

My Meadow Street Memories by Ashley Olivia Lewenhoff-Jones

Hi I'm Isabella King. This is my story...

In 1920 I moved into this house to live with my grandma because she needed help with the cow and such. I lived on Meadow Street in Guildford when I was 10 years old.

Everyday before school my sister and I took the cow down to the meadows which is now called the Kings Meadow Polo Field. Then we went to school. After school my two brothers went down to the meadow to bring back the cow and put it in the stables.

At school we would play fly, hopscotch, marbles and sack races among all the work. I had to take my brothers and sister to school because I am the oldest. Mum would usually walk us up the street and we continued by ourselves the rest of the way.

After school my sister and I would play on the rocking horse and help light the fires for dinner and to boil the kettle. Soon we had our baths. First my little sister Gretel, then Edward, and then Simon and last was me. We each had a turn in the bath and when it was my turn the water was cold and grotty.

Each night when we needed to go to the toilet we had to rug up in rags and sneak outside to the old toilet. To see in the dark we used a candle and you had to watch out for spiders.

The next morning Grandma and I would go outside to the stables with a billy can and milk the cow. My brothers had to clean out the bucket for the toilet, I'm glad it wasn't me. And my brother Simon had to chop the wood for the fire.

My Grandma was the town florist for each wedding. We grew wedding flowers like roses. In our garden we also grew our food and I loved running through the old paths and trees.

My Dad was very quiet and didn't come out much. He only came out for tea and sometimes helping in the garden. He was usually reading and painting.

Our house was made from wood and bricks that now have big cracks in them. The roof was made from shingles that are still on the house today. Each room had a fireplace to keep us warm and although life was more hard work back then I liked living there even though some things were tough.