

Transcript of Audio Clip with Muriel Tytheridge

I quite liked it at Yaldham Manor because there was always something to do, somebody to play with. We slept 16 girls in the vast Great Hall. We all had our own camp bed, we weren't allowed to sit or sleep on anybody else's bed cos you had to make it and keep it nice, a bit like a hospital bed. We had a thin mattress, sheet, blanket and a pillow, and that was it. We had a locker that we could each put our precious things in the locker. We were allocated jobs to earn our sixpence a week pocket money. There was a rota put up every week, which was changed and you were either helping the housemaid or the cook or the butler. You had a job to do to help them or you had – one of the jobs were cleaning 16 pairs of shoes every week because they had to be polished, with blackin', in those days. Made them shine to be smart for school. It was like watching a different world because, Mr and Mrs Cory, they had this beautiful house with, in the entrance hall was, you know the statues of, like, a suit of armour. Every night they got the big bell and the butler with dong the bell to call them to dinner. We didn't go into their dining room. We went into the, lead of the kitchen, it was where the staff where eating. It was a long refectory table with stools either side. We sat down either side of the big refectory table for our meals which we had with the kitchen staff, which was nice and cosy. We enjoyed it.