

NOSTALGIA

I mourn for those times when

art was beautiful
poetry rhymed
pop music still had notes
(this used to read, "pop music still had tunes")
religion was faith
sex was love
dancers touched each other
policemen were like George Dixon
politicians were statesmen
governments did more than run the economy
cars were British
trains were powered by steam
cyclists used lights after dark
footballers did not kiss
referees were allowed to stay on their feet
the umpire's decision was final - even at Wimbledon
cricketers wore white and not helmets
it mattered who won the test match
rugby pitches were marked out in yards
cider came in quarts and petrol in gallons
bread was spread with butter
apples were not plastic
toys were made of wood
the theatre included Shakespeare
James Bond was an English gentleman played by a Scotsman
children had to learn their twelve times table
Latin was taught in schools
Christmas was something to do with religion and started in December
Sunday was a day for relaxation
there were alternatives to television
letters arrived the day after posting
things could be repaired rather than having to be replaced
car parks were free
cheques did not need a guarantee card
£1 was a lot of money.
a £5 note was a contract which the Bank of England had to honour
telephones were answered by PEOPLE
history was not a matter for self-denigration.

Nostalgia is not what it used to be!

Martin Mosse.

This was first written in 2000. I have since been told that I have just described the 1950s (excepting James Bond and perhaps George Dixon), which is not too surprising as I was born in 1950.