

Carnival day at Brompton



Betty dressed for Last of the Summer Beer (not my beer - she said - we believe her don't we ??)

Carnival day at Brompton was great fun and my family entered for many years. Our Mam was really good at thinking of things for us to enter as and we won many times.

After the fancy dress we all ran home to get changed for the sports, running and skipping races, jumping and three leg races. I remember watching the men trying to

through bales of hay over a high bar and doing the tug of war.

After the races we went to spend some of our winnings at the fair, on the dodgem cars and the swinging boats, the hoopla and lots of other things. My best friend Miriam Harrison lived round the back of the church next door to Harry Smiths toy and sweet shop, where we could buy a bag of aniseed balls for a penny or two sticks of licorice for a halfpenny.

Brompton had lots of shops when I was a little girl, there was a sweet shop right at the end of Water End which did good business on carnival day as the fancy dress all lined up there for judging, then it marched right round the village up and over Cockpit Hill, round the back of the church and round the green. All the large floats lined up along the side of the green.



Left: Betty Baines as a Gypsy Girl ready for the Carnival Fancy Dress aged 11

Right: Betty Baines and twin Billy Baines age 12



*Left: Betty Baines as a Flamenco Dancer for the Carnival Fancy Dress aged 13
Right: Our Reggie ready for the Fancy Dress*

Carnival Day 1982



*Top row - Richard Thompson, Ruth Dobson, Maggie Thompson,
Middle row - Robbie Thompson, Frankie Simpson, Helen Baines
Front girl is Susie Simpson*



*Left: Mrs Margaret Bruce nee Baines in 1953 as Dilly Dream the loveable duffer
Right: "Compo" (alias Frankie Thompson nee Baines) holding Rachel Dobson with the fairground on the village green in the background.*



*Left: Nora Batty (alias Sandra Segger nee Dobson)
Right: 'Bath with a friend' Ruth Dobson ready for the 1982 Fancy Dress competition*