

# Memory Boxes: a Garden of Reminiscence



[memoryboxes.altervista.org](http://memoryboxes.altervista.org)

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Results of questionnaire about memories

SEX	WOMEN	MEN	
	11	10	
AGE	UNDER 40	ABOVE 40	
	13	8	
EDUCATION	PRIMARY	HIGH-SCHOOL	UNIVERSITY
	0	5	16


WOMEN AGES		MEN AGES	
UNDER 40	ABOVE 40	UNDER 40	ABOVE 40
7	4	7	3

WOMEN EDUCATION		MEN EDUCATION	
HIGH-SCHOOL	UNIVERSITY	HIGH SCHOOL	UNIVERSITY
3	8	1	9

# 1. When you think about your childhood what images/ scenes come to your mind?

- \* relax in Sunday's afternoon nearby the forest
- \* Family house, Christmas, family
- \* Forest
- \* Street where I live, grandma
- \* Carelessness, joy, sun and amusement
- \* Sport competition
- \* Football, walk with my father
- \* Holidays at the countryside (2), at grandma's house
- \* Dog that pulled me and my sister on the sledge in winter
- \* Summer, harvest, thunderstorm, mud
- \* Sleeping on hay/straw
- \* Snowy countryside, wild forest during summer, river where I used to bath, blankets put on the grass (during picnic)



- \* I didn't have any other entertainments than plays with my colleagues
- \* Catching crayfishes 
- \* Playing in sandbox, in a swing
- \* Activness, riding on bicycle
- \* Walking barefoot on puddles
- \* Fishing
- \* Walking in the mountains



- \* my favourite dress on white circles
- \* At times of my childhood people had
- \* time on everything, in the evenings they sat down on the grass and talked, danced, in winter met at homes and teared plumage, people lived very modestly and everybody was happy from that he/she had, people appreciated and respected what they have, people didn't have such clothes as now

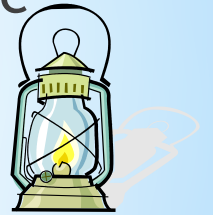
## \*2. Which of the things you have touched left the strongest feelings in you?

- A dog, dog's fur, wet dog
- Cat; soft cat
- Christmas' tree
- Wooden sward
- Seeds (of wheat) during harvest
- Pram with dollies and teddy bear
- catapult
- Fruits
- Boxing gloves
- Dewy Grass
- „Saperka” shovel






- \* skipping-rope, ball
- \* Beautiful radio that I received on 1st Comunion - it was cold
- \* I remember the most our old house, doors that closed with difficulty, at home we didn't have floor but ground. I liked to sit on the table and read books, we didn't have light at home but oil lamp. I liked that house very much because there were my parents, brother and sister
- \* Toys, especially cars and ball
- \* Wooden box made by my grandfather, when I was small girl I liked it very much and I wanted to help to my grandfather who made that boxes
- \* Big, green lawn
- \* Strawberries field
- \* bicycle



# \* Do you remember any noises, sounds, music, songs that had a strong influence on you?

- \* Cds of Led Zeppelin, Modern talking, Phil Collins, Queens, Anna German, Czesław Niemen, Combi „Słodkiego miłego życia”
- \* Shouts during playing
- \* Songs that my almost 100 years old great-grandfather sang me before going asleep, I plan to sing the same songs to my children
- \* combine harvester,
- \* Song from „[Czterej pancerni i pies](#)” / *Four tank-men and a dog* film
- \* November Rain [Guns N' Roses](#)
- \* Christmas carolls
- \* Sound of motor engine
- \* The sound of river
- \* the chirping of crickets 
- \* Rustical, regional song sang by father and family
- \* Many songs have big importance to me
- \* Music from weddings and dancings on which I participated with parents
- \* Rivers of babilon by Boney M, Dennis Russos, song „White bear” - this song was very popular during long years and parties in „remiza” (firemen’s building)



# Are there any tastes that you associate with your childhood or your past?

- Strawberries (2) blubberies
- Chewing gomme
- Potatoes fried in fire
- Sugar on bread
- Fried red beets
- poppyseed cake, apple pie made by my grandma
- *Kogel-mogel* yolk stirred with sugar
- Marzipan
- Sweet rool with white cheese
- Milk from the cow and slice of bread with confiture
- Fruit soups, tomato soup
- „Sunday dinner” = chicken soup, potatoes, roasted chicken and cucumber with sour cream (mizeria)



- \* Sweets and chocolates
- \* Strawberries with sour cream
- \* beetroot soup
- \* Taste of homemade sausages
- \* Homemade ice-creams sold from the car
- \* Apples, cherries without chemicals from which we made very good fruit soup, honey was very good more sweet than now, it was more tasty because came from fields without chemicals
- \* Oranges, chewing gum, candy floss
- \* Raspberries - now I love it, when I was child I hated this



Because I helped to gather it

Cheese cake

# \* Can you think of any smells that you will never forget?



- \* Smell of forest, blueberries, Flowers on the meadow
- \* smell of baking cake, of chicken soup, sauerkraut stew
- \* Fresh bread, bud with apples
- \* Smell of fresh sausage
- \* Apple soap
- \* Almond's candies
- \* Smell of flowering apple trees, I remember smell of fresh sausage which was twice a yer on Eater and on Christmas, everything was good because I was young
- \* circus
- \* Grass that was just cut
- \* Burning wood
- \* Smell of air after thunderstorm
- \* London burbary - my favourite perfums
- \* Lilly flowers → funeral

# Are there any historical events which had an impact on you or somebody close to you?

- \* Lech Wałęsa
- \* Strike on WSK (helicopter manufacturer in Świdnik)
- \* Death of John Paul II
- \* Poland's entry to European Union
- \* II world war
- \* Memories of my father about the war and resistance movement
- \* Martial law in Poland/ Stan wojenny
- \* When I was 9 in our countryside come international circus. There were many people because the theatre was beautiful. Suddenly there was an attack, men were arrested, among whom was my dad, fortunately he came back home soon. For me it was sad and misunderstood.

## \* How Much of Your Memory Is True?

\* New research shows that memories are constantly being re-written by our minds.

\* Article in Discover Magazine

<http://discovermagazine.com/2009/jul-aug/03-how-much-of-your-memory-is-true#.UYmKNqKvaSo>





