# MEMORYSPARKLES

This sample pack is designed to give you a taste for the type of content we produce – content that is carefully crafted to spark memories, prompt conversation and bring joy to the lives of people living with dementia.

#### Open the page to your loved one's memories



#### The Sparkles Magazine

A monthly magazine for relaxing reading at home – just like your relative has been used to!

20 glossy A4 pages with articles specifically written and crafted to stimulate memories and conversations.

- ★ An ideal reminiscence resource
- ★ Evocative images triggering memories
- ★ Stimulating 30-question quiz
- Large clear fonts for ease of legibility



### The Weekly Sparkle

An 8-page weekly reminiscence newspaper for relaxing reading at home.

8 glossy A4 pages with articles specifically written and crafted to stimulate memories and conversations.

- ★ One newspaper per week of the month delivered each month
- ★ An ideal reminiscence resource
- ★ Stimulating quizzes
- ★ Large clear fonts for ease of legibility

Find out more at www.memorysparkles.com



# **Around And About**

## ~ Liverpool ~

Large port cities are busy places, full of bustle and teeming with life. For two hundred years, that was Liverpool. Once one of the largest ports in the world, it no longer sees as much shipping or as many sailors, but it is still one of our most vibrant cities.

Over the years, many people moved to Liverpool, especially from Ireland. Many more passed through Liverpool on their way to the New World. Liverpool even gained its own accent, Scouse, from the name of a stew made by sailors.

With commerce can come great wealth, yet great cities such as Liverpool also have more than their fair share of poverty. The warmth of the people cannot always hide the hardships of life.

The creative spirit is alive in Liverpool. It has produced an array of talent, from Cilla Black to The Beatles. No other city has had so many great singers and musicians.

# A Day In The Life Of...

### Shelly remembers her days as a dinner lady

I worked as a school dinner lady at the local primary school for many years from 1965. There was a team of us ladies. We were all hard workers. We had to be, to get all those meals out on time!

We cooked from scratch. We peeled the potatoes and made pies by hand. The meat came from the local butcher.

Once the food was cooked, the children charged in. We stood at the hatch serving up. The little boys wanted seconds if there were leftovers. We'd say, "You're a bottomless pit, you are!"





It was good, filling food. Toad in the hole, liver and onions, steak and kidney pie, and of course, fish on Friday.

The children liked the puddings best; jam roly-poly, spotted dick, and chocolate pudding with custard. Children were expected to clear their plates. It wasn't long after the war, and we knew the value of a good square meal.

We were doing an important job. For many children back then, school dinner was the main meal of the day. It meant they went home well fed.

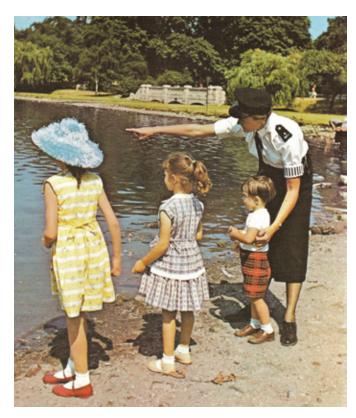
## Ask A Policeman

If you were lost, not sure of your directions, or in an unfamiliar city, what did you do?

For many people, the answer was, ask a policeman. Or, over the years, increasingly, ask a policewoman. There were bobbies on the beat in towns and cities. Some were directing traffic. They controlled junctions before the days of traffic lights. Others were out and about on the streets and in the squares, ready to give advice and point tourists in the right direction.

There does seem to be fewer bobbies on the beat these days. Fewer people ask a policeman for directions. Instead, drivers have sat navs that tell them where to go, and tourists have smartphones with maps and guides.







### That's Entertainment



Are You Being Served?

Are You Being Served? was one of the UK's most popular comedy series in the 1970s and 80s. It was set in a fictional department store called Grace Brothers.

The script was based partly on the real-life experience of one of the writers, Jeremy Lloyd. He had worked in Simpsons of Piccadilly, a famous London department store.

Are You Being Served? had some memorable characters, like Mrs Betty Slocombe, played by Molly Sugden. She had an assistant, Miss Shirley Brahms, played by Wendy Richard. The script was full of cheeky and ambiguous comments. They might not get away with them nowadays!

### **Now And Then**



Spray-paint cans

Do you remember when spray-paint cans were all the rage? They seemed to be used for everything, and not just touching-up scratches on motor cars.

You had to give them a good shake before you used them. There was a ball bearing inside which rattled about and made a tinny sound. Then you pointed the nozzle and pressed down hard. Trouble was, the paint used to spray everywhere except where you wanted it to go!

The fine mist of paint got up your nostrils. It smelt oily – probably didn't do you any good. You can still get spray paint, but the cans seem better behaved nowadays.



### The Way We Were



Camp Coffee

I can't remember ever being offered a cup of coffee until I was in my teens. We only ever used to have tea when I lived at home with my parents. I first had coffee at the house of a school friend whose father was French.

When instant coffee first came in, I remember buying 'Camp Coffee' essence in a bottle. I don't think it tasted much like the real thing.

Camp Coffee was good for baking though. The thick, syrup-like essence mixed in really well when I made cakes. It was good in buttercream filling and coffee icing too.

### **Television Firsts**

Challenge level ★★★



- 1. From where did the BBC broadcast its first television programmes in 1936?

  Alexandra Palace or
- 2. In which year did ITV first broadcast?

  1955, 1960 or 1965

White Citu

- 3. Which channel first had colour television in Britain? *BBC1*, *BBC2* or *ITV*
- 4. In which year did colour television begin? 1947, 1957 or 1967
- 5. Which soap opera was first screened in 1960?

  Coronation Street or

  East Enders
- 6. In which year was the first *Top Of The Pops* broadcast? 1954, 1964 or 1974
- 7. Who read the first television news on the BBC? Alvar Lidell or John Snagge



### **Would You Believe It!**



Swan

Have you heard that all the swans in Britain belong to the monarch? It's a well-known piece of trivia. But it's not quite true!

In the past, swan meat was a delicacy. To own a swan, you needed a special licence. Then you had to mark the swan to show it was yours. Getting a license was expensive. Only royalty and nobility could afford it. Ordinary people couldn't afford to eat swan.

In fact, our new King Charles only owns swans that aren't marked. These days, swans are a protected species, so no one eats them anymore. Not even the King!

Wally, the King of Trivia

### **Quiz Answers**

#### **PAGE 6 ~ Television Firsts**

- 1. Alexandra Palace
- 2.1955
- 3. BBC2
- 4.1967
- 5. Coronation Street
- 6.1964
- 7. John Snagge (in 1954)