never had sugar since.

There was a little gang of us girls who kept friends all through school until we left at the age of 14 years old. There are only two of us still alive, now 84 years old.