



THE Living **M**emory **A**ssociation **NEWSLETTER**

THELMA says, 'Rockabye Baby.'



This family group are (on the left) Sam and Lilly Hamilton (nee Sibbald) with Sam's brother and his baby daughter, taken in Berwick in 1938. The baby girl is posing nicely in her hand-knitted matinee jacket and sitting in a pram with the smaller type of wheels but still with a deep body and 'sprung'. This was called a 'coach-built' pram.

I used to work in the Marmet pram factory, off lower London Road, in the 1950s. **Says George Gow.**

I lived in a village in Fife in the 60s and I used to walk the three miles into the nearby town pushing the pram to visit my mum. **Says Carol Lees.**

We think that this photo was taken in Colinton Mains Park, in 1961. The donor of the photo only told us that he was 'the man whose wife bought my pram'. I wonder if she was sad to see her pram going and needed a final picture of it. Prams were often passed down in families, sometimes back and forth amongst sisters and cousins, as the need arose.

Silver Cross was a very prestigious make of pram! It cost 25 Guineas for the pram plus extra for the bag, mattress etc. I think it came to about £35 all in. Bought from Borthwicks, in Cockburn Street. I joined their Stork Club paying something every week and should anything dreadful happen they refunded the money. **Says Liz Sproat.**





Gillian & Paul aged 8 months in their Twin Pram at Princes Street Gardens in 1966.

My wee sister was in one of those and was outside in the footpath in it while we played, so she could watch us and get some fresh air. **Says Lesley Wallace-Celtic.**

A baby in her pram outside her home at Northfield crescent, in 1943.



Mother with baby daughter in Ullapool on holiday, in 1960.



When my Mum and Dad lived in Glasgow, around 1939, my Mum was wheeling my older brother, a sitting up baby, to the shops. She parked the pram, one of those big deep-bodied prams, outside the greengrocer's and noticed that the shopkeeper had a big barrel of potatoes at the door, arranged into a pyramid. When she came out of the shop, she was surprised to see how many potatoes had been sold while she was inside in the queue, as the pyramid was now flat. As she pushed the pram back up the hill, it seemed to be very heavy and hard to push. When she got home and lifted my brother out, she discovered that the pram was full of potatoes. The pyramid must have been too tempting and he had swiped it into the pram and then guiltily pulled the cover over. My Mum was too embarrassed to go back to the shop and confess! **Says Cathy Wilson.**



A nursery nurse in Leith in 1965. The nursery is either Bonnington Nursery School or South Fort Street Nursery.

She looks like an actual nurse. These prams look like they lasted a long time, too. That big hood was good if it was windy, as it often was in Leith. **Says Lesley Wallace-Celtic.**

There is a wee crowd gathered round the pram outside an Edinburgh tenement, possibly in Southside in the 1950s. Would the baby have been the little brother or sister of one of them or, more likely, would they have been 'minding it'? There was a great fascination for pushing a pram amongst girls of this age in the 50s - maybe to do with their future expectations - and Mums were often quite happy, during those safer and more innocent times, to say yes to youngsters knocking at the door with a request to take the baby for a walk.



My cousin Norma Mackay told me recently that she walked me in my pram when I was wee in the Dumbiedykes and anyone who knew the hill to 111 Dumbiedykes Road will know that wisnae an easy task. **Says Ian Mackay.**



The two wee boys are Kenneth and Douglas Reid in Holyrood Park by the top of Milton Street in 1932. Betty Reid told us the story that explains that mischievous expression: 'My husband Ken and his brother Douglas. Ken is clutching two pennies reward to stand still and smile!'

A child is asleep in a pram in the back green at East Thomas Street in Edinburgh in 1949. Josie Sawyer told us the story: 'Mum and Dad had moved from England to be near Mum's sister in Edinburgh. Mum is French and both she and her sister met up with their husbands in Algiers during the war.' Back greens were a boon to let babies get fresh air. This one is sleeping blissfully in the sunshine.



This kind of wee pram could be lifted out of its frame and used as a carrycot, especially handy on holiday. The old lady is Mary Jane Mands (b 1881) and the little girl and boy are her great-grandchildren Fiona and Graeme Wilson who lived in Aberdeen but were visiting Grannie at Ramsay Street, Montrose about 1962.

I worked in a Day Nursery in Niddrie in 1965. Prams were put out on the veranda in all weathers! **Says Ruth Doherty.**




Do you have memories, stories, or photos you'd like to share?

Please get in touch:

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