

1950s-70s IN SOUTHMEAD

Every summer there would be a travelling fair in the field at the top of Pen Park. I can remember queuing up at 6pm every evening to get a free ticket. Sadly running to the back of the queue to get another ticket never worked – Deana Perry

LEISURE

We were teenagers and we wanted to show off. My friends would come down from Fishponds. They had to catch 2 buses for 2 pennies. We used to go to the Peggy's, the Pegasus pub on Greystoke Avenue. We would get in, nobody checked ID in those days – David Gaines & Nellie Kasereka

Darth Vader trained in my dad's shed! – Deana Perry



Local David Prowse starred as Vader

We moved to Southmead early 50s when I was three. We moved to Lydney Rd from a Nissan hunt – no running water, no bathroom, shared loo. My parents must have thought they were in heaven to be given this three bed house, with running water, bathroom, and good neighbours who looked out for one another – Sheila Hawker (nee Bryant)

UTILITIES

Stories provided by Southmead residents.

Leonard "Rocky" James would tell us what it is to be a professional boxer. From time to time he would throw a punch in the air, we'd all be impressed. One day he showed me how to position my legs and my arms. I threw a punch with all my force. I did not even touch him.

However, that night I told the ladies I fought Rocky – David Gaines & Nellie Kasereka



Leonard "Rocky" James, 1933 - 2011

My mum was one of the very few people to have a washing machine – approximately 1950. A huge contraption with a big square boiler on 4 wheels and a slot in electric wringer. It took ages to heat the water as it was so big (no hot water in our taps then). We had this for about 10 years, then along came twin tubs! Then automatics! – Joan Clifford

UTILITIES

I remember the old coalman, which you never see now. Also, the bread man with his van, the rag and bone man who would give us a balloon or goldfish – it did not last long – Sheila Hawker (nee Bryant)

NEIGHBOURHOOD