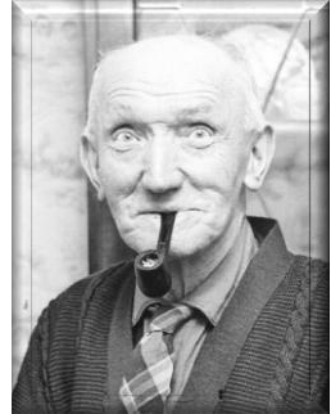


Newspaper Article Transcript, The original newspaper cutting still exists but is in too poor a condition to scan, I've transcribed it here and substituted a different photograph taken at around the same time.

“Big Families Are Happiest”

Tom Adams of “F” Mill started with Accles and Pollock when he was 13. He's 61 today and he's still there doing a full day's work after 48 years with the company.



His first pay packet he recalls was 7s. a week as a dogger up, but trade was bad an short time soon cut it to 4s. a week.

“I went and saw the boss to see if I could get a rise” says Tom.

“He said I could have one if I'd do another job, so I went as a striker, using a 7lb sledge hammer and getting 12s. a week. Then at 18 I went back tagging on the night shift, the first one to do it at that age.

Two and a half years of that, and then I went as a drawer and I've been drawing ever since.”

Tom lives at 55 Mackmillan Road, Blackheath. He has two recipes for life, gardening and a big family.

“Big families are always the happiest.” He says, and he ought to know for he has ten children, eight of them married and sixteen grandchildren.

As for gardening Tom used to run three allotments and two big greenhouses, he took quite a few prizes at local shows, but he’s had to give most of it up now “a bit too much.” He says, even for him.

Transcribed by Steven Harbutt, Grandson to Tom Adams

7s. Seven shillings today’s currency = 35p

4s. Four shillings today’s currency = 20p

12s. Twelve shillings today’s currency = 60p