

Our grandparents' dreams, hopes and wishes



Wedding celebration of grandparents

"There was terrible poverty during the war and the postwar period. I had ten brothers and sisters and we often played together. During the time of my childhood there were no cars. Families provided themselves with food by growing vegetables and different types of grain and keeping pigs and cattle etc. They took the grain to mills to have it ground, and with the flour they baked their bread. We had little money and there was no TV. In my younger days I had to work on farms - of course we had to do everything by hand. We usually had to entertain ourselves at home. A few times a year I was allowed to go to a dance like the ball of the fire brigade."

"For me it was not really possible to create my own future – I didn't have much to say."

"I always hoped for a better life and a job for my future. But it was impossible to decide myself, because it was taken for granted that farmers' children worked for farmers. I always wanted to have more money and start a family."

"My wishes, dreams, beliefs and ideas for the future were to marry and to have my own house and children – I wanted to start a family."

... and what else the grandparents said,

"For me it was a nice day off, when I took a walk to my godmother."

"At that time we didn't have any holiday. Nobody was able to afford a holiday."

"The holiday I was dreaming of was ... somewhere at the seaside."

"I never had the possibility of learning a trade. As I was working as a maid on a farm, I dreamed of having my own farm."

"I spent the small amount of my spare time reading, going for walks and doing something with my brothers and sisters. When we were older we sometimes went to dances."

"I always wanted to have a bicycle of my own."

"We could neither afford telephone nor television. We were very happy when we got our first radio. And we had newspapers only on Sundays."

"As we owned a farm, we produced most of the food we needed ourselves. There were no supermarkets, only groceries. And there were lots of things you wanted to have – for example ORANGES!!"

Young people going on trips



... by bus



... or by motorbike

(Barbara Mitterhuber, Sarah Schlader, Martin Kienbacher and Christian Raffetseder, form 3c, HS Grünburg)