

I can remember him having the toilets converted because he had an old fellow dig the trench across the back garden for the pipes. Dad had two beautiful rose bushes, one yellow and the other white, and each was about ten feet across. Well, the fellow cut them both down for his trench and Dad went absolutely bananas! "I thought they was just a couple of old thorns!" he said to Dad!



*Roy in his best outfit with pet dog Spud in about 1938.*

We were lucky in Brendon to have electricity up at our end of the village quite early on. It came from a water turbine in the mill-stream that came from Leeford to the Brendon Mill. All the houses from Brendon Mill down to Millslade were connected to this supply and it used to be turned on in the evenings; the sluice was at Leeford Bridge and would be opened and the water would flow through the turbine. Then the sluice was closed at some point, and that was your electricity for the night! How bright your lights were depended on how many other people had their lights on at the same time! Sometimes you needed a candle just to see if your electrics were actually on! It was Grandfather whose job it was to open and close those sluices. Later they fitted a generator at Millslade, which was more efficient, and they used all the same wiring to the houses but just sent the current the other way!