



**CREWE**  
TOWN COUNCIL

**CREWE**



**Raz Ahmed**

**1964**

The UK welcomed many people who were migrating in the 1960's.

Migration is when people move from one place to another with the intention of settling or living there temporarily or permanently.

Many people migrated from different countries to the UK if they were Commonwealth countries.

Commonwealth countries are countries connected to the UK and share the same beliefs and principles such as supporting international peace and understanding.

An average of 2,500,000 people have migrated to the UK from Commonwealth countries altogether.

The UK encouraged and invited people to migrate here as they had a labour shortage (shortage of workers) and desperately needed people to fill these roles.

This labour shortage began after World War 2 in 1945 and was mainly in the trainlines as well as the National Health Service (NHS).

One of these families might have been Raz's family.

Raz Ahmed was 9 years old when he migrated to Crewe in the 1960's from Bangladesh.

Raz's father moved the family to Crewe to work as a railway engineer.

The flight would have taken 48 hours to reach Crewe!

Many migrants, including Raz might have found it difficult at first to get used to a different way of life and language.

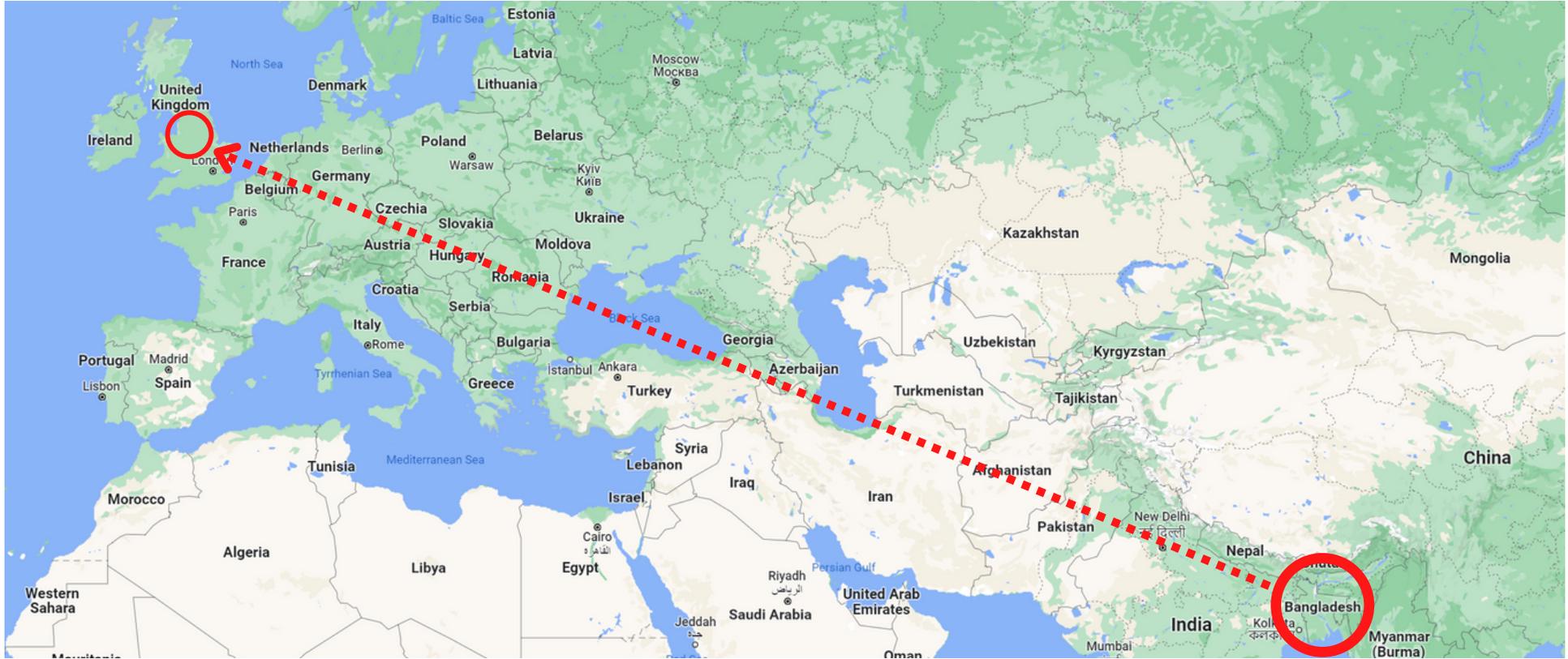
Let's take a look at Raz's life growing up in Crewe.



**1. Take a look at the map to show Raz's journey from Bangladesh to Crewe.**

**2. Take a look at the images below to see Crewe in the 1960's.**

- **Does it look different to Crewe now?**
- **What differences can you spot?**
- **Where are your favourite places in Crewe now?**
- **Why are they your favourite?**





Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies

# School

School in the 1960's would have very different in Britain compared to Bangladesh.

In Crewe, Raz went to Beech Street Junior School in Crewe.

Every day children had to drink a glass of milk as soon as they got into school to give them strong bones!

Every day, the teacher would have put on the radio and taken all the pupils into the school hall to do their 'Music and Movement' class.

They had to follow the instructions on the radio. One of these instructions is "Sway like trees in the wind".

Children might have done singing classes together too.

There would have been busy classes at school in the 1960's with some classes having 45 children. This is because a lot of children were born after World War 2.

It was called a 'baby boomer' year.

The lessons would have been based on reading, writing, maths and joined up handwriting and children also sometimes had to chant out loud their times tables and read out poetry.

Children were taught about typical British celebrations like May Day and learnt how to dance around the May pole.

This is where you have to take a piece of coloured ribbon and dance around each other to celebrate the arrival of Summer.

It would have been quite different to Raz's culture in Bangladesh where he had different traditions.

He might have celebrated Ramadan in Bangladesh and Crewe- where he would have prayed, fasted and tried to give up bad habits.

Raz might have also noticed that in school, people paid a lot of attention to the 4 seasons-Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn.

In Bangladesh, they would have had the Monsoon season instead. The Monsoon season is when it rains all the time!



- **Can you sway like a tree in the wind?**
- **What is your favourite part of going to school now?**
- **Are there any differences at your school compared to when Raz was at school?**

# Sweet shop

Individual sweet shops were popular in the 1960's!

You could fill up your bag with as many sweets you could fit.

A lot of sweets were inspired by the Space Race.

This is a race to be the first country to land on the moon.

It meant that a lot of objects, movies, sweets and even furniture were inspired by space ships and rockets like the fizzy flying saucer sweets.

Raz might have visited the Ruskin Road Tuck Shop to buy some sweets!



- **Take a look at the sweets.**
- **Which 1960's sweets are you going to choose?**
- **What is your favourite sweet now?**
- **Do you recognise any of the sweets?**



Fruit salad



Liquorice wheels



Lemon sherberts



Flying saucers



Parma violets



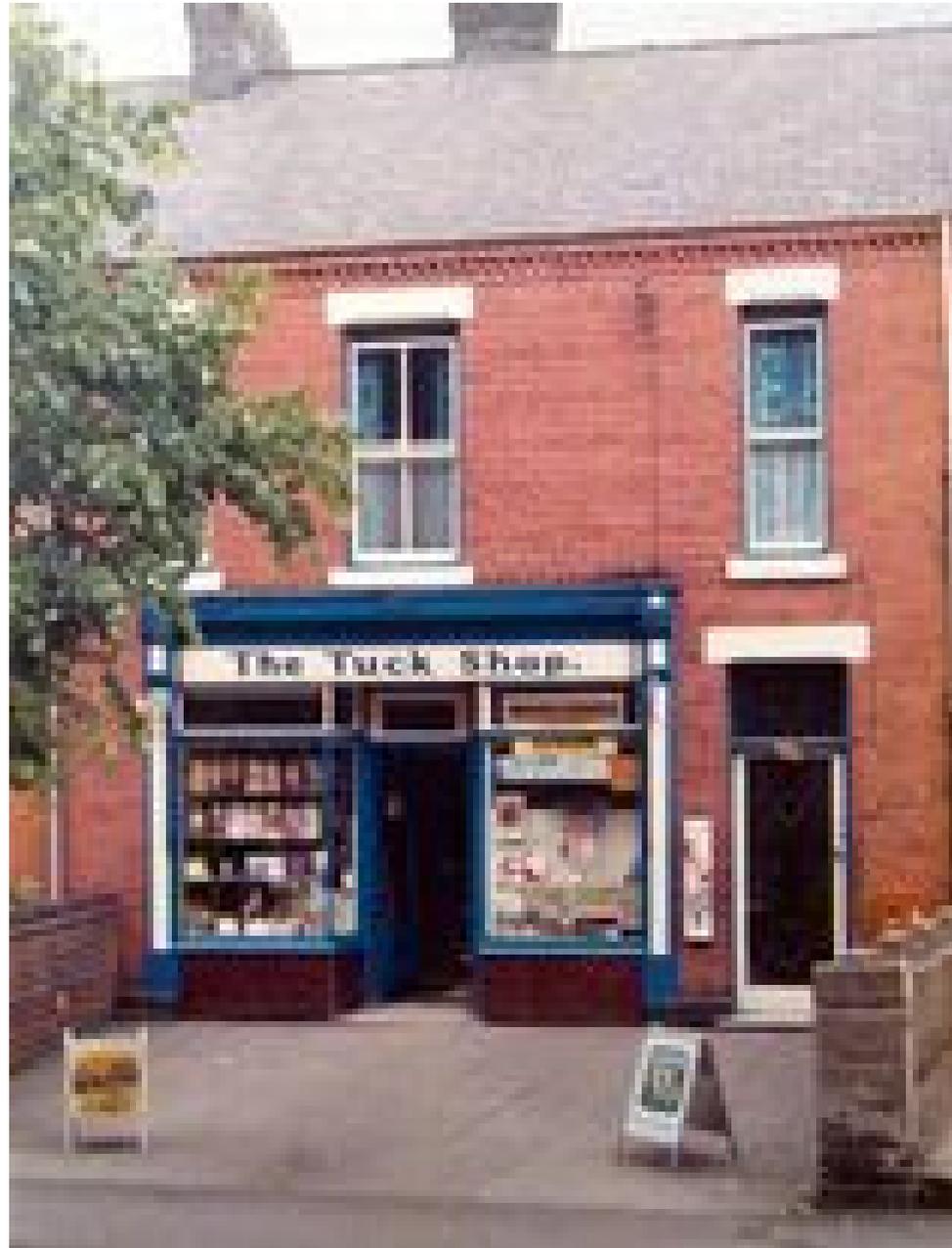
Drumsticks



Milk bottles



Dip dab



**Ruskin Road Tuck Shop**

Credit: Rob Holland

# Toy shop

Raz might have also visited toy shops in Crewe in the 1960's, maybe saving his pocket money to buy a new Action Man!



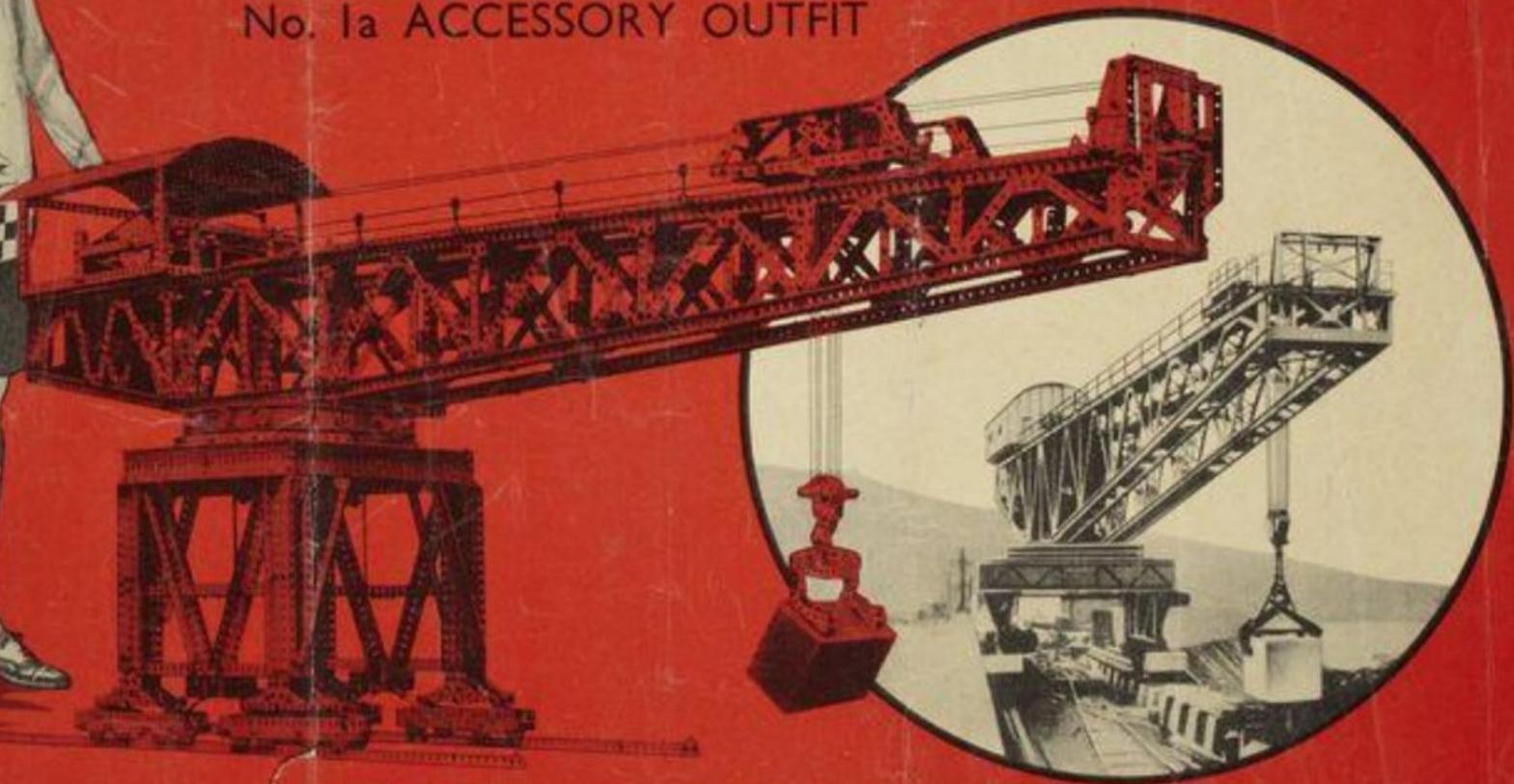
- **Can you see any toys you recognise?**
- **What toys do you play with now?**
- **What do you notice is different to my toys?**

# MECCANO

INSTRUCTIONS FOR  
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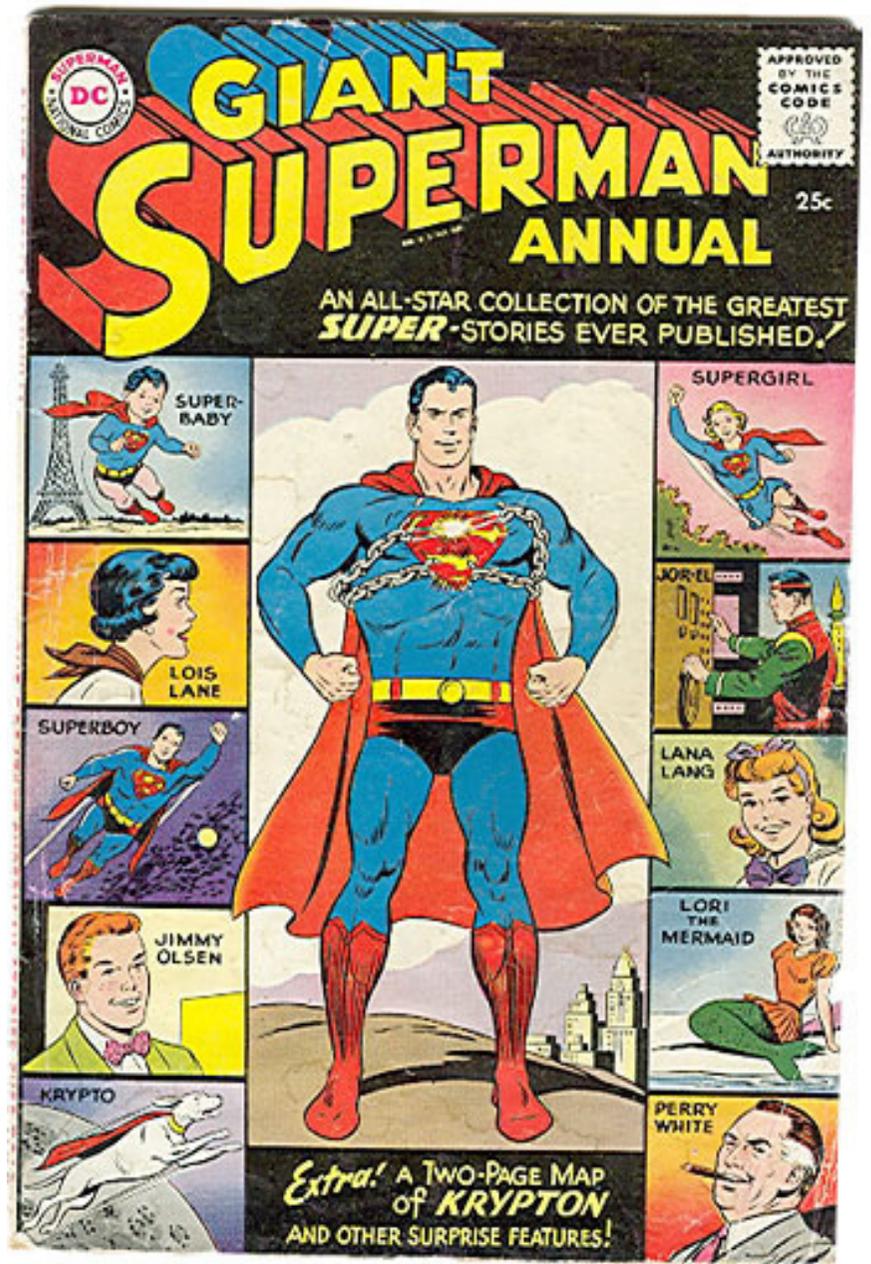
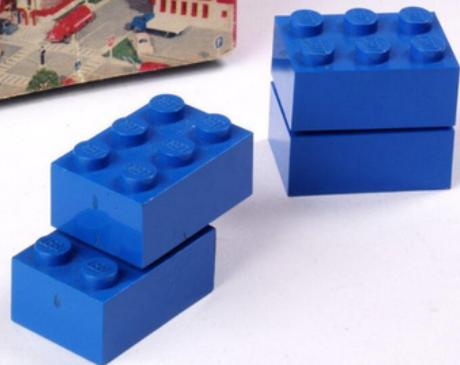
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THE GAME THAT TIES YOU UP IN KNOTS

# Twister



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**FUN**  
FOR THE ENTIRE  
FAMILY

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*write*!  
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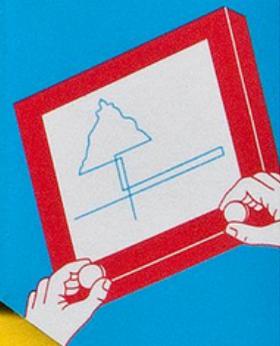
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SHAKE TO  
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DRAW LINES WITH *Etch A Sketch*<sup>®</sup> in any direction



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IS  
**FUN**  
FOR  
**ALL**



*unlimited design possibilities*

SKETCH • ERASE AND SKETCH AGAIN

**WARNING:**  
CHOKING HAZARD - Small parts.  
Not for children under 3 years.

# The butcher shop, the grocer shop and the bakers

Following the end of World War 2 in 1945, rationing still continued until 1954.

Rationing took place during World War 2 and meant you could only buy a limited amount of food every week because of the war and the lack of food at the time.

Following rationing ending in 1954, people were still used to eating very basic food with little ingredients and so it took a while for eating habits to change.

The food would have been quite different for anyone migrating from another country and for Raz, who would have been used to different food in Bangladesh.

Spices were impossible to buy in the UK during World War 2. After it ended, their supply was still limited.

Shopping for food in Crewe in the 1960's would have been very different for Raz than it is for you.

Raz would have had to go to a lot of different shops with his family in Crewe to buy different food.

He would have got the meat from the butchers, the vegetables from the grocer and the bread from the baker.

He might also have got the milk delivered to his door by the milk van every week.

Crewe started to see the arrival of 'supermarkets' or shops that sold a variety of different food from the 1960's.

One of these shops was Midland Supermarket!



**Talk to your partner:**

- **Where does your family shop for food in Crewe?**
- **What is your favourite thing to eat now?**
- **How is your life different in Crewe now to Raz's life in the 1960's?**



Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies

# Having fun!

The technology we have now didn't exist in the 1960's.

Raz wouldn't have had a mobile or a computer to go on the internet and play video games.

Children played together outside and they might have come home with scraped knees and muddy clothes from playing football and other games!

Crewe had a lot of hiding places and quiet places to play.

When World War 2 ended in 1945, a lot of the rubble and bombed areas still hadn't been cleared yet.

It gave children a lot of places to play that were quite dangerous.

Raz might have gone fishing in the Valley Brook and maybe learnt how to play skipping ropes and hopscotch.

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Raz might have visited Queen's Park to play football, eat ice cream and take a boat out onto the lake.

He could have visited the Odeon cinema on Delamere Street which opened in 1937 to watch new films like Mary Poppins or The Jungle Book.

You could have got a whole bucket of salty popcorn for 10p!

The Lyceum Theatre was also popular in Crewe in the 1960's when they had a circus and other performances.

There were red velvet seats sat all around the stage.



- **Take a look at the pictures of the Odeon Cinema and Queen's Park in Crewe in the 1960's.**



Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies



Credit: [www.queensparkcrewe.com](http://www.queensparkcrewe.com)

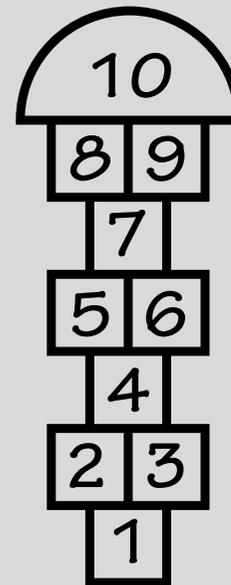


Credit: [www.queensparkcrewe.com](http://www.queensparkcrewe.com)

Let's try playing some of the games that I play in the 1960's!

Hopscotch

1. Try drawing the pattern below using chalk on your playground.



2. You can hop using one foot on the single squares and then jump on the double squares with both feet.



3. If you wanted to make it harder, you can try finding a beanbag, conker, twig or a stone.
4. Throw your object onto square 1. Make sure it lands inside the square! If it lands outside the square, you have to miss your turn.
5. If your object lands inside the square, you can hop through all of the squares.
6. If your object lands outside the square, you have to miss your turn.
7. When you get to the end, turn around and hop again through the squares.
8. When you're on the square before your object, lean down on one foot and pick it up.
9. When you have finished, pass your object to the next person.
10. When it is your turn again, throw your object onto the next number and keep doing this until you get all the way to 10!
11. How fast can you do this? The Guinness World Record has someone completing it in just 68 seconds!

## Jacks

1. You need a small bouncy ball and a set of 'Jacks'.
2. Usually, Jacks are made of metal but you can use any objects you can find.
3. You could use rubbers, conkers, coins or small stones.
4. Find 10 of these.
5. Make sure you're playing on a hard surface like your playground or a table.
5. You can play with as many players as you want. When you have everyone, decide who goes first.
6. Scatter the Jacks over the surface- make sure none of them are touching.
7. The person going first, throws the ball into the air.
8. While the ball is in the air, scoop up a jack into your hand before the ball has had a chance to bounce.
9. Catch the ball once it has bounced once using the same hand as your Jack.



10. Once you have caught the ball, transfer your Jack to your other hand.
11. Keep repeating the process until you have picked up all the Jacks.
12. Remember to keep the Jacks in your hand!
13. If you don't pick up the ball in time or you let it bounce more than once, the game moves onto another player.
14. If this happens, scatter the Jacks on the surface again.
15. If you want to make it harder, try picking up 2 Jacks and then picking up the ball after it has bounced once on the surface.



## My Grandmother's Trunk

1. Everyone playing should all sit in a circle.
2. Pick someone to start.
3. Decide if you are going in a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction.
4. The first player says "In my grandmother's trunk, there was a..."
5. The first player can pick anything they want.
6. The next player will then repeat what the first player said and then they will say "In my grandmother's trunk, there was a..."
7. The players continue to repeat everything said before them as well as adding their own word.
8. Can you remember all of the words?
9. You can try asking all the players to say a word in alphabetical order- apple, badger, cat, drum etc.



# The Post Office

Raz would have still kept in touch with his friends and family in Bangladesh.

The only way to talk to them was through writing letters.

He might have written about his life in Crewe.

It would have cost him threepence to send a letter in the 1960's.

This was before money changed in the UK in 1971 to how we know it now. Money in the UK now uses the decimal system which is a money system based on multiples of 10 and 100.

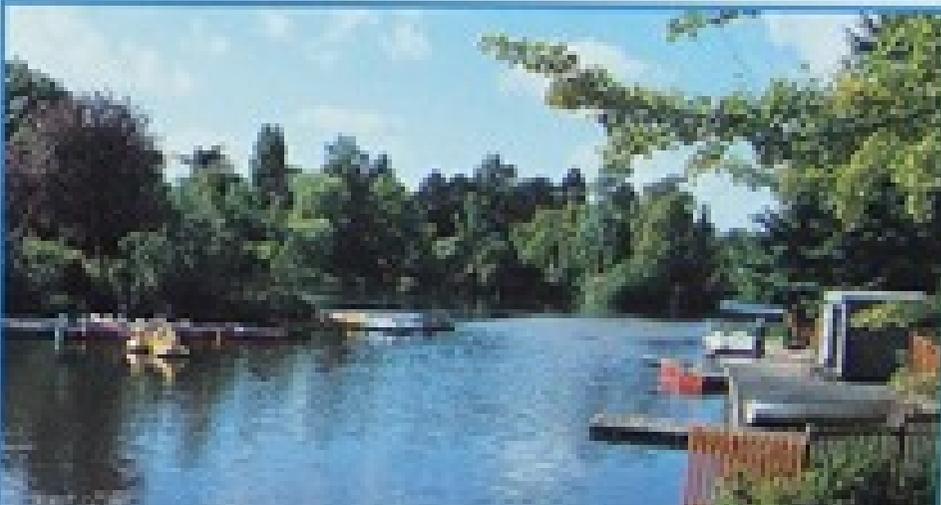
To send letters abroad, Raz would have had to take them to the Post Office in Crewe to be stamped with a stamp of Queen Elizabeth II.



- **Do you like to write letters?**
- **Take a look at the postcard that Raz might have sent to his family.**
- **Take a look at the picture of the Post Office in Crewe in the 1960's.**



Queens Park, Crewe





Credit: Cheshire Archives and Local Studies

# Suggested activity



- Do you have a family member who lived in Crewe in the 1960's?
- Talk to them about their experiences.
- You might want to plan your interview and what questions you are going to ask.
- Remember to use a mixture of open and closed questions.
- An open question is when someone can respond with any answer with detail.
- A closed question is when someone can only respond with 'yes' or 'no'.
- What else do you want to find out about Crewe in the 1960's?