

Reflections at Trinidad – the last hurrah!

Remember the goats  
That so long ago  
Were rounded up  
Yarded, fed and watered  
Then let go  
Because of rain  
Further down the road?  
Yet again they are  
Gathered, yarded, sorted  
And this time,  
Loaded onto the truck  
For pastures unknown  
Or other!



The sun has been shining  
The sky, clear blue  
With wispy clouds  
Sometimes.  
The half moon  
is shining brightly  
Lighting up the road  
As I walk home  
After dinner  
Of roast mutton  
so large  
It overflows the baking dish.  
But cold meat is hard to buy  
Out here  
So the mutton is used  
For lunches, snacks, dinners  
All through the week  
It cooks in the oven  
For 6 hours or more.



The vegies are fresh  
From the 'main' house  
Asparagus is in  
Cauli there is plenty  
Snow peas, carrots, broccoli,  
Cabbage and lettuce.  
Corn is on the way  
And pumpkins  
are tripped over  
on a walk  
through the garden  
Under trees that hang heavy  
With mandarins.  
My stirfry is  
The flavour of the moment  
As we savour the fresh  
Crisp vegies  
A few nights in a row!

The baby has grown  
And is smiling now  
Pushing up on his feet  
To lift his tiny bottom  
Off the floor.  
(But we 'pay' for  
The cabbage in wind  
The day after!)



(Home 'tank'- water for the vegies  
as well as fish comes from here!)



In the schoolroom  
We've had tears...  
Of sadness, frustration  
And joy  
As the sentences  
In the daily diary  
Have grown from  
One squeezed out  
To three, spurted  
After a 'race'  
On the motorbikes  
With Mum, Dad



And 'Ootie'....  
(Who screamed and shouted  
When their bike didn't win!  
The race that wasn't!)  
More joy in the schoolroom  
As new readers come  
Brought in the mail.  
They can be read  
To teachers  
"On Air" 3 times per week  
After lessons that  
Are done together  
With the other Year 1's  
On the internet...



How parents (read mothers)  
do 'school'....  
As well as all  
The other stuff  
That they have to do  
Inside and out...  
Milk the cow,



Herd the goats,  
Make 'smoko' twice per day  
(that includes fresh, hot scones,  
Cakes, like the luscious orange cake,  
One slice was not enough!  
Biscuits and more...Lunch and dinner  
too.  
Loads of washing, pay the bills  
Organise the trucks and  
Breakfast for the truckies  
Who take the goats away  
Before the sun is up!  
Spray the weeds, fix this and that  
AND then teach the children!!!  
PHEW!



Early morning  
The truck's arrived  
The driver's had his breakfast  
up at the house  
Then...  
It's off to the yards for everyone  
To watch the goats go.  
The driver tinkers and new floors  
appear  
Billies down there Nannys get the view  
It takes 2 hours  
To load them all  
625 give or take  
Are off to the meatworks  
I try not to think about it!  
But it's money in the bank.  
Everyone's tired  
So school is brief.

