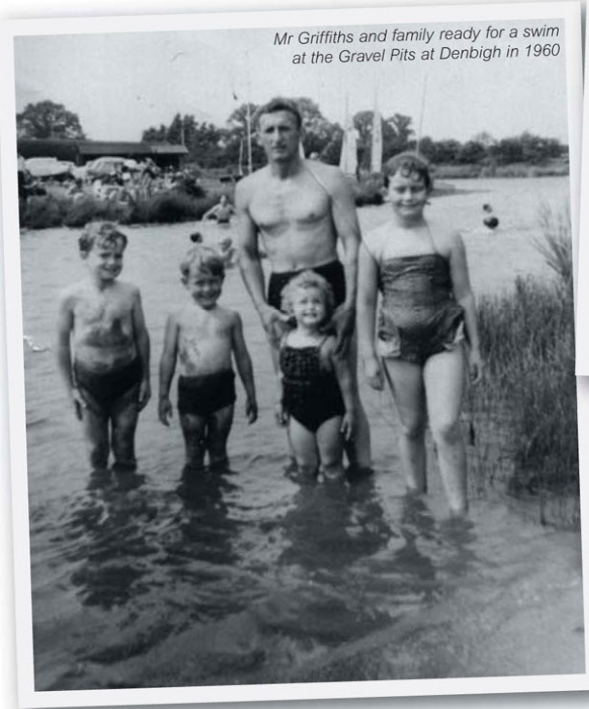


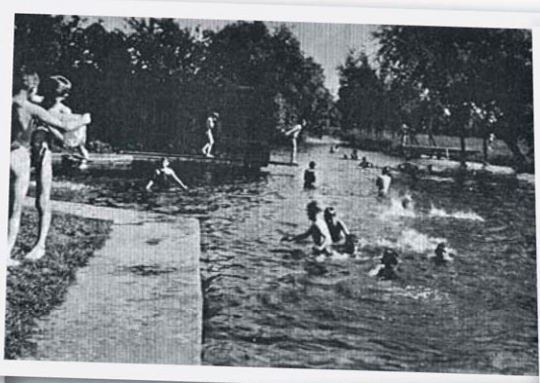


IT'S CHILD'S PLAY

Freedom in the Fields



Mr Griffiths and family ready for a swim at the Gravel Pits at Denbigh in 1960



Two young girls in harvest field believed to be Wolverton land where Eton Crescent now stands, Betty Bavey aged 6 on the left, 1927



The fields were ours, anywhere within a two mile radius of Stony Stratford. *Audrey Lambert, 'A Lifetime Away'*

We'd go **bird-nesting**, **climbing trees** – see how far you could go without coming down to the ground again. I was allowed to play in the fields from about four years old. *Jack Stephenson*

We'd do a bit of **fishing**, wandering round the river. *Arthur Cowley, 'Memories of Milton Keynes'*

We'd spend our time in the back fields, climbing trees, **damming the brook**, playing **chasing** and **cricket**. *Linda Frost*

You learnt **swimming** when you got thrown in, but they did have a pole with a rope on the end and a leather belt to put your arms through and someone would hold you up through the water. We'd swim from the floodgates down by the Mill, down to the Calverton Road bathing place and back. *Audrey Lambert, 'A Lifetime Away'*

On Sunday afternoons, we went for a **walk** – to Cosgrove or Beachampton – and we'd see the Fegan boys out across the field, all smart in their sort of serge suits and red caps with a black rim, about a hundred of them – a long crocodile. *Arthur Cowley, 'Memories of Milton Keynes'*

The Scout Quarries was popular with the Cubs for a day out – we walked each way taking a picnic tea. It was then very wild with many bushes and popular games were **Sardines**, **Spacemen** as well as **Robin Hood** or **Red Indians** – everyone made their own bows and arrows and spears. *Audrey Lambert*

There used to be a big old country house at Holme Chase with a deserted swimming pool and orchards. We'd go **scrumpling** there. *Stephen Flinn*