

Reflection. Harvest

I remember many years ago (and it is many!) when I was in primary school, which I have the fondest memories from school was Harvest time.

It was the talk of school, taking in foods to put on display to show how much we had collected to be distributed at a later date. I would often rush home and ask my mother if there was anything in the cupboard I could take into school for harvest, she'd usually hand me a tin of something, whether it was fruit or vegetables. The whole back wall in the assembly hall was filled with food of every kind, all different coloured labels and packets stacked haphazardly.



Each year a class would put together an assembly for that year, with invitations going out to the community, to come listen about Harvest Festival. I would listen intently about how the farmers worked their land where they had grown food for their families and ourselves to eat and food for live stock over the winter and preparing the land for the new crop in the next year.

One of the songs we would always sing is 'We plough the fields and scatter' which at times still comes forward in my mind

and I find myself humming the tune. I use to sing at the top of my voice to show how grateful I felt towards the Lord for giving us plants to grow for food and for the farmers who nurtured and cared for them.

'Celebrate the Festival of Harvest with the first fruits of the crops you sow in your field. "Celebrate the Festival of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in your crops from the field.'

Exodus 23:16

In schools now Harvest is still celebrated and is one of the big celebrations in church. Until a couple of years ago I had never been to church at harvest time. When I did

get to go it brought all those lovely feelings back when I was at school but this time I was able to join in the happiness with different people in the Lords house.

How many of you remember Harvest Festivals when you were younger, and how were they celebrated? What songs did you sing?

I love to look back to the different ways in which festivals were celebrated from years ago and how it has changed.

“As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.”

Genesis 8:22

