



Sedgley's

Diamond 60

*Sixty years, sixty people,
sixty stories about village life
since 1952.*

1959

The first ever Mini

by Mavis Gosling

We bought our Mini, an Austin 7, when we were still living in the Potteries. It was pale blue and cost £570 on the road, including insurance and road tax.

It was produced in 1959, among the first ever Minis to be sold; we had to order it and wait for it to be delivered. It was our first car: my husband Roy was in his 30s and had only just passed his test.

In 1960 we moved to a house in Shakespeare Drive in The Straits, where we lived for 18 years before buying a bungalow for retirement.

We relocated from the Potteries because Roy got a job with the Co-op store in Dudley, which was then on the corner of Vicar Street and High Street (it's now United Footwear, opposite Argos).

He started off as Furniture Manager, then became Dry Goods Controller and was eventually appointed General Manager in charge of all staff at the store. He used the Mini to get to and from work.

When we came to Sedgley my little girl was 5 and my little boy was 18 months old. The car gave us the freedom to take them on wonderful family holidays all over the country.



The Austin 7 Mini.



A pale blue Austin 7.



The Dudley Co-op site on the corner of High Street and Vicar Street, Dudley, where Mavis's husband was General Manager.