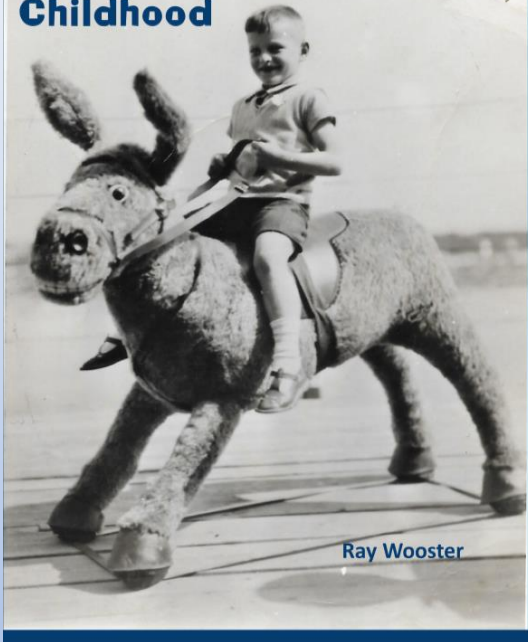


My 30's and 40's Childhood



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My 1930's Boyhood

Why? Why? Why?

'Why did Tom fall down when the man went bang Mummy?'
'How did you know that Tom fell down? I sent you to your room.'

'I looked out of the window and I saw what happened.'

My poor Mother, outsmarted by a three year old!

It was just after breakfast. I was out in the yard throwing sticks and balls for Ben and Buster, the yard dogs, and also Floss, our house dog. Everywhere that Raymond went, Floss was sure to go!

When the knacker man drove into the yard, the driver wound down his window, 'Is your Mum or Dad about sonny?'

'My Dad's at work, but my Mum's indoors. I will fetch her as soon as I have put the dogs in the shed.'

'Good boy.'

I grabbed Ben and Buster's collars and they allowed me to steer them into the shed.

Whenever a car or lorry came into the yard, I begged a ride down to Oldfield Lane, my Mother would wait for me at the gate. Before I could beg my ride my Mother said, 'This gentleman is not allowed to have more than two people in the cab at any time, isn't that right driver?'

'Indeed it is Missis Wooster, just me and my mate. More than my job's worth to 'ave anyone else in the cab. Maybe some other time eh?'

'Now Raymond go to your room. The driver is going to manoeuvre his lorry and he doesn't want to run you over.'