

## **The old times**

I talked about this with my grandfather Engelbert. He was born in 1952 and lives in Schwabegg.

### **Lifestyle**

Prior the 20th century, women's and men's roles were completely separate. During the 19th century women were not allowed to work, vote, or use birth control and they were not seen equal to men in society, even at home women were expected to cook, clean and look after the children while their husbands were out working to support the family. With more education for women, they were allowed to take part in society, however it was mainly upper class women that got that privilege. Due to women not having the license to work the idea of suffrage began. After women voted in their first federal election in 1922, many were satisfied and believed that they were politically equal to men. After women gained the right to vote, they gained more personal and social freedom. Women began to engage in public activities. They were allowed to drink in public. Skirt lengths were shorter, their hair was cut shorter which was seen as a symbol of freedom. Women were thrown out of work and many states had laws mandating that if a woman's husband worked she could not. After the crisis the traditional gender roles were exaggerated, women's hair were worn longer again, their dresses were more frilly, loose and long, but roles were then altered again as a result of world war two. Because the men were participating in the war, women took over the jobs that men were doing. Women were given new training and became very skilled, they also became better educated, and were able to fill seats in colleges as some young men were in the war. By women working were still in traditionally feminine professions, like nursing and teaching. Women, at this time, were under pressure to prove that they could be as successful as men in the workforce.

The most respected personalities in the community were the mayor, priest, teacher and policeman. Eating was definitely cheaper in the past than it is today. It was paid with shillings. In the past, people traveled as far as they came by car. The most popular destinations were coastal region Istria, Krk and in Italy from Trieste to Venice. The school was the same as today only there were more students than now. The most important thing you learned in the past was calculating, writing and reading. The discipline of the students towards the teachers was much higher and more disciplined than now. The social life in the communities was much more pronounced because the families were much larger and the social contacts were therefore much better. Now the things are worn again that were already worn 20-30 years ago. The poor people wore pants with holes. Most of what was played was soccer. There were very many people who practiced their passion.