

FIRST VERSE

*Of Redditch long ago, the pace of life was slow.
Policemen walked the streets, it was safe to come and go,
How lovely it was.
Thanks for the memory,
The Danilo on the hill, the Select in Market Place,
The Gaumont around the corner, the Palace with us still.
Thank you so much.
Farmers went to Browns or Palmers Corn Stores,
Joe Harraan took your photo in his shed.
Fish and chips were wrapped up in the Argus,
And Bonakers is where you bought your bread.
Thanks for the memory.
Of teas at Smokey Joe's, Of Hollifields for clothes,
Meylans for your wedding ring and Franklins for your toes.
How lovely it was.*

SECOND VERSE

*Thanks for the memory,
Hairdressers there were two, all the ladies knew,
It was Bagleys or Smith et Filles, they permed you hair like glue,
How lovely it was.
Thanks for the memory,
Of Clem Jackson's wooden shop, the shoes we bought from Humphries,
The clothes we bought from Heaphys, weekly on the knock,
Thank you so much.
The pawnshop was around the bend in George Street,
The Royal Yard housed Frankie Wilson's Fair
We had a public loo and a champion Jazz Band too,
And Harold Ralph sold oranges and pears.
Thanks for the memory,
Of Townsends local Brew, Boyds was on the prom,
John Dyer sold us hardware of quality we knew,
How lovely it was.*

THIRD VERSE

*Thanks for the memory,
Of Carnivals so grand, the barrel organ played.
The hot dogs and the ox roast, the Salvation Army Band,
How lovely it was.
Thanks for the memory.
Of famous folk we knew, John Hanson learned to sing here,
John Emms served us in Masons before his reputation grew.
Thank you so much.
If you wanted loving in the evening,
And your wife said that she was going out.
You called in at the Talbot or the Sportsman,
The certainly was a lot of it about.
Thanks for the memory.
The night they raided the Royal, caught influential men,
If my hobby had been blackmail, I needed never to work again
I thank you so very much*

Thanks for the memory, Lyrics By Colin Wheeler

**With special thanks to his family for donating the audio recording
to the society which can be heard on the touchscreen display**

