

The seaside is a place where you play in the sand and sea. As well as sand and water there are shops where you can buy ice cream and rubber rings if you cannot swim. You can splash about in the water and you can play in the sand and make castles with your friends.

Jim Williamson (Class 2AJ)

THE DOCKYARD

As we approached the drydocks we could see the gigantic buildings. We busily walked on, excited with the journey. Clang, bang went the iron hammer. Flickers flamed from fires. Welders freely banged their hammers on the enormous pieces of iron. We smelt the steamy acid from the bath that put on the coat of silver. The oily, acid steam snaked up into the air. Such a mysterious bath one would hate. Our legs got tired as we walked on. We came to a ship which was being sprayed with a kind of spray gun. The paint sprayed smoothly over the rusty metal. Oh, yes, it was exciting.

Anne Taylor (Class 2AS)

My Mum and Dad had a little crash. My Mum had a little shock and my Dad had some stitches.

Glenn Robson (Class 3C)

CARNIVAL

The floats at carnival are so gay,
Shouts, shrieks and lots of play;
Men and ladies dressed so gay,
That is why there is lots of play,
There's lots of fun at carnival,
There's lots of fun at carnival.

I saw the floats with animals on,
They stayed for a while, then were gone.
They were out of sight as fast as a light,
We tried to follow with all our might.
There's lots of fun at carnival,
There's lots of fun at carnival.

Marshall Moyle and Paul Johnson (Class 2BS)

MY DESK

The size of my desk is twenty-three and a half inches by fourteen and a half inches. The height is twenty-seven inches. From side to side it is twenty-three and a half inches and from back to front it is fourteen and a half inches. The thickness of the box top is half an inch.

The top of the desk is made from beech. The legs and groove for pens are made of steel. The steel legs are T-shaped in section. The top of the T is one inch five-eighths wide at the upper end and one inch one-eighth at the lower end. The stick of the T is one and a quarter inches at the top and three-quarters of an inch at the bottom.

The groove for pens is three-eighths of an inch deep, the inkwell is one and a half inches deep. The hinges are three-quarters of an inch by one and one-sixteenth of an inch. The bolts are half an inch in diameter.

I find my desk very comfortable and it is just the right size to hold everything. It has not got any scratches and it is very clean.

Pat Gavigan (Class 3A)

One day when I went swimming with my sister I went out very far and the water went over my head. When Daddy went to the rocks to see what was there I shouted to Shirley. Shirley swam to me and got me up from the water and I said, "Thank you". We swam with Daddy and Mummy and we all had a drink. Then it was time to go home. So we got changed and we went home.

Carole Rothery (Class 3C)

Once I was in a race and I came last out of six people and then I went for a swim for an hour and went home. We had tea and after having a wash I put on my pyjamas and I went to bed. In the morning I went out with my friend to play on our bicycles. We came home at dinner time and went out after dinner on our bicycles and stayed out until tea-time. At six o'clock I was at the cinema and I came home at half-past nine.

Pierre Shotbolt (Class 4C)

OUR PALM TREE

The palm tree at Verdala is about 40 feet tall. At its base it measures about 1 foot 6 inches in diameter. The palm tree's colour looks like a brown-grey mixed with a dirty white. In it there is a sparrow's nest.

The palm tree is planted near the rope climbing frames and is within the special enclosure for them. I think it is a date-palm. Its leaves are a bright green colour but when they die they change to a dull grey colour and drop off. It is very tall compared with some of the palm trees I have seen. Its leaves grow in a semi-circular shape.

John Woodhams (Class 8A)

HISTORY OF MALTA

I go to R.N. School, Verdala. I am in Class 4C. My name is Derek Hollebon. Mr. Carrell takes us for history. Mr. Carrell teaches 4A and while he takes us Mr. Woodhams takes 4A for Science. We have history on Monday afternoon. In my history book there are many drawings — a neolithic jar, prehistoric drawings, trilithon doorways, statues and pottery, a knight of St. John, a Turkish Janissary, a Phoenician ship and three maps. I like this subject and I always look forward to Monday afternoon.

Derek Hollebon (Class 4C)

When I take the dog out for a walk it is sometimes hard to see if I am taking out the dog or he is taking me.

Linda Pannell (Class 3C)

THE WEATHER

The wind is howling, howling, howling,
Round the corner it comes prowling.

Patter, patter goes the rain,
Pounding on the window pane.

Down comes the rain and then the sleet
Making wet our hands and feet.

Down it comes on panes and shutters,
Running down the roofs and gutters.

Anne Caley and Gillian Palmer (Class 8A)

THE NAXXAR BIRD MUSEUM

The Naxxar Bird Museum contains over six hundred different birds and some stuffed wild animals including a lioness, tiger, cobra and crocodile. I think this museum is one of the most interesting I have ever visited. Mr. Anthony Sammut is the owner and has caught all the birds himself and stuffed them over a period of fifty years. All the birds have been caught in Malta and include storks, ducks, eagles, ospreys, gannets, bitterns, pelicans, vultures and flamingoes. I also went into Mr. Sammut's back room where he keeps his own little collection of sea creatures.

The famous bird expert Peter Scott is hoping to come out during 1965 to visit the museum. Mr. Sammut has made his own invention for catching birds. It is like a case with two triggers on either side. When you press the triggers the lid opens and a net with two weights on the end is forced out. The birds in the museum are valued at £30,000.

Niger Fuller (Class 4A)

THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD

The earth was still hot, and dawn was breaking. The boiling mud bubbled away. There was a great commotion under the sea then all was quiet again. Then there was a united movement and out of the great waters came huge animals. They lumbered out of the mud and began to eat the dense forest of trees. These animals could crop several tons a day. They had tails twice as long as their bodies and long necks with ridiculous small heads on top. Then came a long and hideous howl and the great grasses parted. Charging and jumping more great beasts came. They ran upright on two legs and they had enormous mouths with sharp yellow fangs. They were the flesh-eaters. They hurled themselves on the other defenceless animals who were feebly waving their great tails. Then other monsters came and savage combats were being held all around. The helpless brontosauri were soon being wiped out and the flesh-eaters were tearing up huge hunks out of the lifeless flesh. The monsters, who were more dead than alive lumbered back to the sea. Then a livid flash lit up the waters and almost at the same time a heavy rumble sounded. Then there was a hiss and the rain made its assault on earth. Tigers, lions, antelopes, birds and mammoths; all stood and sniffed at

the air. The huge elephant lifted his trunk and told his wife that a new, unexpected and more unusual animal would soon appear. They all stood still and watched the yonder hill. There was a musty smell all around and all the animals felt uneasy in their minds. Then, there, a strange figure stood watching them. All the apes and monkeys chattered about excitedly for this strange creature looked indeed like them. He was in the skins of animals and he had a stooped back. He walked with a sway and chattered in a strange and unknown language with a group of creatures the same as he was. The creatures were yet to know that soon man would take over the reign of the earth and that he was now truly established.

Alison Gandon (Class 4A)

HORSE-RACING IN MALTA

There are three different kinds of horse-racing in Malta:- trotting, galloping and a "Go as you please" race, which means the jockey can decide whether he wants the horse to gallop or trot.

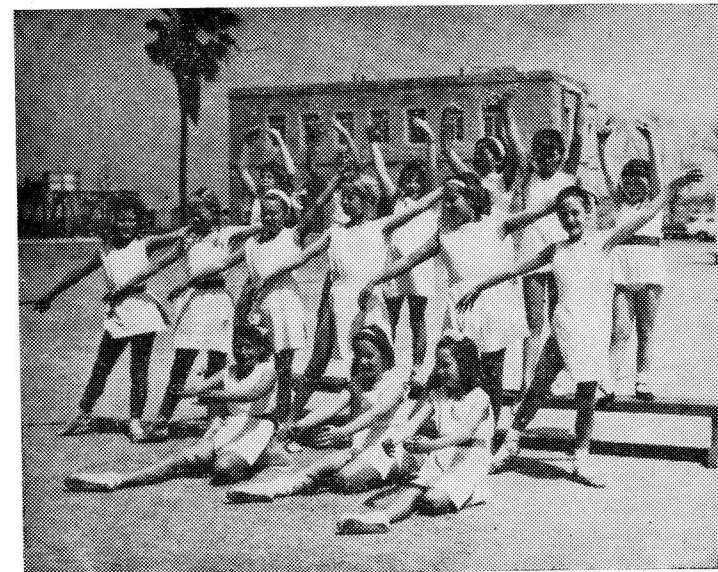
The race track is circular and it is one and a half miles round. The flat racers which are the horses that gallop, don't seem to have been bred to run more than one mile. In the trotting races, horses are bred to run over two miles. They do have one and a half mile trotting races but these are considered sprint races.

The two most important races in the Malta Calendar are the Mediterranean Derby and the Trotting Challenge Cup. The Mediterranean Derby is for first class flat-racers. The highest weight that a horse carries is approximately ten stones, ten pounds. The lowest weight is eight stones. This race is usually run over one mile. In other countries it is one and a half miles. Again, in other countries all the horses carry the same weight. Last year this race was won by a horse named Cohort. This year there are many new horses imported from other countries and I expect the winner will come from these.

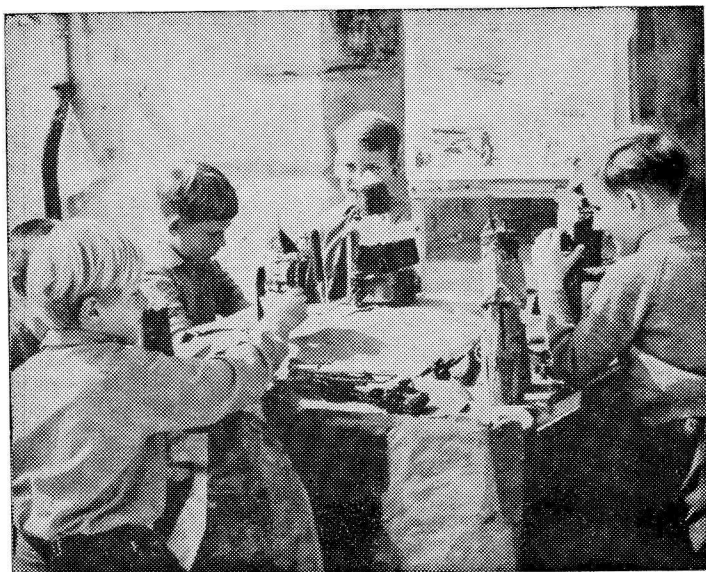
The other important race, the "Trotting Challenge Cup" is spectacular and the most interesting as far as the Maltese are concerned. This race is a handicap race and is run over two miles. It is remarkable in that the distance between the scratch horse (the last one) and the best handicapped horse is as much as one hundred and sixty yards, yet a scratch horse did win this race two years ago and its name is Ike Williams. Even today



The Accordietta Group.



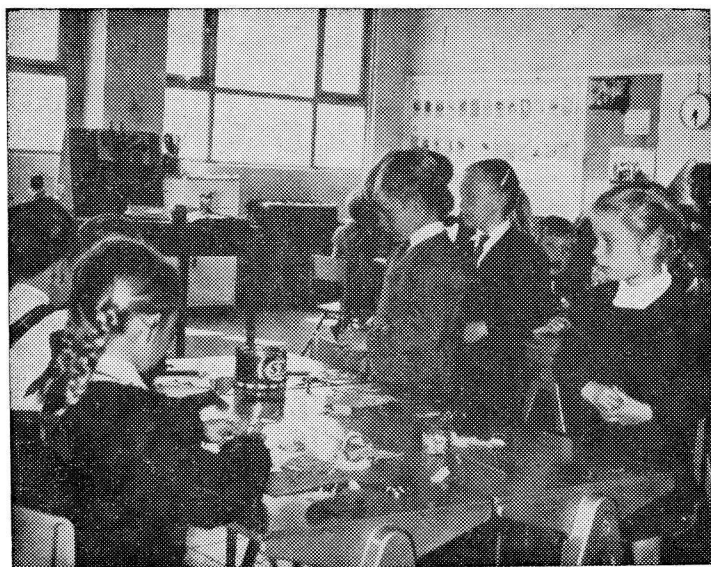
Miss Rowe's Ballet Group.



Infants 3 — The Rocket Site.



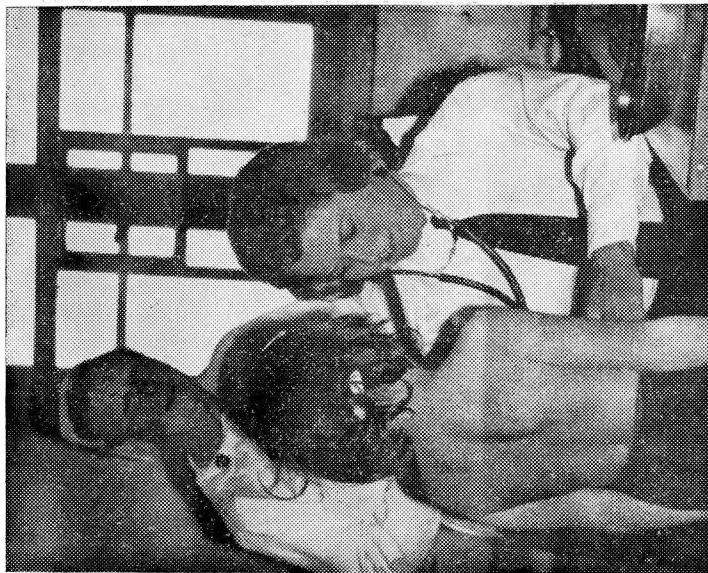
Infants 9 — Music and Movement.



Infants 8 — Handwork.



Infants 13 — The Sandpit.



Say "Ninety-Nine".



Miss L. Harris-Candey, who retires this year after 17 years service at the R.N. School.

he is considered the best trotting horse in Malta. The crowds get very excited when he wins.

In a gymkhana meeting there are two additional races, the donkeys' race and the ladies' race. The donkey race is very funny, about three to four furlongs, and the ladies' race is about two furlongs.

The donkeys pull sulkies (light two-wheeled carriages driven by one person) and never overtake. The donkeys just will not pass and they only like to follow the leading donkey. Yet the driver always tries and hopes he can make his donkey pass. This race is just regarded as a joke but the Maltese people take it very seriously.

The ladies' race is good because all the riders are very keen. Really it is just a complete cavalry charge and there are only about five to six yards between the first and the last rider.

Rona Smith (Class 4A)

A DAY AT THE STABLES

One thing I like about the holidays is that I can go and help at the stables all day instead of just going for my weekly rides. I enjoy helping but there is a lot to do. I try to go to the stables at 7.30 a.m. and come home at 5 p.m. In the morning when I arrive my first job is grooming the horses. First of all we get rope halters then we go into the horses' boxes and put the halters over the animal's noses and behind their ears. Then we lead them out and take them for a drink. When the horses have finished drinking we bring them back and tie them up. Then we start to groom them and first of all we use a rubber brush called a curricomb. When we have brushed all the body except the head and legs we then use another brush called a dandy brush with which the whole of the body is done. When we have finished with the dandy brush we get a sponge and wet it slightly and then wash their noses and hooves.

When we have finished grooming the horses we put bits in their mouths and saddles on. Then the riding teacher takes the horses out of the stables into the lane and helps the children to mount. When everybody is mounted they leave.

Our next big job is at half past eleven. Then we feed the horses left in their boxes and put the food ready for the ones that are out. When the horses return we unsaddle them and take their bridles off. After that we give them a drink. We

then return them to their boxes for their food. The rest of the day is spent in much the same way; saddling up for the afternoon rides, cleaning boxes and feeding the horses.

Mavis Rockey (Class 4A)

MY SUMMER HOLIDAY

I started my summer holiday at Luqa when we boarded the Viscount which was to carry us to Naples. The flight was very good except for a few bumps when we came down through the clouds to land. When we had been cleared by the Customs we took the airport bus to the terminus in Naples. We hailed a taxi from the terminus and had quite a lot of trouble trying to explain to the taxi owner where to go but eventually we managed to tell him that we wanted to go to the Port of Santa Lucia. There is a small harbour here where all the luxury yachts tie up. The boat we boarded was called the M.Y. Selene. It was originally an M.F.V. but Manoel Island Drydocks converted it into a luxury yacht. Captain Newton, a former Captain of Ausonia, is now its owner. Selene has two passenger cabins and in each cabin there are two bunks. Each cabin has also its own bathroom. It has a saloon and at the stern it has the owner's cabin.

Now I will describe our summer holiday. We went from the port of Santa Lucia to the yacht bunkers where we refuelled and then we went to the island of Ischia. This is a very pleasant little island and has a very good shopping centre. From Ischia we went back to Santa Lucia and then on to the Ionian Islands. Unfortunately we ran into a storm and had to stay the night in a small harbour but the next day we went on to the Ionian Island. On the way we passed Stromboli where there is a volcano which erupts every two hours.

Eventually we arrived at the Ionian Islands and anchored in a bay off the Island of Volcano. Here there are springs of sulphur caused by the volcano erupting. From here we went to Sicily where we stopped at many places, the nicest being Taormina. We came back to Malta overnight and anchored in the Blue Lagoon, off Comino. Our final trip was from the Blue Lagoon to the Yacht Marina.

Jeremy Thompson (Class 4A)

When I was a little baby my Daddy went on a draft and when he came back he brought a little teddy bear. I had it

for my first Christmas and I have kept it for nine years. I still take it to bed with me.

Linda Hague (Class 3C)

THE FISHING TRIP

One day my Mother said that we could go for a fishing trip. Altogether I caught six trout and two pike. Then we went home and we ate the fish. They were very good to eat.

Timothy Jeffreys (Class 4C)

MALTA'S INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS

One Saturday in September we went to San Anton Gardens to wait and see Prince Philip go through the gates which led to the Governor's Palace. Prince Philip came in a white open car. He wore a smart light-weight suit which was grey. Just as he was going through the gates he turned round and waved to us. On the Saturday night we saw Beat the Retreat in the Palace Square. I enjoyed this very much.

The next night I listened to the wireless. On the wireless they told us about what was happening in Valletta. They told us that the English flag was being lowered and the Maltese flag was being raised.

On Monday we saw the Duke of Edinburgh read out a message from the Queen at Floriana. The night after Monday we went with our friends to Grand Harbour to see the firework display. We also saw an aeroplane drop some people in the water. We all enjoyed the Independence celebrations in Malta.

Belinda Ousbey (Class 3A)

THE VICKERS V.C. 10

The power plant of the Vickers VC 10 consists of four Rolls Royce Conway Rc 4c engines. It carries 108 — 151 passengers. The speed of the Vickers VC 10 is 554 miles per hour at 38,000 ft.

Christopher Wansbury (Class 4C)

AN ENGINE OF A JET PLANE

The engine of a plane sucks in air and compresses it then ignites it and fires it out of the back and makes the plane

move. But this will not work if the wings are not the right shape.

Christopher Wansbury (Class 4C)

MY SCRAP BOOK

In my scrap book I have some photographs of ships, crashes, people, etc. I have got a picture of a crash out of a paper. My Dad took the picture and he gave it to the "Times of Malta". It was put on the front page and was called "The Valley Road Collision". It was in the paper on October the sixth.

I have got pictures of cars from papers and I have stuck them in my book. I have various pictures from papers. I have a picture of the N.A.T.O. building, Valletta. There are 121 flags of all Nations and they are in alphabetical order. I have numbered them and numbered the pages and put an Index in the book. I have put the People as P's, the crashes as A's and ships as D's. Cars as C's and buildings as B's. G's are aeroplanes. I have a line for each picture.

Philip Sibbald (Class 3A)

THE DOCKYARD

As we approached the dockyard
We saw men clanging and banging.
We saw men painting,
Painting, painting.
We saw two men painting,
Painting a gigantic ship.
We saw men keeping rust off the metal
And a crane which lifted
Many heavy things.

Claire Semmens (Class 2AS)

MY JOURNEY TO MALTA

I started my journey to Malta on 4th December, 1964 after coming back from school in South Deal. We went to our friends' house next door and had something to eat. When we had finished eating and packing our things we got ready for the taxi which came at six o'clock. We put our luggage in the back.

It went to Deal station. We waited for a train, and when it came we got in and went to London. The train was an electric train. We got into London at two minutes past eight. We had booked for a hotel in London called the Union Jack Club. We had room number 39 which was on the second floor. It was a bed and breakfast hotel. In the morning we got up at half past six and had breakfast at 8 o'clock. After breakfast, at about 9 o'clock, we left the hotel. We got a taxi and went to Paddington Station to catch a train to Swindon Station. When we got to Swindon it was raining. There were some Air Force men. They put labels on our cases. There were lots of other people going to Lyneham. One of the men said to us, "You can go and get into the bus. It is only round the corner".

So we went to the bus and got in. Then the man came and called all our names out and said, "You can go now". So the bus driver drove out of the station and we went to Lyneham where we had a drink before dinner. For dinner we had soup and then fish and chips. When we had finished dinner we went to a room where we could see the aeroplane which was called a Comet.

We got into Malta at about 8 o'clock. When the plane landed we went in the Waiting Room to have our money changed. Then we went into the Customs Office and we got our luggage and we got into a Royal Naval bus and went up to Bighi Hospital to take a man to where he wanted to go. Then we turned round and went to Kalkara. The address was 13A The Strand. But we didn't like it there so we have since moved to 44, Rinella Street.

Richard Means (Class 3A)

THE SCHOOL WEATHER STATION

My name is Helen Flook and I am on duty this week at the school Weather Station. We take readings every day from several instruments. The barometer measures air pressure. There is a maximum and minimum thermometer and a thermometer for measuring dry and wet air. The wet one has a wet sock on it. We take readings every day at dinner time (except on Saturday and Sunday). Mr. Woodhams helps sometimes. We check the wind speed in knots and we find out how many eighths of the sky is covered with clouds.

Helen Flook (Class 4C)

LITTLEHAMPTON

Littlehampton is a seaside town. It is on the South coast of England in between Brighton and Bognor Regis. I lived there for seven years in Esmonde Close. My school was called Connaught Road Junior School. During the weekends I used to go to the pictures or go down to the beach. There are two beaches. One is called the West Beach, the other had no name. The river that separated the beaches is called the River Arun because it runs through Arundel. Littlehampton has an angling club. My Dad used to belong to it. Sometimes my Dad used to hire a boat so that we could go fishing. In November we came to Malta.

Paul Cawdron (Class 4C)

MY HOME

My home is in Yorkshire and I live in a town called Norton. We have a large house called, "The Elms" and there is also another small house belonging to us. We own about 15 garages which are in the back yard.

The house looks as if it is two houses joined together. As soon as you go into the front door you are in a square hall. At one side there is a wide stairway leading to the next floor. There is a passage with rooms leading off on the second floor. At the end of the passage there is another flight of stairs leading up to the attic where we store a lot of our things.

We have a large garden; at one side of it there is a green gate which is the main entrance. We have two ponds. One is a shady round one with lots of newts and other small swimming creatures. The other is small and square. On the same side as the gate we have a summer-house and on another side we have some red and white roses. We also have a lot of trees.

In the back garden, there are garages at one end. In the other part of it we have gooseberry bushes, strawberries, potatoes and other plants. There is a plum tree, a pear tree and a weeping-willow tree as well.

We also have another yard. It is about a hundred yards along and about twenty yards across. There is an old barn and a workshop. At the very end there are a lot of bricks and there is also a large gate. Behind the house we have a swing.

R. Taylor (Class 8A)

CATERPILLARS

Five weeks ago we found our first caterpillar. We found our second one a week later. Jennifer New found them feeding on aniseed fennel. They soon turned into chrysalis. One was a buff or straw colour, the other one light green.

The buff coloured one broke out about a week ago. We found a large Swallowtail in our classroom. The Swallowtail is found in the fen lands in England. It is very common in Malta. It feeds on fennel and milk parsley.

John Dunlop (Class 2AS)

THE DEATH OF BECKET

Last night when at mass the great door opened and in came four fierce looking knights with King Henry's crest upon their front body-piece. They walked quietly up the chancel steps where Becket was standing. Becket went down the chancel steps to meet them. I suppose they were meaning to drag Becket down the chancel steps but Becket was a strong man and could not be ever-powered so easily. The four barons murdered Becket on the chancel steps. The last words Becket said were, "Into Thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit". Then he fell face down on the floor with his magnificent robes stained with blood. Some of the monks fled while the rest ran to the side. The murderers ran out.

Carol Campbell (Class 2AS)

ROBIN BECOMES AN OUTLAW

As Robin reached the edge of Barnesdale Forest a dark figure came running through the Greenwood. It was Mutch the Miller's son. "Master, Master," he said, "You have been away too long and Sir Guy of Gisborne has come and he is waiting for you. He has tied all your villeins up and put them in the cow shed and he has whipped them. You have been declared an outlaw everywhere".

"Your villeins tried to defend your farm with sticks and they are going to have their right hands cut off tomorrow". "We will go down to my farm and try to get my villeins back", said Robin.

Robin walked on. Mutch got his bow and arrow. They came to the farm and Robin squeezed through the lancet into