**Creating Memories**

“What did you used to do in the holidays Granny?”

“I used to stay with my Granny too.”

“What did you used to do? Play computer games? Watch DVD’s?”

“No, that was before computers and TV.”

“Wow, that must have been really boring.”

“No, we used to climb trees, build huts, play hide and seek. If it was wet like today, we’d read books, or write to our Dad, who stayed home as he had to go work. Actually, I’ve got something special I could show you.”

“Cool. Where is it?”

“Under my bed.”

The children immediately got down on the floor to look.

“There’s only a boring old box there,” they said with disappointment.

It had a funny word, ‘Memorabilia,’ written on the outside. Granny opened it, and inside was a whole lot of paper and cards.

“What’s this Granny?”

“That’s a letter I wrote to my Dad.”

“Why didn’t you email him?”

“We didn’t have a computer, remember, and if I’d emailed my Dad, would you be looking at it now?

“I guess not. Can you read it to us?”

“Of course. It was written in 1959 when I was six.

*Dear Daddy,*

*I hope you are having fun at work making shoes. We miss you sometimes, but not when we go into town and Granny buys us Adams Bruce ice creams. Today we’re going to look at the new harbour bridge. Granny says it’s really big. We are very excited. I am sleeping with Mummy.*

*Love your daughter*

*Judith Bell.”*

The children laughed, then asked lots of questions about when Granny was young.

They started to delve deeper into the box of memories.

“I didn’t know you could send a card to someone. Could you send me one for my birthday? That’d be so cool.”

The time flew by as they sat and talked about history.

“We need to plan our day. It’s raining. What shall we do?”

The children smiled at each other.

“Can we write to Mum and Dad and post them a real letter?”

“What a great idea, and tomorrow we can buy your own memorabilia boxes. Texts and emails are good, but they don’t last forever, and then your children won’t have anything like this to share.”

What will your children have? A lost email? A long gone text? Or something tangible to treasure?

***SNAIL MAIL Day Judi Billcliff - Facebook SNAIL MAIL Day 13th June www.rainbowpoetry.co.nz***