

Moving On: February

I guess I really should make it absolutely clear here that any names I've used regarding the people I support in a care setting have been changed and the tale, the memory, adjusted to protect their identity. That just goes for people I've supported in care though, when family and friends are spoken of then sure I've taken a little liberty in the retelling but then I see that as my prerogative as I'm the one struggling to both remember the events and also trying to put it into some semblance of normality, and generally failing – not even going to apologise for that

February 1st

Brother Michael would take groups of us to his farm in Buxton for day trips and occasionally for a weekend. We'd stop at the main house and say hello to the farmer who was working the land and pick up eggs, a sack of potatoes and carrots and then head to his plot. Once all our stuff was dropped off he'd load the rifle and off we went, as Elmer Fudd would say 'Hunting wabbits'. The deal was simple, if we were able to get a rabbit we would then have to gut, skin and clean it then add it to the pot, if we didn't then all we were eating were baked potatoes, carrots and an egg.

February 2nd

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I wonder sometimes how some staff actually manage to run their own home given their choices, or lack of choices, at work. Seriously!

February 3rd

I was a little homesick my third year out in New York and had asked Mum to send me a cassette of Christmas music. She sent me a tape with the whole of Nana Mouskouri's Christmas album. No problem there as her version of Little Drummer Boy was one of my favourites. I listened to it the night I received it, and then as I reached over to turn off the cassette player once the album had finished I heard the dulcet sounds of Pinky and Perky singing 'Silent Night' as Mum had decided to fill the other side of the cassette with their Christmas Album too. I'm very much like one of Pavlov's dog's now inasmuch as I cannot hear a Nana Mouskouri Christmas song without thinking of Pinky & Perky

February 4th