

## CHAPTER 7

# *A Good Trip*

I have never mentioned much about holidays, or rather going away from the farm and actually having a holiday. With money being the ever-present problem, holidays were few and far between but we have been away and stayed in two Butlins camps, only because the holidays were offered to us free.

The first time was when the children were a year old. Butlins wanted us to make an advertising film using them and offered to pay us for it, also providing a free holiday for us. I look back on this with mixed feelings. The camp, located at Pwllheli in North Wales, was considered to be a luxury establishment; it certainly was a lovely place, very clean with nice comfortable chalets, interior sprung mattresses on the beds and a washbasin with hot and cold in every chalet. The staff were very pleasant, friendly and helpful.

I think we were luckier than most of the holidaymakers as Butlins had fenced six chalets in for us so that we had a little privacy, not that that prevented the Welsh people visiting the camp each afternoon and, for an entrance fee of 1/-, having a good look round. If the children were not outside they peered through our windows trying to get a glimpse of them. It was most embarrassing to be changing one's dress and to look up and see a face peering through the window! I thought it was quite dreadful and wondered how Butlins could allow this to happen but I suppose where money was concerned anything went. Strangely, as we appeared to be such objects of curiosity, the people actually staying in the camp didn't attempt to do this.

Three of the chalets we were allotted were used to sleep in, one nurse with two of the babies, the other nurse with the other two babies in the second, and Charles, Susan and me in the third. Obviously the babies were too small to go into the main dining room so one of the other chalets was used to feed them in. Another chalet was used to bath the babies in, we were provided with a portable rubber bath. The remaining chalet was converted into a kitchen to prepare the babies'