

A interesting life.

Janis Borden

St Lucy Methodist Sunday school

My earliest memorise of Sunday School are about 6 years old meeting in the garage & marching up the stairs to the primary room, Mrs Lewanne playing the piano & Muriel Nicholls & Amelia Wadge being the teachers, When moving up to the big room Mr Wilton Lenzel Nicholls & Miss Dorcas Hewett were our teachers & Miss Hewett entered us for a scripture exam each year & we would go to her house for about 6 weeks & then take our exam & Miss Hewett who lived at Hill View where Jenifer Skinner now lives would make sandwiches & cakes for a party to celebrate all our hard work, she also ran a shop which I always called the sweet shop When I was 14 years old I became a S.S. teacher & played the piano in the primary Our highlights were S.S anniversary the 2nd Sunday in July & would start practising beginning of June twice a week singing

Playing recorders & percussion band,
playing out many parabals etc
It was all a lot of fun & hard work
but the children all loved it & again we
would have a tea & games to celebrate it.

Another highlight was S.S. outings to
Polzeath, Perranporth & Newquay very often
2 coaches because not many people had cars
in those days, & in our later days of
teaching we went out on the moors for
a barbecue & had barbecues in our garden
with Punch & Judy, it was Professor Goodbanks
training ground

There were quite a few people in
their 40s, 50s, 60s & even early 70s
who when we meet them we are
uncle Terry & auntie Jan which I feel
is all because of our SS teaching days
P.S. forgot the Christmas parties
with Alfe going to the Zoo & rewards.

I have a reward book belonging to Terry
& Jennifer's mum dated 1998, a hundred
years old.

Our Pigs

My grandfather who had always lived on a farm & kept chicken & ducks even had a pony & trap had always kept a pig & when we came to Chapel Rd Cottage we did not even have a garden but Mr Fred May used to visit my grandfather & said he could keep a pig in one of his sty's & give Mrs May some of the pork for rent, Also the other neighbours gave their vegetable peavings & food scraps to help feed the pig & my Mum cooked them to mix with pig meal to feed the pig which she bought from Mr Stewart Harris & always had the rump of the litter which was the cheapest & when Uncle Hedley Burden killed our pig he kept some meat as payment & of course we gave pork & lard to all of the neighbours so we

did not have too much for us to eat
because we did not have any
porridge then, but my mum would
salt the lambs to keep them, she
also made bacon with the lard.
cooked the tongue & my Aunt Mary
cleaned the tripe down in the
stream at the bottom of the field
out high gates road, by turning
it inside out with a stick.
It was always a very big day
when we killed the pig & I did
not have to go to school, but
when my grandfather died my
mum did not want a pig
any more because it was a
lot of work feeding & cleaning
for 4 or 5 months & then giving
most of it away.

I was born Janis Blanche Kellow
on the 4th Feb 1938 at "Laburnum"
Wadbridge Rd St Mabyn, where
my mother Emma Jane lived
with her parents Mary & Tom Kellow.
Christmas 1938 we came to
No 3 Chapel Rd St Ives to live,
My first memories are a old tin
car riding up one allyway & down
the other also going out to the
village when our village hut (hall)
burnt down (circa 1942)

1943 I started school the same
day as Rita Hodges (nee Withey) &
our teacher was Mrs Doris Armstrong
Later 1943 we had our second lot of
evacuees & I thought all these new
children were very exciting.
In 1944 my Auntie Blanche died &
this was very upsetting for my mum
as my uncle Tom died in ¹⁹42, & my
Gran in ¹⁹43 & when my aunt died ¹⁹44

she had lost three of her family
in 20 months & we were just dry
mothers & grandfather who was over 80
and confined to his bedroom because
he could not manage the stairs as
he had a accident in his early
60s when a car ran over his legs.
He worked on farms as a horse man
all of his life.

Rita has been my best friend all
through my life & we played
together for many hours & I
was very lucky because Mr
Withey had a car & they took me
to the cinema, beach, & the moors
quite often. My grandfather's pig.
When I was 11 years old my
grandfather died at the age of 87
& my mother had to go out to
work & she cleaned for Rev
Nankivall in the mornings & two
afternoons for Brig Wielday

I had my first bike at 11 years old.
Rita, Jennifer Patricia & my self
spent a lot of time together but
Patricia did not have a bike so we
used to ride & share taking turns
riding leaving the bike for the
next person & we thought it was
great fun & I feel sure we were
still playing when it was time
to leave school at 15 years old.
When I was just 14 " my mother
started to look after Brenda Stacy
when she was 1 year old because she
had bronchitis & needed someone
to look after her at night to give
her mum a break so I went with
her & started to go into the shop
& tidy the shelves then cat the
grease proof into three different
size's, then weigh laid into 1 lb.
1/2 lb, 1/4 lb, blocks. Then I was asked
if I would like to work Saturday

for money 2/6 pence. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ h in new money
It a cooked lunch I thought that
was great so most of 1952 I
worked most Saturdays & quite
a bit of my summer & Xmas Holidays.
In 1953 (Easter) I left school
& started to work in the shop &
post office full time.

Although we did not have much
money I never felt I went without
any thing because I always had
a birthday party & my mum
made & decorated a coke made
jellies, butterfly buns & I felt
very happy & always had my
friends to play with me.

My years working in the
Village Post office Shop,

Now I was working full time, I
went to work 08:45 A.M. & my
first job was to empty the post
box which you could do from
inside the post office. Date stamp
& sort any local post & put the
rest into post bag for the 9 o'clock
post man collection, Then I would
tidy up after our local post men &
then it would be time to open the
shop & there would always be a
few people waiting mostly after
they had taken children to school.
We did not have our daily papers
until 11:30 when the Bodmin
bus brought them, at least threw
them off & if we were not outside
waiting they would just throw them
in the road even if it was raining.
I had to sign a confidentiality
form to be able to work in the

£2.50p old age pension.
2'd for a stamp

post office & I can still remember how frightened I was when I had to take & send a telegram. It was a very busy shop we did three days deliveries to St Kew-Highway, Trevighan & Mehealstow & around the farms so when we did not have customers in the shop I was suppose to get the orders ready but it was not ready very often. Also we boned all our bacon & cut into back bacon, streaky & boiling ham, skinned our own cheddar cheese, all our dried fruit, brown sugar, lard & many biscuits were all bought bulk & we had to weigh them into ½ + 1 lbs.

We also sold a lot of paraffin methylated spirit, & loose vinegar which took a lot of time & was very hard work, at the end of the day I would clean the

bacon slicer with vegetable oil, sweep the floor & get the post office ready for our local post men in the morning. I was very lucky to get home before 6.30 in the evening, Our half day was Thursdays & if I wanted to go to Bodmin I would have to get ready before I went to work because I had my midday meal at work & the bus went at 2.15 & that was the only town we could get to shop. One day I went to Bodmin to buy a pair of gloves & I found a lovely pair of leather gloves just what I wanted said I would like to buy them, but when I went to pay I had forgotten to put my wallet in my bag but never mind Rita got them for me the next day as she worked in Bodmin.

Mr Norman & Mrs Muriel Stacy
owned the post office & they had
three daughters Roma, Flora, &
Brenda, Brenda was the baby
who my mum went to help look
after, Norman was one of our
postmen so I did not see him
until after his round about.

11-30, & Muriel was not well she
had angina a heart condition
so she used to have a rest after
she got the children ready for
school but she lived until she
was 90 years old, so quite
often I was on my own in the
mornings, Then 12-30 Ruby came
to work so we were full staffed
Ruby could drive the delivery van
& Muriel wanted to learn to drive
& she & Norman were quite fizzy
so it was decided Ruby would
teach Muriel to drive, so off they

went in the afternoons Mon, Tues &
Wednesdays, There was always
a girl who helped in the house
& quite often cooked the midday
meal which was always
very good but we felt (Ruby)
that we had to help her
wash the dishes before we
opened the shop or went out
on the rounds at 2-o'clock.
Ruby worked Thursday mornings
so that was always nice to
know & at Christmas we would
go to Plymouth on a Thursday
afternoon to see the lights &
Brenda always called the ferry
the Fairy Boat, & would have
fish & chips on the way home,
Norman also kept chicken & a couple
of pigs down the bottom of the
garden & when it was time for
them to be slaughtered we would

all go to help drive them up through
the garden hopefully without to
much damage to the gardens
one day when we were doing this
there were half grown ducks
Norman had got for Christmas &
the pigs frightened them & some
of the ducks got into the shop
& hid away for 2 days until
they were hungry & were tempted
out with corn, so there was
never a dull moment,

Christmas time we had a toy &
gift show & many of the village
people bought all their Xmas
presence from us, & In the Spring.
Summer we had a ladies dress
etc show because we sold
underwear for men & women, curtain
material, oil clothe, wool & much
more almost everything in fact
Wall paper, paint, & wellington boots
etc

When I was 17 years old I started
going out with Jerry (Grandad)
we would go to the Chapel Youth
club on Wednesdays, & Jerry had a
golden flash motor bike a very
posh one so we went to the
pictures in Wadebridge every other
Saturday & dancing in the village
Hall the other. On Sundays if
the weather was good we would
go to the beach, I thought I
had a very exciting time &
was very lucky, When I was
19 years old we got engaged &
was making plans to get married
we also had a holiday planned
with our youth club to Guernsey,
7 of us went 3 boys & 4 girls
it was the first time we had
gone abroad it was only the
Connell Islands but it felt
as if it was the other side of

the world & we had a wonderful time, also I went to London with the youth club & it was the first time I had been to London. We thought a lot about finding somewhere to live, Jerry even thought of buying a plot of land to build a house, but could not find anything & it was just by luck to knew, Peggy & Jack Cleave were buying a cottage & would be moving out of this one & we thought this would be O. K. for the time being & we have lived here for over 50 years,

Then we were thinking of getting married in Sept 1958 but found out just in time they would not be moving out until Christmas so then it was Jan 8th 1959 a Thursday !!! because it was half day.

One Sunday afternoon we went to Port Isaac for a ride & parked the motor bike in the car park at the top of Port Isaac & went for a walk along the cliffs. When we were ready to come home we put on our crash helmets & I thought I would put on my gloves when I was on the bike, Jerry started the engine & I put my foot on the foot rest but dropped one of my gloves so got off to pick it up & off went Jerry down the hill to Port Gaverne leaving me to walk along the road feeling very silly because there were quite a few people around, but he realised I was not on the back & came back for me. Another time coming home from Wadebridge a Jaguar car past us & Jerry

not like anything passing his
golden Nash so going down
Gretawn Hill we picked up
speed & passed the Jag & I
was all prepared to turn
into Kelly green but of course
we were going to fast so
we went straight on down the
road, but my stomach turned
the corner & I felt very sick,
But in August 1957 soon after
we were engaged we were on
holiday & planned to go to
Lands End for the day, but
we only got as far as the
Clock garage Summercourt
when my car turned into the
garage without warning &
we went right into the side
of it, Jerry hurt his knee
very badly & I just bit my
lip, but the bike was off the

road for a long time, mainly
because there was a court
case, which we did win.
But we sold the bike &
bought a soft top Morris 8
1938 the same age as me.

Back to making plans for
our wedding, Mrs Stacy my
boss offered to make our cake
so she made one large cake
which I paid for the ingredients
then two more to have 3 tiers
& after Christmas we iced them
& I must say we were very
pleased with the result.
Jerry paid 7/-, 37½p for a
marriage licence we had our
wedding reception in the
village hall which I am sure
would not have cost more
than £5 for the food

We were married in St. Judy Methodist
Church at 2.30pm. on Thursday, Jan 8th 1959

Jennifer & Rita were my
bridesmaids & Clayton Irons
Jerry's best man.

We went to Royston Hotel
in Bournemouth for our honeymoon
& that cost £9.50p with garage
because we borrowed Grandad's
car a 1947? Hillman Minx.
We were the only young
people in the hotel until a
young man arrived on the Sat.
We saw Tommy Cooper in a
pantomime & The Messiah &
after one of the evenings when
we were out, we found the
Hotel had locked us out
because most of the people
there were old & just there
for the whole of the winter.
The day before we came
home we had snow so the
journey home was not good.

Living in Green View Cottage
We took the tenancy on 25th Dec 1958.
Our cottage is about four
hundred years old, we were
told by an old man who belonged
to the old Cornwall Society,
quite likely Andrews cottage
was a farm house & quite
likely ours would have been
alean too Barn with a
door down stairs from the
farm house kitchen into the
barn also from the barn into
the only bedroom again over
the farm house kitchen.
~~I'm not~~ not sure when Andrews
cottage was turned into 2
cottages & ours into a cottage.
& I remember when there were
3 cottages & the garden at 3
lava ways up the garden
But by 1959 when we come
here to live it was just
2 cottages, just has it is today.

I have known all the people who have lived here all my life when I was a small child a cousin of my grandfather, Mr Jack Kellow lived here & he came to live here as a lodger although there was only one bedroom, when he died the cottage needed quite a bit of repair & Jerry's uncle who was the local carpenter Mr Jim Hooper did the work but did not get paid but had the rent money for many years, Rita & her Mum & Dad lived here next then my cousin Ken & Sylvia Langford, then Jerry's cousin Peggy & Jack Cleare before it was our turn, while Ken lived here a lot of cob fell out of the front of the cottage

& in 1953, before Peggy & Jack came to live here, the cottages were plastered out side & a back door fitted in this cottage also the mains water came to the village, so a tap was put outside our backdoor & Andrews, when we came in Jan 1959 we had a living room, Bedroom & a kitchen which was really just a shed, but Jerry made some kitchen units & brought the cold-water tap indoors & fitted a hot water heater, which we bought with our wedding present money so we had hot/cold water & a sink with a soak away pit, a electric cooker & a buco boiler to boil our cloths, in our living room, A modern red carpet & a grey & red mohair Suite very fashionable at the time

The bedroom suite is still the same one we still have, Granny & Grandad Burden gave us a radio for their wedding present & my mum a red leather poufy & we had many presents from family & friends, most things that we needed after we had lived there for about a year our land lady Mrs Sandcock said we could buy ours & Andrews cottage for £800, but we did not want Andrews because Miss Scarle lived there for many years & did not pay much rent & the cottage needed lots of work, but we thought about it & the next time she came (we only paid our rent every 3 months) we asked how much for just ours

£400 she said & we thought that unfair because Andrews was twice as big as this one, Then we asked for the top part of the garden so we would have a drive way & garage & she agreed to that but wanted us to pay all expenses Now we had to find out if we could enlarge the cottage a new kitchen dining room bathroom & a bedroom, Jerry drew up some rough plans & sent them to the council & after quite a time we had them passed so we could go ahead with the purchase, We borrowed £400 from Uncle Hedley Burden & said we would pay it back in 4 years & by the time the cottage became

ours it was Jan 1962 just before Andrew was born, while Andrew was a baby Jerry's cousin David Hooper a architect drew up proper plans for our extension & we asked the council for a grant towards the bathroom which we were lucky enough to get, & then in 1963 we started work moving our 3 piece suite & carpet into Grandad Barkers & making the living room into our kitchen & knocking down the sheds at the side & back down & getting a digger in to dig our septic tank before Uncle Bill Hoopers building firm could start building our extension, Jerry worked all the evenings getting things

ready for the men the next day & we had builders here from Easter until Sept most days & of course Jerry did the plumbing so at last we had a bathroom. we made do with our old kitchen units because we had to borrow another £400 & with our grant money pay Uncle Bill, so we were very short of money, We moved our bed down to the new bedroom & Jerry took off all our bedroom paper & plastered our bedroom walls & painted it white before we moved back up again, Then we were given 2 old iron beds from Redvale where my mum worked & we shade

a bedroom for Andrew & when Andrew was about 3½ he moved into his own room. Now Jerry started to make new kitchen units & we bought a second hand fridge & in 1966 to had paid off our first loan so we were not so hard up.

Then 1967 Jerry went self employed so we had to be carefull with our money. Jan 1968 Simon was born & that was re much easier than when Andrew was a baby without a bathroom. They were both born at home, we had our first fitted carpet in the sitting & dining rooms in 1971 & our bedroom 1972 & it is still in the bedroom. By 1973 we had paid off our second loan & did not owe anything. The felt roof of

our first extention started to give a bit of trouble so Jerry started to think of building on the flat roof to give us 3 bedrooms a upstairs bath room, turn the downstairs bedroom into a office & the bath room into a shower room so David Hooper drew up some more plans for us & in 1975 we had a last extention which was a very good thing. League Bros of St Bosward did our work but Jerry did not get his office because when we knocked down the wall for the stairs we quite ticked the room & decided not to build the new wall & turn the window into French doors & it has become our

living room, At the same time that all this was going on we also had our drove taken out in 1967 & our garage/workshop built & after our last 1975 extension with blocks sand the bedroom window slates etc we built our second garage which is now Terry's garage & Terry turned the back of his garage into a office & the business moved out of the house.

We have been working on the garden for over 50 years planting trees, cutting down tree's, building summer house & garden sheds & I don't think a garden is ever finished, I don't think the people who lived here before us would be able to recognise it.

I was married a month before my 21st birthday & I kept one slice of my wedding cake for my birthday cake & I had a small party in our new home, I worked part time in the shop & Terry bring home wages were about £8-10 shilling & my wages £1-10s made up £10 between us, I had £4 house keeping, 12/6. (62p) rent per week, rates, electric etc but we felt quite well off & we had our little car, In 1960 we bought a newer car a 4 door Morris 8 1946 & this was a lovely little car we could take someone out for a ride & my mum came with us quite a lot to Sept 59 The Stays sold the post office/shop & went

to live in Ashburton & we went to stay with them in 1960, & Mr & Mrs Broughton bought the shop & I worked part time for them & they were very nice people to work for & used to take us to Plymouth & a nice meal quite often. In the summer of 1961 when I was pregnant with Andrew I gave up work & Joy took my place & she has been working in our shop for almost 50 years. When we had our baby Andrew our lives would never be the same we were now a family. I did not know anything about babies & I feel sure we did not start off on the right foot because he was born at work & we did not have all the amenities we had when Simon

was born & as I have already said we did a lot of work on the cottage while he was a baby. When Andrew was 4 years old we decided we needed to get away for a holiday & we went to Ynysog bought a tent borrowed some gas & camp beds & set off for Cheddar to see the gorge & caves went to Bristol Zoo & thought we were very adventurous sum & from then on we always had at least one week after 2 separate weeks holiday away camping, we went to Whalsay, Lake District, Devon & west Cornwall. Then 1978 we bought a caravan & used that for a few years, first all 4 of us, then Andrew decided he would

stay home to look after Granny but I think he really did not want to come, but Simon came for a few years more until Jerry's mum died 1981 & Granddad was quite ill & my mum was not very well & came up to live with us, then Granddad died in 1984 & my mum went into a home & we needed a proper holiday no driving & we went to Austria in 1985 with Isabel & Tony our first trip abroad,

In 1983, Andrew bought the cottage next door & had a lot of work on it in 1984 which Jerry helped as much as he could, Simon was in his last year at school & I was not sure about

him becoming a plumber & working with Andrew because they were always very close & I have never known them to fall out with each other & I did not want anything to ~~sabotage~~ spoil their relationship so Simon went to St Austell College for 2 years, got his A Levels but was not sure about more study & Jerry was not well well or very bad back, as Andrew was glad of his help & then he decided he would like to be a plumber but we said he would have to go to Camborne College the same as Andrew to get his training & certificate 1988 Jan^{1st} my mum died so I think the 80s were rather hard for us

because we lived in the centre of the village Andrew & Simon always had lots of children to play with mainly here in our cottage or garden Andrew had Kevin Barthell Kevin Kendall (Pub) & Nicola Keat, one of them here most of the time & Simon had Ian Skinner Kingley Keat when he was small, Then when Andrew went to Bodmin school he became very friendly with Jamie & Bernie Muir who came here each morning & left their bikes, & Simon had Marc & Kevin Hillson, Adam, Edie & Richard Selby Mike Mumns & of course still Kingley & I am so they have had a lot of good friends

St Judy in the 1950s

In the late 1940s 48/49 I remember being in the village concert party, each year before Christmas there was a concert in the village school, because we did not have a village hall. then, A Lady named Mrs Barthell who lived at Gregenna nurseries would produce the concert. I was one of the choristers & at the Methodist youth club we did a easter play so that all took the winter practising. We had our new village Hall in 1952 & then we had our concerts down there, & there was a dance every other sat with a live dance band & our special dance was boxing night & we would try to have a new dance dress for that, my mum made a few dresses

for me & I remember a blue
taffeta one in particular also
a taffeta skirt which was
reversible, black & black & white
check, which I could wear lots of
different blouses with.
We had 3 shops, Stacys shop
post office, Miss Hewetts sweet
shop, which granny & Grandad
Burden bought, & Mrs Kesslake's
that also sold most things.
We had a petrol station &
garage which would repair
tyres & service cars, sold bathtubs
etc, we had warths masons
Grandad Worth was Jerry's
great grandfather, Granny
Burden's father, Percy Couch
carpenters shop. He was a
wheelwright & undertaker,
& Hoopers carpenters shop
they would make windows &

all the woodwork needed
on a building, & Grandad
Hooper was Jerry's Mums
dad, so Jerry was related
to half of the village.
My uncle Herbert Hawken
had a shoe shop, where
he sold & repair shoes, & also
cut mens hair & was a
very good stone waller &
water drainer.
We were almost self sufficient
in St Ives in those days
We had 2 people who sold
milk, Mrs May & Mrs Lyle &
Miss Scarle sold vegetables
Mr Scarle grew in our cottages
garden & they were very good,
Mr Willott the blacksmiths
repaired lot of the farmers
machinery made iron gates, bending
the wooden wheels & shoeing horses,

My life as a plumbing wife.

When we were married first Jerry worked for Mr Withey (Ketas dad) the village plumber 5½ days a week because most people worked saturday mornings soon after we married we went to bed on friday night, Jerry wound up the alarm clock & went it went off, up we got, I made Jerry's breakfast & he eat it & I said I felt very tired & did not feel like going to the dance that evening, so when Jerry went out side to go to work it was very dark & felt like the middle of the night so he came back in & put the radio on & there was nothing & we saw there was still embers in the fire so we checked our watch & saw it was only just past one o'clock in the night

we decided when Jerry wound up the clock, the clock must have been stopped & he did not put it to the right time, Mr Withey was never someone who finished work at 5 o'clock so quite often it was nearer 6 o'clock when Jerry came home In 1967 Jerry decided to go self employed & that was a new ball game, we had to learn how to keep our books, give prices, make up bills & pay our bills at the end of the month, Jerry opened a bank account with a cheque book for the first time, before that he just had a post office savings account & we did not have the telephone put in until after Simon was born in 1968

we were in business for 25 years Jerry worked very hard in those years because he did not want to fail & he was successful because we never did owe anything & I am sure we did have more money than if he stayed employed, but I had to learn how to do the V.A.T keep the books so that the accountant would make up our end of year accounts for the tax man & we did not have any computers then, so it was all done by writing everything by hand.

Jerry was happy that Andrew wanted to work with him as he had plenty of work & could do with the help & it was not until Simon learnt to drive did we have a van, we had always just had a car & trailer before that.

Retirement

In 1992 when Jerry was 60 years old he retired from business because he was not well back & knee problems also not coping mentally, the best thing he ever did & made a great deal of difference to his & my life Andrew & Simon took over the business & have made a success of it & we started to enjoy our lives going on holidays & seeing a bit of the world. Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Madeira & most of the Canaries Turkey, Malta, Brittany with the choir, & Canada & U.S.A, 3 times with C. choir Vancouver area, Great Lakes, Rockies. We also went on many breaks using Shearling Hotels, Bournemouth, Tenby, Bath, Harringate, Lake District, Scotland, Ireland & many times to Exmouth & St Mawes. Jerry built a lovely summer house in the garden which we use a lot & enjoy our garden

My ten years working in the
post office shop + Post office
1952 - 1962.

Because my mother spent 2/3 nights
a week looking after Brenda Stacey
because she was a cheasty baby &
did not sleep well we spent the
night from about 8 in the evening
until 8 morning & I started to go
in the shop + tidy the selves.
I enjoyed doing that & when I was
14 years old, Evans asked if I would
like to work in the shop when I left
school & I said yes, so I was offered a
Saturday job going ^{after} from 9 o'clock
having tea/cooked lunch & working
until 6 o'clock for 2 shilling + 6 pence.
12½ pence now & I was very pleased to
earn that money I also worked quite
abit in the school holidays &
earned quite a bit more, then
Easter 1953 I left school & started

work properly. Having to go to work
8.45, clear the post office box & clear up
the post bags from the postman be
ready to open the shop at 9 o'clock.
always a few people waiting because
they had taken children to school
& wanted to do the shopping on
the way home

Old age pension was £2-10 shillings
now £1-50p^d a week & stamps 2½d halfpence
halfpenny less than ½p today, we also sold
a lot of Postal orders from £1 to £1 because
people did not have bank accounts & paid
lots of things with P.O.s, football pools
was very popular, Post office savings bank
& saving certificates were used a lot. so
we knew lots of peoples business!
In the shop we sold groceries plus
news paper & mags, Drapery, wool, curtain
materials everyone made their own curtains
buttons, cotton, silks, undraware, socks
nylons (no tights) mens caps, oil cloth

Wall paper, Distemper (before emulsion).
Carbide, we only had one customer for
his bike's front light (Mr Bill Crowle)
We had to cut greaseproof paper
into 3 sizes to wrap our loose lord,
cheese, bacon & ham, also we sold
a lot of slab cake, madelines, sponge cake,
cherry genoza, Dundee fruit cake.
We bought a whole cheese & skinned
it & put lard paper on it to keep it moist.
We had a side of Bacon, cut it into
Gammon Hock, boned it & cut it into
Back & streaky bacon, All our Biscuits
were ^{worse} in tins & had to be weighed out
& the first packed Bis were Jacobs Crokers.
Also all dried fruit was loose currants,
Sultanas & raisen at Xmas), Dem & Saffron
Sugar, but never had loose white sugar.
I remember the first deep freeze we
had, Ice Cream, frozen fish & ped's.
No fridge for Bacon & Ham just kept it
in the safe, in the Linny at night

Our family had gold fish so decided to sell fish & all the food etc to go with it, but it did not last long because the fish kept dying on us.
We also sold Televisions, Norman my boss had a cousin in Gloucester who owned a electrical shop & sold T.V.s so we had some telelets of 12-14+17 ins T.V.s, Bush Murphy & Baird, £50 to £70? & aerials £10 for H & £5 for X & we sold quite a lot, a television engineer Eric came once a week because valves keep blowing & we would have a lot of people needing repairs.

We also did a lot of deliveries to the farms & cottages, St Kew Highway & around the village, Wetherham etc quite a big business, In 1959 the business changed hands & we had the Broughtons & things changed a lot, a new store at the back, sold off a lot of dead stock

& just over a year later stopped deliveries, because Super Markets had come & more people had cars & women were driving ~~at~~ also out back on lots of things we sold & everything got more organised & in 1961 I was pregnant with Andrew & that was when Ivy came to work & the rest is history.
I did work part time from 1975 to 1978 until the Broughtons left.

P.S.
Back in the 50s we had Xmas shows selling many ~~toys~~ ^{toys}, dolls train sets, games, decorations & cards & in the Spring/Summer we had clothes show, Dresses, skirts blouses, shirts, swim wear towels & I forgot we sold slippers, sandals & wellies.

I forgot there was still Raston Biscuits, sugar, cheese & fats & Biscuits & sweet coupons to cut out & count first ballpoint pen (Biro) to mark for fats etc, because some people rub out pencils