

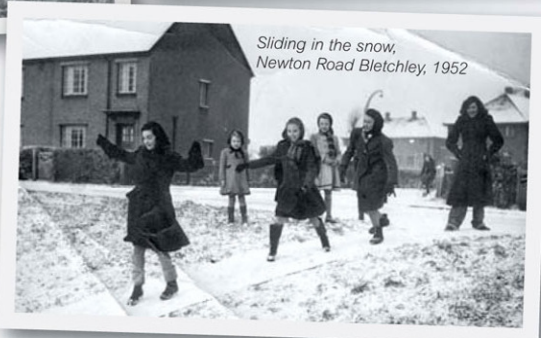


IT'S CHILD'S PLAY

Street Games



Children playing in Silver Street, looking towards Horsefair Green, 1930's



Sliding in the snow, Newton Road Bletchley, 1952

Our domain in those days (in Stony Stratford) was Vicarage Walk, Vicarage Road and Russell Street. They were **our streets**. We played **rounders** a lot. *Audrey Lambert 'A Lifetime Away'*

Success at **hopscotch** depended on your sense of balance – standing on one leg and hopping from one numbered square to the next, pushing a flat stone as you went. It must not land on a chalk line, or you were 'out'. *Greta Barker, 'Buckinghamshire Born'*

The games we played came in seasons. There was a craze on **skipping, marbles** and **Jacks**. *Linda Frost*

The back alley provided a good place to learn to throw a **hula-hoop** with a back spin so it would travel away from you, up the alley, and then reverse its motion and return. *Laura Brown*

You stuck the **spinning top** in the mud, wrapped the whip round it and then spun it out and see who could keep it going the longest. We made our own whip and we used to buy the tops from the sweet shop. *Dennis L Cross*

I'd **pogo** up and down the street, endlessly. My party trick was up and down the double and triple kerbs along High Street, Spencer Street and Bridge Streets (in New Bradwell). When the rubber wore out, it was replaced with walking-stick rubbers from the shoe shop. *Laura Brown*

Tin-I-Acky was where an empty tin-can was thrown down the road. Whoever was 'It' had to chase after it and bring it back to base, running backwards so they couldn't see everyone else running off to hide. Then, 'It' would seek out the others. When finding someone they would race back to base, pick up the can and say 'Tin-I-Acky 1 – 2 – 3' with the name of the person they'd found, rapping the can on the ground at the same time. If the 'found' person beat 'It' to the can, or if anyone else crept out of hiding and reached the unguarded can, 'It' would have to start again. *Laura Brown*