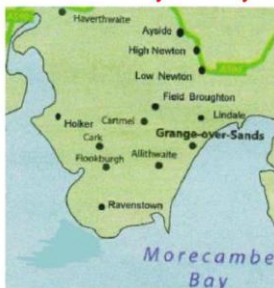


Cartmel Peninsula  
Local History Society



CPLHS - Bringing History to the Local Community

## Interview with Joyce Smith

Joyce Penelope Juliana Smith ('JS'), born 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr 1909

Interviewer : Dr Malcolm W. Arthurton ('MA'), born 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr 1918

Date : 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1999

Recording duration : 1hr 17 mins 17 secs

MA Yes, we'll start, and see what it's like. Now, when did you come to Cartmel ?

JS We came ... my father was appointed.

MA Yes. Would you like to start again, and just say ... when did you first come to Cartmel ?

JS We came when my father was appointed in nineteen hundred and ten.

MA Right. [break on recoding] So you came to Cartmel in 1910.

JS Yes. We had been at Walney Island, where I was born, because he had been sent there, with architectural experience, to build a new church on Walney Island, because Vickerstown was expanding, and there wasn't room for people in the old church. So when he'd done that, and the church was built, he was appointed to Cartmel. And it would be October 1910 [1 min] when we came, and my mother was pregnant with her son, Armand, and the first thing that happened was, he decided to arrive, early. And my father didn't know many people in Cartmel, but the Verger lived just very near the Vicarage gates. So in the middle of the night, he went and knocked the Verger up, and said, do you know anyone who can come and help my wife 'cos she's going to have a baby. He said : oh, my mother does them jobs. And he got his mother out of bed from upstairs, and she waddled round to the Vicarage, and found that Armand, my brother, had arrived, before her, on his own, and was sucking his grandmother's thumb. And this was a great excitement, because, he was the first baby, and the first boy, ever to be born in the Vicarage.

MA [2 mins] Was he the first ... was he the first of the family ?

JS No, I was the second.

MA He was the first, and you were the second ?

JS No. ... Is it on tape ?

MA Yes, it doesn't matter. It's alright. It doesn't matter.

JS No, my sister had been born in Grange. [MA : Ah] My father's first Curacy was Grange. [MA : Yes, yes] He trained in Barrow in Furness, with Archdeacon Boutflower, at St. George's, Barrow, and ... that's where he first went, after he'd been at Theological College, and from

there, when he got married. And when he was married, they sent him to Grange, as Curate, because they thought Grange was a nice place for a married couple. And then from Grange, he was appointed to Walney, [3 mins] and from Walney to Cartmel. And that morning, after my brother was born, he was the third in the family, the Churchwarden came round to say , might they ring the bells, because this was the first baby born in the Vicarage. But my father declined the honour. [both laugh]

MA Yes, I see. So you were ... you were ... you were the second in the family ? [JS : Yes] and he was the [JS : third] third, and was that ... did you have any more brothers or sisters after that, or not ?

JS Yes. The other three, two brothers and a sister, were all born in Cartmel Vicarage, [MA : ah], during the war.

MA So there were five children in all ? [JS : Yes] Five in all ?

JS One ... my next brother was born in 19 ... when did the war broke out ? [MA : 1914] Yes, my next brother was born in [4 mins] 1913, and then in August 1914, my third brother arrived on the scene, and because there was a war on, he was registered as John Miles, and then, my father's brother said no, all the boys had to be called McKenzie. And so, it had to be altered, and he wasn't John Miles, he was John McKenzie.

MA Why was that ? Why was your father so keen ...

JS It was an old family name, McKenzie, [MA : ah, I see, yes], and my father's eldest brother, who was head of the family really, asked that all the boys born should be called McKenzie, to prolong the old family name. [MA : yes, I see] My other two brothers weren't in time, you see, so they weren't McKenzie.

MA Yes, I see, yes. So ... you ... I remember you telling me that when the war ... when the armistice [5 mins] came, in 1918, you helped your father ring the bells, is that right ?

JS Well no ... to put the flag up.

MA put the flag up, I'm sorry, ah, I see. But did you ...

JS A lot went on before that.

MA Yes yes. Did they ring the bells before ... did they ring the bells ... did they ring the bells here at the armistice ?

JS I can't remember [MA : No] I think they did, probably [MA : I thought you told me they did] I think they probably did.

MA Anyway, you helped him to put the flag up.

JS But the event was ... you see, the armistice was signed at 11 o'clock, on the 11<sup>th</sup> of the 11<sup>th</sup> [MA : Yes, yes] And at about half past eleven, my father came into the school room, which was the dining room, where we did lessons with the governess. [MA : Yes] And he burst in and he said : armistice is signed. War is over. Who's coming up the tower with me to put

the flag up ? That would be about half past eleven. And so, I was the eldest at home, my elder sister was away at boarding school, [6 mins] and I went with him, and I'm not sure whether Armand, my brother, came too, he probably did. And we went up the tower ... that awful ladder over the bells ... you know the bells ... [MA : Yes, yes, yes] ... you know, this swinging ladder ... [MA : Yes, yes ... very difficult] ... I was very frightened of going up that. [MA : Anyway] But I did.

MA You did. Very good. That's fine. I think that you did tell me also that during ... during the war, that on one occasion, you heard a bell go, and your father thought it was something funny, and went up to investigate with a gun in his hand. Is that right ?

JS Yes, but I don't want to tell you that, because I want to write it for the parish magazine.

MA That's alright. That's fine. Well, don't worry about that because we ... what's printed here won't come out until ... till after you've done your magazine job. When are you going to do the magazine job ?

JS Well, I thought I'd put it in June.

MA Oh yes. Oh, well that's alright. [7 mins] We will respect that, that's OK.

JS I don't want this speech, you see ... I don't want to do it every month. [MA : Oh no] I mean you'd get sick of me. [MA : Quite] But I have promised I would do ... [MA : Yes] ... is it switched on ?

MA Yes. Well it's alright; it doesn't matter; it's OK. We can ... we're not going to ... we're not going to reproduce these verbatim ... we're just going to take pieces out [JS : take snaps ... pieces out, yes]

JS The other things about the war ... [MA : Yes, do tell us about that] ... were ration books for the first time [MA : Yes] And I remember going shopping with ... [MA : this is the 1<sup>st</sup> world war ? ] What ? [MA : the 1<sup>st</sup> war, yes] The 1<sup>st</sup> world war ... going shopping in the village with my mother, with a ration book. [MA : Yes] And having to be very careful, because we could only have so much butter, and so much sugar, and ... really, I don't think we really got enough to eat as children. [MA : No] We all were rather small, and I think it was partly because we didn't really get proper nourishment, [MA : Yes, yes] [8 mins] and we had a bad cook ... very dull ... I remember not wanting to eat, because the food wasn't nice, you know. [MA : Yes] My father, on his letter weights, he had them on the breakfast table, and weighed the slices of bread that everybody ate, to see they weighed the right ... they weren't eating more than they should. [MA : Your father ?] Yes. [MA : I see] And he was very conscientious about things ... he rather enjoyed it really. [laughs]

MA I suppose he was being very patriotic, wasn't he, really ?

JS He prefaced, that we must be careful, and not to be greedy. [MA : I think that that is very commendable] and the fact ... I think the result was that we didn't really get properly fed, [MA : Yes] because there wasn't the food, you know. We drank milk a lot; I remember

drinking a lot of milk. [MA : Yes] And I remember creeping into the dining room when nobody was there, and nicking the butter, because I wanted butter so badly.

MA [9 mins] Yes. You didn't get caught ?

JS No. I was sick.

MA You were sick. [laughs] Can you remember what sort of an impact the war had on the local people ?

JS Yes. One of the things was Special Constables. They were always expecting spies, [MA : yes] and they were all on the lookout ... everybody was very spy minded ... and they ... Special Constables were always guarding the reservoirs, [MA : oh yes] one of their things ... they were afraid the water supply was going to be polluted, [MA : yes, yes, yes] and then they used to go out at night ... I think they really had tremendous fun, probably, between them. My father was one of them. [MA : yes] And I don't know where they went ... this is going into my article too.

MA Yes, that's fine. My grandfather, in London, [JS : was he a Special ?], he was a Special Constable, that was during the war, yes.

JS [10 mins] And then they had a Fire Brigade as well, [MA : oh, yes], a little hand fire engine, that they can push, [MA : yes], by hand, or drag or something, and the head of the Fire Brigade was Mr Teasdale at the Post Office, the Postmaster [MA : ah, I've heard of him], Harry Teasdale, he was the chief fireman, and they used to long for somebody to get on fire, and they did have [laughs], they did have an alarm, and Broughton Lodge, which is up the road [MA : yes] ... now it's a block of flats ... [MA : yes] it had been a big private house [MA : yes] belonging to Mr Ridehalgh. And I think his greenhouse got on fire, or something, and so the fire brigade was called out to see to that. And of course, it was quite a long way to go [MA : yes] from Cartmel with a hand machine, [MA : quite, yes] hand thing.

MA Was that dragged by horses, or, did horses drag it, or how did ... [11 mins] Or was it ... did it go ...

JS It was pushed by hand, [MA : oh, pushed by hand, golly] yes, sort of little truck, I imagine, [MA : yes] I don't know what it was like really, I never ... I don't remember seeing it, but I heard about it, [MA : yes] and they all went out, [MA : yes] and put the fire out in Mr Ridehalgh's greenhouse.

MA Well, yes. Can you remember much about the social life in the village, I mean ...

JS Well, yes, I can. To start with, there were only three cars, [MA : three cars], that I know of, [MA : yes], and three people had cars, and there was a taxi at the Cavendish Arms, [MA : yes], it was a Ford Taxi at the Cavendish Arms. But, there was a great dividing line between the gentry, and what were called the village people, [MA : yes, yes], and they didn't mix very much, [MA : no], except in things like the Mother's Union, and the Girl's [12 mins] Friendly Society, [MA : yes], and the Scouts, and there was a thing called the Church of England Men's Society, [MA : yes], which is rather like ... what ... you have a men's group now, [MA : that's right, yes], it was the same type of thing, [MA : yes], and those were the

things where they met, [MA : yes], and in the war, they met over First Aid lectures, [MA : yes], and of course the Specials, and ... Scouts ... were very much ... they started in the war ... my father was Scout Master. But socially, the two groups didn't meet, [MA : no, no], and I remember as children being told we mustn't play with the village children, and, oh no, we had a nanny, you see, [MA : yes, yes], who was very particular about this kind of thing, [MA : yes], and we were always steered clear of the village children. [MA : yes, yes]. I was always rather disgusted, because I rather [13 mins] wanted to play with the village children, [MA : yes, well I think children ...], but now that's all gone, you see, [MA : yes, quite], but it was quite different in those days, [MA : yes], and they didn't resent it all, they just accepted, [MA : yes], that this was how it was. [MA : yes]. And we had our own personal friends. We had the Remingtons at ... Aynsome House, [MA : oh yes], not Aynsome Manor, [MA : no], where the Lowes live now, there were some people called Remington lived there, and they had a laboratory which ... they analysed flour and bread and things, [MA : what, at Aynsome House was that ?], at Aynsome House, yes, [MA : yes], and there's still remains of the old laboratory in the building yard, by Aynsome House. [MA : really]. And they had an adopted daughter, a great friend of my sister's, they were the same age, and they played together, and they lived together; and then there were the Pearson boys [14 mins] at Stanley, Tanley. Now O'Neil Pearson was the person who bought the Gatehouse, and gave it to the National Trust, [MA : ah, yes], and he lived at Tanley, [MA : Hadley ?], Tanley, [MA : Tanley, yes], which is on the way, you know, round the corner by ... on the way to Field Broughton [sic., but should be Wood Broughton]. And he had a wife, very kind person, and three sons, who were the same age as my brothers, and they all played together, [MA : yes], very nice, the Pearson boys, [MA : yes], and my sister and I had great contempt for them, they were younger than we were, and they had squeaky voices which we didn't like, but ... and they spoke French like natives, the boys did, [MA : the boys did ?], yes, [MA : yes, did they], I think they always talked French at home, [MA : yes], and Pat and Neil [15 mins] and Geoff, but they were quite fun, and Mrs Pearson, a kind nice person. I envied them terribly because they had Hornby trains, [MA : ah], and Meccano, [MA : yes], and all these things that I longed for, but were considered only boys toys, you see.

MA I suppose now you would be wanting to play for the village football team ? [laughs]

JS No, but I loved going to play with them because they had these kinds of toys to play with, you see, [MA : yes, yes], which were my ambition. [MA : yes]. And then further up the road, at Wood Broughton, were the Greyrigg family. [MA : that's ?] Greyrigg [MA : oh yes], family at Wood Broughton [MA : yes], and they had two boys, [MA : yes], and then later on a little girl arrived on the scene. And they were my sister and my age, the boys were, [MA : yes], the same age as my sister, elder sister, and me, and we very much loved going to play with them because they had pedal [16 mins] cars, [MA : ah], and [MA : yes], we didn't have any of these things, you see, because my father had a theory ... I always wondered if it was really because he didn't want us to have them ... that they were not good for children, to have mechanical toys, it stopped their brains working, or something. I think it was economy really. [MA : yes]. And anyway, we loved going to play with them because they had pedal cars and scooters, [MA : yes] and we could ride them all over the grounds at Wood Broughton, you see, [MA : yes] and they were very nice boys, they let us play with their things, very nice boys they were.

- MA Of course, in those days I suppose the Minister, although he was ... he was in the ... regarded as part of the gentry, as it were, he wasn't drawing a sal... a very ... I don't know what the salary was then ... but I don't know what the salary was ...
- JS There was no money at all. [MA : no, very small]. Three hundred a year, or something like that, [MA : yes], you couldn't do much with that, [MA : no], could you, [MA : no, no], beyond putting a swing up in the garden, [MA : that's right], which we had.
- MA [17 mins] So your father really, apart from being the Minister, he was also the ... a Special Constable, and then he got the Scouts going, you say, [JS : sorry], he got the Scouts going, [JS : yes, yes he did ... take them to camp], did he do anything ... I mean ... that's enough ... did he do anything else as well ? Those were the three main things that he did ?
- JS He was Rural Dean. [MA : Rural Dean as well ?], Yes.
- MA Yes. That would be in his latter part of his stay here, was it ? That's towards the end of his spell ?
- JS He was quite soon appointed Rural Dean, [MA : was he, yes, yes], He knew the area so well, having been at Grange, [MA : yes], and been at Walney, [MA : yes], and then come here, [MA : ah, I see, yes, yes], and the other clergy were rather old, I think, elderly, you know, [MA : yes], and I always remember him having rural decanal meetings at our Vicarage, [MA : ah], and there was one old clergyman who came on a bicycle with a string saddle, a quite fascinating thing, [MA : with a what [18 mins] saddle ?], string, [MA : string ?], it was like a little hammock, [MA : oh, I see], it was a saddle, [laughs], I thought it was quite fascinating, I think he was the Vicar of Lindale, [MA : oh yes], but anyway, that's my great recollection of the rural decanal meetings, was the bicycle with a string saddle.
- MA I'm just going to stop for a minute. [no break in the recording] We can go on again now. Well now, when your father came here as the Vicar, I expect he probably made some changes at the Priory. Can you remember much about the sorts of things that he did at the Priory ?
- JS Well I think he was a person who was loath to make changes, and very soon, you see, the war broke out, and there was no money to do anything within the Priory, [MA : no], so no ... there was no money to spend on the Priory. But the one thing that he did do was the Town Choir, which was then used as a kind of junk room. It had a few benches in, where they sometimes had [19 mins] choir practice, and meetings, but otherwise, it was used to do the oil lamps, to clean them, and the flowers were done in there, and there is a cold tap still against the wall, where you can draw water. And ... all the cleaning apparatus was kept in there, there was no little kitchen at the back of the church like as there is now, and it was just a sort of junk room. And my father, being an architect, knew that it ought not to be there, it ought to be a chapel, as was intended first – a Town Choir, for the congregation to come into the monastic church. [MA : yes]. So he put his wits together, and decided that it must be restored, as a place of worship. So he got the Scouts on the job, [MA : what a good idea], and cleaned it up, tidied it up, raised [20 mins] money by giving a concert, to buy some necessary things for it, and ... when it was finally ... there was ... an altar put in it, there was a ... what is

called a riddled curtain, I think, behind the altar, it was a blue curtain, on a rod, and the finials of the rod were Scout badges, [MA : ah], big iron Scout badges made by the Smithy, by the blacksmith, [MA : oh yes, yes, I've ...], in the blacksmith's shop, [MA : yes], he made Scout badges, [MA : yes], to go on the ends of the rod, [MA : yes], and somehow they got lost, and nobody knows what happened to them, I think it was in Mr Stiff's day that they disappeared. Anyway, that's one thing that was done. And then of course, there was no proper seating. And during the war, Mr Townley, who lived at Ivy House, was reported missing, [21 mins] presumed killed, and he had left a wife, who was a great friend of my mother's, and three small children, and this was a terrible thing for the ... there was no sign of Mr Townley, so he was presumed dead. And suddenly he turned up. And what had happened was, he had lost his memory, and he couldn't tell anybody who he was, and he'd also had two fingers shot off, but he came home. And of course, there was tremendous rejoicing. And Mrs Townley said, she wanted to give something to the church, as a thank offering. So my father said, well we want chairs in the Town Choir ... we want forty chairs in the Town Choir. She said right. She gave £10, and they bought 40 chairs, because the chairs were between five and six shillings each, and they're very good solid chairs because they're still there, [22 mins] [MA : yes, wonderful], and one of them has a little label on it saying it was Mrs Townley's, [MA : oh, what a good idea], only one's got it on, so people think that it's the only chair she gave, but in fact she gave them all, [MA : yes], and then other people gave things ... altar furnishings ... the two Miss Blagdens, famous characters in Cartmel, and they lived with their mother of 103 in Priory Close, and one of them ... [MA : Miss Blagden ?] Blagden, [MA : Blagden, yes], and their brother was Bishop of Peterborough [1927-1949], Blagden, Bishop Blagden, but these two Miss Blagdens, they were great characters, that's the only way I can put it, and one of them was a beautiful embroidress, and she made a frontal for the altar in the Town Choir, it was called a pro-frontal, I think, it was just a strip across the front, [MA : yes], beautifully embroidered, and I'm sorry to say that that was sold in [23 mins] some antiques sale work, and I know who got it, and I've seen it since hanging in somebody's room, but it's very moth eaten of course now, [MA : yes, yes], but it was a very beautiful piece [MA : yes] of ecclesiastical embroidery done by Miss ... the sister of the Bishop of Peterborough, [MA : yes, very interesting], and then various other people gave things, you know ... Mrs Sam Taylor, [MA : yes], got two other ladies, and they embroidered that long kneeler in front of the altar rail, [MA : oh], with a lot of [MA : the one that's there now ?] coats of arms, [MA : the coats of arms of various dioceses on, yes], well, Mrs Sam Taylor was in charge of that, and my brother's mother-in-law, Mrs Harden, whose husband was Vicar of Field Broughton, and ... I've forgotten who the other person was, there were three of them who did it, I think, [MA : yes, yes]. So [24 mins] the Town Choir gradually got furnished, [MA : yes], bit by bit, over the years.

MA Yes, that was wonderful, wasn't it. Well, I suppose ... you say that here was no kitchen at the back of the church in those days, so the idea of having coffee after the service, [JS : no, never had that], was quite a new ... quite a new thing.

JS That was ... now that was invented ... I think in Canon Foulerton's day, [MA : oh yes], I'm not quite sure who was Vicar, [MA : yes], but I'll tell you how it happened. There was a girl at the big school, the secondary school, who was the PP instructor, and she was a great person for the church. And she came to church, and was very disappointed that it was ... she

considered very unsociable ... and she'd been in Canada, where they had had coffee after the service. [MA : yes]. And she said, why couldn't we do that in Cartmel ? [MA : yes]. And [25 mins] they thought it over and decided they could, [MA : yes], and it was this girl, [MA : yes], now she married the son of the Reverend Mann, who lived here at one time, and is now Vicar ... he's Vicar of St.George's, Barrow, and she is now the wife of the Vicar of St.George's, Barrow.

MA And when did that happen then, when did ... can you remember how long ago it was ?

JS I don't know who ... oh I think ... Tommy Ledgard's day, I think, [MA : oh, hang on, yes, yes], quite recently, [MA : quite recent], and there was no ... there was a tap down there latterly for doing the flowers, [MA : yes], but that's all, there was no proper kitchen, [MA : no], and they had an electric kettle, and they [MA : yes] sort of ... people brought things, you know, [MA : yes, yes], it was very jimcrack, and then they decided to build a proper kitchen, [MA : yes], and that's fairly modern.

MA Well I think [26 mins] we'll stop ... [clicks for stopping & restarting recording]

MA Yes, well that's very good. Now, if you could tell me something ... what you remember ... of any special village customs that used to take place, [JS : any ?], any village customs.

JS Well I thought about it, and there really weren't many customs actually, but people sat on the Fish Slabs to gossip ... always there were people sitting on the Fish Slabs, as far as I remember, the pump functioned, and the milkman washed his churns at it.

MA That's come through very well. Would you like to carry on now. I just wanted to make sure we were getting a good recording.

JS There were many babies born, and big families. All babies were baptised, during the week usually, not on Sundays, [27 mins] and all women were churched after child birth. Children all went to the village school, primary now, until they were 13, or passed 11+ for the Ulverston High School, where they went by train from Cark. There was a small private day school, at Laburnum Cottage, next door to me. The gentry had governesses. Everyone went to church, mainly in the evening. All children went to Sunday School in the village school, and then to church. The Park was open to all the village, and children played in the beck running through, and had picnics on the rocks. Cricket and football were played there, [28 mins] and except during 1914 1918, races were held on Whit Monday only. The entire course, railings etc. and the grandstand, were taken down the following week and stored in the tithe barn in Barngarth, and in the barn shop which was then a barn. There were four church bells were rung, morning and evening, and ... on Sunday, and a passing bell was always rung when people died, and I think they rang the number of peels of their age.

MA Oh, that's very interesting, isn't it, yes, yes.

JS I think that's what they did. [29 mins] Industry is the next thing, isn't it, on the list ?

MA That's right, yes, you're quite right. Industry and crafts.



- JS Almost every trade was represented in the village. There were two blacksmiths, smithies, and two joiners, Clogger Beck and where Unsworth's garage stands, two or three builders, notably Thompson and Rawson, who also swept chimneys. Gaskarths were plumbers, painters and decorators. There was a choice of gardeners, and many boys went to garden or farm on leaving school.
- MA Could I just ask you, when you said that the ... the builders swept the chimneys, is that right ? [JS : what ?] the builders also swept the [30 mins] chimneys [JS : yes] yes, thank you. I've got it. [JS : they seemed to, yes] ... Sorry, I interrupted.
- JS Many boys went to garden or farm on leaving school, girls went into service. In the bigger houses, nearly everyone kept at least one maid, and most had more. There were also grooms and chauffeurs. The roads were mended with a steam roller, at intervals, and wet clay, no tarmac. An old man sat on a heap of big stones in the corner by the present racing stables, and broke stones all day long for road mending. He wore wire spectacles to [31 mins] protect his eyes. These men were called stone breakers, one is mentioned in the Tale of Two Cities. [MA : that's interesting] familiar with that ? [MA : yes]. Road surfaces were hard and rough, and all footwear was leather or clogged. Shops ... shops ? [MA : yes, that's right, yes]. Three grocers : Teasdale at the Post Office, Crawshaw at what is now Spar, and Miss Lishman in Market Street, who sold yeast and lemons and bacon and cheese.
- MA Now Market Street, where was ...
- JS Well, I don't know whether that is the name of ... where the pump is [MA : ah] you know, [MA : yes, yes], opposite the Priory Hotel Miss Lishman was, [MA : yes, I see], near the Royal Oak, [32 mins] [MA : yes, I see, yes, fine, right ho]. Well what do you call that street ? Market Square is further up.
- MA It's not Devonshire Square, is it ? Devon... no, that's nearer to the Post Off... nearer to Janet's isn't it ... I'm not quite sure.
- JS Nor am I, [MA : No], but I call it Market Street, [MA : right, OK], for lack of another name, [MA : yes, I see, right]. Now, where are we ? Oh, Teasdale cured his own bacon, also sold pots and hardware for kitchens, such as earthenware bread pans, very large bowls, everyone made their own bread. Most families, yes, made their own bread. ... Besides industry, there were at least four dress makers, [33 mins] with thriving business. Few people wore ready made clothes. There were two tailors, who made farmers' best clothes, and for ... and for ladies and children when needed. There was a ... a milliner, in the larch tree shop, that was a milliner, and she trimmed hats, and varnished old straw hats, or dyed them, and made new ones for weddings. Where Eeaside is, that house opposite the ... [MA : so ...] it was a bicycle shop, and he was known as the umbrella man, [MA : yes], and he sold umbrellas and he covered [34 mins] old umbrella frames, [MA : this is in Eeaside ?], yes, [MA : that's interesting], and I think it was some other kind of shop at that time, but anyway, the umbrella man lived there. ... Cavendish Street. There was a shoe maker ... Mr Wareing and his son ... who made clogs. They actually made clogs, and sold ...
- MA Do you remember where that shop was ?

JS Yes. [MA : yes]. It was where ... there is a sort of antique shop now, [MA : yes, I know], opposite the smithy in the corner, [MA : yes, yes, yes], with a big window, [MA : yes, oh I see], in a sort of alcove, [MA : it was opposite the smithy ?] what ? [MA : it was opposite the smithy ?], yes, [MA : opposite ?], yes, [MA : yes], just a bit further up, [MA : yes], and [35 mins] opposite the smithy, [MA : yes], that was a shoe shop, [MA : yes], and he always had the widow full of shoes, and he mended everybody's ... soled and heeled everybody's shoes, [MA : yes], people didn't buy new ones, they had their old ones soled and healed, [MA : until they wore out, yes, yes], ... and ... and he put nails in men's shoes, [MA : yes], most farmers and people like that had nailed shoes, [MA : yes, I know what you mean], and so he did that, [MA : yes], and he sold elegant ... S O L D ... [MA : sold, yes], elegant ladies footwear, in inverted commas, because he advertised it as such. Then there was Miss Wilsons which now ... there were three sisters called Wilson, kept what is now the Priory shop, always known as [36 mins] Miss Wilsons, nobody ever called it anything else ... toys, dutch dolls, tea things, hoops, whipping tops, buckets and spades, and everything ... china too ... paper ... and of course newspapers, stationery. And there was Miss Overend in the Market Square, in the Gatehouse shop. She was a draper, and sold almost everything in the underclothing and material line, reels of ribbon, reels of cotton, buttons and all haberdashery.

MA Well is that the ... was that the ... what is now Kerr's the book shop ?

JS No, no, that ... what is now the National Trust. [MA : ah, it was on that side, I see], that side, [MA : yes], with the bow windows, [MA : yes, I see], and that was [37 mins] Miss Overend, [MA : I see, yes, yes], and she was a ... she had very thick spectacles, and couldn't see much ... and she sold bathing dresses, or she'd order bathing dresses for you, and straw hats in the summer. She kept her surplus stock up in the Gatehouse, [MA : oh], there was a connecting staircase, you see, [MA : yes], there is, isn't there, and ... if she hadn't got anything just handy, [MA : I see], she'd disappear upstairs [MA : yes], and dig it out of her store, [MA : yes]. And then there was the old eating house in Cavendish Street, or Mrs Ayres', [MA : yes], and she had a bakery, with an old brick oven. She made wonderful sponge cakes, and little very hot gingernuts, [38 mins] and had a café in the holiday season. [MA : had a what in the holiday season ? sorry, I didn't catch that]. A café. [MA : oh yes, yes], you could go and get a cup of tea there. Her son-in-law had one eye, Mr Campbell, [MA : oh yes], and was a thief. [MA : was a what ?]. A thief. [MA : a thief ?]. Yes. [laughs] [MA : why ?]. I'll enlarge upon that.

MA You what ? I didn't realise that, he ... I didn't realise that Mr Campbell had that reputation. I heard that he was what was described as a character.

JS A character ... [MA : yes], he was a character. He was a very amiable person, [MA : yes], and friendly, [MA : yes], and he ran the ... I mean, he waited if you went to have a meal there, [MA : yes, I see], [39 mins] but I'll tell you further on. [MA : Yes]. [sound of shuffling papers, prepared notes]. Crime is the next thing I think. [MA : that's right, yes, that's right, yes, yes]. The village Bobby lived at the old Police house in Priest Lane, you know there's a sign, the old Police house, [MA : yes], that's where he lived, and had a lock-up underneath. He was everybody's best friend. There was a ring outside the house for people to tether their saddle horses. I remember two crimes. Mr Campbell, from the eating house, came in the night and

stole a huge crop of vicarage plums, and sold them in the shop, and got away with it. [MA : what plums, vicarage?]. In the vicarage, [MA : in the vicarage ?], we [40 mins] had a very lovely plum tree, [MA : really, good heavens, he stole them from the vicarage], and he came in the night and took the lot.

MA Well, you would know about that, wouldn't you. [laughs]

JS I was only very small when it happened, [MA : yes], but my mother said oh yes, undoubtedly it was Campbell who did it, [MA : yes], but of course nobody ever prosecuted him, [MA : yes], and he got away with it. The milkman, on the other hand, who shall not be named, was caught watering his milk at the village pump. What he did was, to wash out his cans, and leave some water in the bottom, [MA : yes], and then put the milk on top. And he was summoned for this, [MA : yes, yes, weights and measures], and that's as far as I've got I'm afraid, but I can go, if you would like, verbally.

MA Yes, perhaps you could tell me if there were any craftsmen ... as you said, a walking stick man ?

JS The walking ... there were two condemned cottages beyond the Institute, on what is now the car park, [MA : oh yes, yes], [41 mins] and in one of these lived an old man, all by himself I think, who made walking sticks, [MA : oh], very fancy ones, he used to go in the wood and cut his own sticks, and they had snakes crawling up them, [MA : oh], ducks heads, [MA : did they, really], all very elaborate they were, [MA : yes], they were very amusing, [MA : yes], and he was very clever at it, [MA : I see], and he had a pile of them outside the house for visitors, [MA : I was going to say, for visitors], to buy, [MA : for visitors who would buy them], yes, [MA : yes, yes], and my father bought from him, [MA : yes], he made thumb sticks too, you know, [MA : oh yes, yes], all sorts of fancy walking sticks.

MA Did he incorporate any animal horn into the handles ?

JS Yes, I think he did, [MA : yes], ducks heads certainly, [MA : yes], and snakes crawling up, [MA : very interesting, yes], the sticks. But he used to go into the wood and get sticks that had vine weed [MA : oh yes] wound [42 mins] round them [MA : yes, yes], I think it was vine weed, [MA : yes], and then take them as they were and varnish them, [MA : oh I see], and dry them, [MA : yes], and make a thing [MA : yes] ... exactly what he did I don't know, but they were very ... good fun, [MA : yes, yes], he was good at it ... there was that, and I can't think of any other particular crafts, but ...

MA Very well, I just wondered if there were [JS : yes] any special carvers or people who cut stonework.

JS No, not then, not in the old days.

MA I was interested in your remarks though about the builders sweeping the chimneys, so Rawson would have swept chimneys, would he ?

JS Rawson was the chimney sweeper. [MA : as well as being ...] His father was. [MA : oh, his father, not ...]. I think Rawson did too. [MA : did he, yes, yes]. His father went about on a

bicycle, [MA : yes], with his chimney sweep thing ... bag over his shoulder, [MA : yes, yes, yes, I remember that, yes]. [clicks for change of side of cassette]

MA I think we'll see how that [43 mins] sounds now. [another click] Getting a little bit loud.

JS Shall I say Tom Tom the piper's son ? [MA : alright, yes]. [another click]

MA Yes, I thought it would be interesting to ... I'll see if you can remember much about the general health of the population, whether there was much TB about ... and whether the ... there were any epidemics of any kind.

JS Oh yes. Well, to start with, for us, the only available doctor was in Grange. There were no hospitals except Ulverston Cottage, and the Union in Ulverston, the workhouse. There was a dentist in Grange. Now as for epidemics, of course in 1918 there was the great flu epidemic, and nearly everyone in Cartmel went down with flu, [44 mins] and the doctor went from house to house lighting fires and opening windows. He said people must have warmth and fresh air. And as far as I know, no-one died in Cartmel from the flu epidemic. I don't know whether I'm right. But finally the doctor went to bed, and my mother and father did the medical rounds for him, and took out the medicine, and took temperatures. And a funny thing ... there was one old lady, living in St.Mary's Lodge, had a PG, who was very old ... funny old thing she was ... she came up to my father and complained that he hadn't been to take her temperature. And so he said ... oh I ... her name was Rudge ... alright Miss Rudge, I'll come. So he got out the jam thermometer, which was about a foot long, out of the kitchen ... for preserving jam ... and took it round and said, come on Miss Rudge, [laughs], and pointed [45 mins] this enormous thermometer at her. It was his little joke. But, [MA : which doctor ...], very serious and people ... somehow they got better.

MA What was the name of the doctor, can you remember the name of the doctor ?

JS The doctor in Ulvers... in Grange was Lowther, [MA : oh yes], but there was a doctor in Cartmel, who was very unpopular, and my mother flatly refused to have him, [MA : yes, I remember you mentioning that to me, yes, yes], but I think he was probably alright, [MA : yes], but she was a trained nurse and very fussy, you know. [MA : yes, I see, yes. What sort of ... ]. There was some TB. I remember a girl lying in a bed in the garden all the summer, who had TB, and I don't suppose she got over it ... Rose Pearson her name was ... no, Margaret Pearson, I think, lived up Higgs Lane, and we used to go to her and take up flowers. And then [46 mins] there was man in this house opposite me ... where Colin ... you know, and his family come for weekends, who had cancer. Obviously, we didn't know it was cancer, [MA : yes], but he was absolutely in bed always, [MA : yes], and he had three sisters living with him, [MA : yes, yes], and they all looked after him, [MA : yes], and the smell from his bedroom was what I remember as a child, [MA : really], awful smell, [MA : yes], of course they didn't know how to cope with smells, [MA : yes], and otherwise in Cartmel, I don't think there was very much illness, [MA : yes], I think people were pretty healthy on the whole. One thing was the water, which sent all the children's teeth bad, [MA : really], I don't know what was the deficiency, they said it was the water, [MA : you mean it stained the teeth, or it ...], no, [MA : stained the teeth ?], we all had bad teeth as children, I had ... I haven't got any of my own now, [MA : yes, I see], [47 mins] and they said it was a lack of iodine, I think, in

the water, [MA : or fluoride, possibly, lack of fluoride, its related to iodine, its one of the ... yes, that's quite possible], I don't remember really much about it but I know they blamed it on the water, [MA : quite possible, that's interesting], very soft water, [MA : yes]. But otherwise, I think ... my father had hay fever of course all the time, and I dare say other people did too, [MA : yes, I see], on the whole they were pretty healthy. [MA : good]. The next thing you've got down is, [MA : fuel], Fuel and Lighting.

MA Oh what about ... the hospital was in Ulverston, was it ... [JS : what ?], the nearest hospital was in Ulverston ?

JS Yes, the Cottage Hospital, [MA : I see], and it was pretty primitive I imagine, [MA : yes], I never was there. [MA : Kendal would have a hospital, yes]. Yes, Kendal had a hospital ... if you broke a limb, I think you were taken to Kendal probably. [MA : yes, yes], or anything serious, you know, [48 mins] [MA : yes, yes, I'd be interested in the lighting arrangements]. Oh, the district nurse, [MA : yes], who visited people, [MA : yes], and delivered babies and all that, [MA : yes], and then there was the Verger's wife who was a "handy woman", [MA : yes, I remember you telling me about that], she brought my brother into the world, and her son said, oh my mother does them jobs, she lays out the dead and the babies rolls out. [laughs] [MA : oh dear] Those were the days. [MA : yes, rather]. People survived, [MA : they did], you know, they did.

MA Yes. Yes, I was wondering if you could tell me something about the lighting arrangements. [JS : the what ?] the lighting arrangements in houses.

JS Yes. Yes, there were street lamps at various intervals, [MA : yes], there was one at the end of Pepper Bridge here, [MA : yes], there was one, [49 mins] I think, at that end of Barngarth, [MA : yes], and they were paraffin lamps, that were lit by a lamp lighter, [MA : I see, yes], and there was certainly one outside the North door of the church, [MA : yes], and the pillar in the middle of Market Cross had a light on the top of it, a lantern, a lantern, [MA : ah, I see, yes, yes], which was a lit paraffin lantern, [MA : yes], there was no other sort of fuel except paraffin.

MA Well, that Mr Campbell, who was the lamp lighter ... [JS : was he], or was it his son

JS Yes I think he probably was, [MA : yes, or was it his son], his son was by way of being a bit of a musician, he had a falsetto voice, [MA : oh], and sang in the choir, with his falsetto voice, what was his name, [MA : Frank, was it, Frank ?], and he played the piano in the cinema in Grange latterly, that was later on, [MA : yes], he was a [50 mins] pianist, [MA : yes ... yes, I was ... I was ... also did he ...], Frank, Frank Campbell.

MA Frank, that's right, did he have something to do with the ... with the telephone exchange, Frank, did he ?

JS He probably did. Yes, once ... I don't think ... we certainly hadn't a telephone, very few people had, [MA : very few, yes, yes], very few people had electric light, [MA : that came much later, didn't it], they had ... some people had ... Aynsome House, and Aynsome Manor both had their own generators, [MA : yes], and Holker Hall of course generated their own, [MA : yes], and ... I don't think Wood Broughton generated, I think they had paraffin lamps,

certainly we had paraffin lamps, [MA : yes], everyone ... candles ... went to bed with candles, [MA : yes, yes], very difficult, [MA : I see, and I suppose fuel was mainly coal or wood...], [51 mins] coal and logs, [MA : yes], and a kitchen range in ... everybody had a little kitchen range in their cottage, [MA : yes], and it was fuelled with coal, [MA : yes], or scrap wood if they hadn't got any coal, [MA : yes], and ... I've got something down here ... oh, people had acetylene lamps, some of them, [MA : yes], acetylene lamps and bicycles. My father's bicycle had an acetylene lamp, [MA : I can remember those, yes], and they smelt, [MA : they did smell, they did, yes, that's right]. We used to borrow the acetylene bicycle lamp from him to make our model theatre, to give footlights with it ... to be the footlights in our model theatre, [MA : I see]. My brother Armand was always making theatres, his great joy in life was to get a big box and make it into a miniature peep show theatre, and light it with an acetylene [52 mins] lamp.

MA Yes, that brings us on to leisure and entertainment really, [JS : yes], I was going to ask you [JS : yes, later on], what entertainment was there available.

JS All houses with ... all houses with cellars had shutes to put the coal down, [MA : yes], I've got one out here, [MA : yes], and the vicarage has, [MA : yes], a coal shute, [MA : yes], and so all the coal lived in the cellar, [MA : yes], logs probably in a shed outside, ... [MA : well that's fair enough], fires were built up with slack, does slack mean anything to you, [MA : yes, oh rather], for coal fires it was very economical, [MA : coal dust], yes, coal dust, [MA : to damp it down], everybody built their fires up with slack, [MA : oh I remember that], and it made a lovely red hot fire once it got hot, [MA : yes], it stayed cold until it did.

MA Yes. That [53 mins] really brings us on to entertainment and leisure, I ... what ... were there any music societies or any ...

JS There was a very good Choral Society, [MA : yes], and I've got some records of it in the parish magazines of their successes, [MA : yes], which I read out to the Choral Society once some time ago, and they were very interested, [MA : yes], and ... there was that, and then there was some drama that went on from time to time in the Institute, [MA : yes], the only public room was the Institute, [MA : yes], and the little vicarage room, which is now called Wheel House, a little old house, [MA : Wheel House ?], Wheel House isn't it called, as you approach the smithy from here, on the right, there's a very nice little house on the river, [MA : oh yes, yes, yes], it looks on to the river, [MA : yes, I remember], well that was part of the vicarage garden, [MA : yes], and it was a parish room [54 mins] upstairs, and the Scouts headquarters downstairs, [MA : I see], and that was used as ... [MA : just part of the Larch Tree, is it, just past the Larch Tree, going ... ?], no, past the vicarage, [MA : oh I'm sorry, I'm with you, yes, yes], down the road towards the smithy, past the vicarage, on the right, [MA : yes, I've got it], there is this house, [MA : I remember, yes, I've got it], on the river just below it, the beck, [MA : yes], and it was in the vicarage garden originally, [MA : oh, I see, yes], and it was a potting shed downstairs, and the Scout headquarters, and I think it was a hen house downstairs too, and upstairs, it was the only small parish room, where the GFS and the Mothers' Union and people like that met, and small meetings were held, [MA : yes], it wasn't a very big room, and then the Institute was the only other thing there was, [MA : yes], there was no parish hall, or anything like that, [MA : yes], so any dances [55 mins] or socials

- had to take part at a place in the Institute, [MA : yes], and there was a stage at the far end of it.
- MA Yes, I remember you telling me about your father trying to get the place enlarged.
- JS He wanted to enlarge it onto the car park, you see, [MA : yes], because he realised that it wasn't big enough, and he felt that there ought to be more downstairs accommodation for meetings, you know, and things like that, and anyway, they managed, and they produced all kinds of concert and things up there.
- MA Did most of the ... the people who actually produced the plays and so on, did they ... did they come from outside Cartmel, or were they ...
- JS I think they were mostly Cartmel people, [MA : mainly Cartmel, yes], yes. I think the opera in Cartmel had been going for many years, [MA : yes], I don't know quite how long that had, but they'd been doing it, they didn't do anything so ambitious in Cartmel, but they did put on concerts mainly, [MA : yes], and lantern lectures, [56 mins] [MA : oh yes], lantern lectures, [MA : yes], my father was great on those, and he had one on stars that he used to put on, and all sorts of ... [MA : yes], I've got all the Cartmel slides, [MA : yes], I've got pictures of Cartmel, old Cartmel, in lantern slides, [MA : that's very interesting]. Of course, today nobody has got a lantern now to show them with.
- MA No, no, they're very valuable, the lanterns, aren't they, I believe some people collect them ... they're still obtainable, I think, but they're collectors' items now. [JS : lanterns], lanterns, [JS : yes], oh yes.
- JS There was somebody here who had a ... who was able to get one, and we did ... he got it for me, to show my lantern ... my slides, [MA : yes], once, but they are very rare things aren't they, [MA : if you haven't got it now], no, [MA : no], no, he brought it up to the village hall for me ... and worked ... somebody who knew somebody who had one, you know.
- MA And how was it illuminated, what was the ... ?
- JS They illuminated with a paraffin lamp, I think, [MA : yes], [57 mins] might have been acetylene, [MA : might have been quite dangerous I think], yes, oh it smoked like anything, [MA : yes], practically always the slides were put in upside down.
- MA Yes, people forget that, don't they.
- JS Now what have I got down to, [MA : I suppose ...], of course there was football and cricket in the Park always, [MA : yes], and they had a good cricket and football team, concerts and acting in the Institute. There was a pageant at Aynsome Manor one summer for children, and we all had to act in a nursery rhyme, [MA : oh yes], and they had a stage built with evergreen all around it in the garden, it was a fete really, [MA : yes], a pageant, a garden fete, run by Lord ... Lady MacGregor, because Sir Evan and Lady MacGregor lived at Aynsome Manor, and he had been First Secretary to the Admiralty, and was knighted. And so, they were a [58 mins] rather frightening couple, they were all very proper, [MA laughs], and anyway, they gave this garden fete to raise money for the Red Cross or something like that, and we

had this pageant of nursery rhymes, and we all dressed up I remember, [MA : Miss Muffet and so on ?], uh ? [MA : Miss Muffet ?], yes. I was Sleep Baby Sleep, and I had a long dress and a doll to nurse, and other people were Little Boy Blue and ... you know, all the nursery rhymes were ... [MA : yes]. And that was a sort of tremendous event, [MA : was it], great entertainment, and the great entertainment in Cartmel, that I clearly remember, was the circus. [MA : yes], and Sangers circus came to Cartmel, and put it's big top up in the Clogger Beck Field. [MA : yes, in the Clogger Beck Field ?]. Clogger Beck, yes, [MA : this one], in the field that is opposite Clogger Beck, [MA : yes], where the busses stop, [MA : yes, yes, where the school is ?] [59 mins] yes, between the school and Clogger Beck, [MA : yes], and that 's where the big top was put up, and it went for two days, I think, and everybody went to the circus, [MA : yes], until, one evening, some rather rowdy young men went and the seating all collapsed, there was tiered seating, you know, round, as there is in a circus, and it collapsed, I believe, once, but I can't remember, I was too small to remember really what happened, but the ... my brothers were quite mad about it, they were about ... Armand was about four or five, and then the O'Neil Pearson boys, who lived at Tanley, were the same age, and these three boys went quite crazy about the circus, they copied the clown, and they copied Pippa, and they copied everybody for the rest of year, you know, they were always being part of the clown. It was a great event, [MA : yes], you see elephants ... the real thing I remember clearly [1 hr] was the procession of wild beasts through Cartmel, [MA : yes], elephants, camels, horses, little tiny ponies, miniature ponies, and clowns and people, they started from the Park, because I think the really wild animals' cages were in the Park, [MA : yes], and they set off from there and walked up through Cavendish Street, past the smithy, past the vicarage gates, up Priest Lane, and then down towards Clogger Beck from Priest ... the top of Priest Lane, [MA : yes], a procession [MA : yes], of wild animals, and elephants, [MA : did they have any lions ?], yes, ... I don't know whether they were ... I think they had to be in their cages, [MA : yes, yes], they were on wheels in cages, I think, [MA : yes, yes], yes, I certainly remember the elephants, [MA : yes], and these ... these little ponies [1 hr 1 min] were the things that I fell for, they were tiny you see. And there was an enormous man in a red coat with a long whip, and I burst into tears, and somebody said what's the matter, and I said that man's going to hit those ponies, [both laugh], he wasn't going to, of course. [coughs]

MA No. That's very interesting. Now what about cinemas, were there any cinemas ?

JS In a main Grange, yes, [MA : yes, I see], where the ... I don't know what's there now ... estate agents, I think, in the building as you ... [MA : oh yes], as you turn up by the church, on the right, [MA : yes, yes, yes], there was a laundry there, [MA : really], Lakeland Laundry, [MA : yes], it was there, it's moved now, [MA : yes], and that was a cinema, and ...

MA That's where the toilets are now, is it ... where the toilets are now ?

JS No. [MA : no ?] You know where the corner café is, at home, that café , [MA : oh yes, yes], beyond there, [MA : oh yes, I see], beyond [1 hr 2 mins] there, [MA : yes, yes], I think it's some other kind of café or something beyond it, [MA : yes], it may be all kinds of things, but that was a cinema, [MA : yes, I know where you mean, yes]. And oh, they had quite a lot of pictures, but of course, there was ... can't remember what ... early cinemas didn't talk, did they, [MA : no], they were silent, [MA : the talkies came in when I was about 10 or 11, about



70 years ago], well, that's when young Campbell played the piano, you see, to have some accompaniment to the picture. Yes, they were just movies, weren't they ?

MA That's right, black and white movies, yes ... yes very interesting, they had sort of sub-titles on them, I think, didn't they ?

JS Yes, they did, captions. And if you could read, you were alright, [MA : alright, yes], they always went too fast for me, I couldn't keep up with the captions, [MA : yes], there was that, and then I think ... I imagine there was still put on operas in the Victoria Hall, [1 hr 3 mins] every now and then, [MA : oh yes], some entertainments there, [MA : yes], ... and ... have I written anything else down in the way of entertainments ... Cark Head, do you know where Cark Head is, [MA : Park Head ?], uh ?, [MA : Park Head ?], Cark Head, [MA : oh, Cark Head, yes], Cark Head, [MA : Cark], Cark Head, [MA : yes, I know what you mean], its going toward Holker from here, [MA : yes], along the mosses, [MA : yes], and then there's a road that goes down lined with walnut trees, [MA : oh], it's called Walnut Avenue, [MA : yes], and it leads down to ... I can't remember the name of that area ... but anyway, we used to go to bathe there, [MA : yes], and, and a tragedy happened ... the Scoutmaster was teaching two boys to swim there, and he ... the Scoutmaster and the boy were both drowned. [MA : was this near Humphrey Head ?] uh ? [MA : not near Humphrey Head, was it ?], before Humphrey Head, [MA : before Humphrey Head, yes, I did hear about this], yes, [MA : yes], it was Cark [1 hr 4 mins] Head, [MA : Maurice Unsworth told me about it], yes, Humphrey Head was round the corner, further on. Everybody bowled hoops through the village, [MA : yes, I think they were very popular], and a man came round with a barrel organ, [MA : oh yes], and played outside houses, [MA : yes], and a monkey, [MA : oh], barrel organ and a monkey, [MA : I see, yes]. ... I think transport is the next thing, isn't it ?

MA Yes, and ... I think that's quite an important subject, I think, yes.

JS No public transport in the area nearer than Cark railway station, which took you either to Grange or to Ulverston, or to catch the London trains, [MA : yes], and ...

MA What about ... were there no ... were there no buses running, or ...

JS Not, not ... [1 hr 5 mins] there were later, but not then, not when I was a child, there were no buses. [MA : really]. There wasn't such a thing as a country bus in those days, [MA : I see], but there was horse bus at the Cavendish Arms, [MA : well], it was ...

MA Was that privately run ?

JS Yes, little horse bus, [MA : yes], and it ... I don't know whether it ran regularly to the station, but if people wanted it to run to the station, it did, [MA : great], the horse, and the Cavendish Arms, [MA : I see], and they also had a wagonette at the Cavendish Arms, [MA : yes], which ran in the summer, [MA : yes], to take people trips into the Lake District, [MA : yes, a toast rack, was it, what they called toast racks ?], a what, [MA : toast racks, the seating, they called toast racks], no, ... that would be a charabanc, [MA : ah, sorry, yes], no this was ... as far as I remember the seats faced each other inside, [MA : oh did they], you got in at the back, [MA : yes], and then there were two facing seats, [MA : oh I see, I understand], that's a wagonette, [MA : yes, yes], smaller, [1 hr 6 mins] but they did make a

charabanc, [MA : yes], a horse charabanc, seats on a ... on a dray sort of thing, [MA : I see, yes, so ...], I remember going down to the Scout camp on one of those.

MA Really. So when you first came here, the public transport, apart from the railways, was by really ... was horse drawn ... when you first came ... what there was of that sort of transport was horse drawn ? [JS : it what ?], horse drawn, [JS : Horse drawn, oh yes], so when did the ... the Unsworths ran taxi service, I believe, didn't they ?

JS The Unsworths ... it was later on, they did that, [MA : yes], you see we left in 1918, [MA : yes], and this what I'm telling you now is what happened before 1918, [MA : yes of course it was], and there were no buses of any kind, no regular bus routes, anywhere I don't think around this area, [MA : no], and then Unsworth boys grew up, they were little boys [1 hr 7 mins] at this stage, [MA : yes, yes], and they grew up and opened the garage, and one ... Ernest had the garage, the other one ran a bus.

MA Yes, I've got the history of that, he ... Maurice ... Maurice Unsworth was born in 1918.

JS Yes, and my father was his godfather, [MA : gosh, very interesting], 1918, and my sister was born in 1918 too, and they had the same monthly nurse, Maurice and my sister ... well our own favourite monthly nurse, who came to all of us, was not available, she was at another baby when my brother John was born ... Grace, when Grace was born, so, John, and ... no, the year that war broke out, and so Maurice must have been born that year as well, and they had the same monthly nurse ... [1 hr 8 mins] anyway, they were all naughty ... nastiest little boys that you can imagine, they were always up to mischief, and doing tricks on people, Arthur wasn't in it, our ... my Arthur. [MA : yes], [laughs]. They were alright after .. the two elder ones were the mischievous ones. And here there was a little school, you see, in Mrs Rowbottom's house, there was a little game school, [MA : yes, I remember you telling me about that], and the two boys went to that and they played havoc with those young ladies. [MA : so I believe]. Now, what else ?

MA What about beggars ? Were there any beggars, [JS : you what ?], any beggars, begging, did ...

JS Begging. I can't remember that anybody did. [MA : really]. It was people called tramps, [MA : yes], who used to come to the back door occasionally, [MA : yes], and they were always given a cup of tea and a piece of bread or something, [MA : yes], and ... I don't think my father ever gave them money, [MA : no], [1 hr 9 mins] because he thought it wasn't a good idea, [MA : they'd go and drink it, yes, yes], yes. They used to come to Haverthwaite later on, a lot, because it's on the main road from Cartmel to Kendal you see ... Ulverston to Kendal, [MA : yes], and we were always getting tramps there, and they mark the gateposts, don't they, [MA : sorry, where was this, Haverthwaite ?], Haverthwaite, [MA : yes, yes], later on, much later on, [MA : yes, yes], but I believe the tramps put a mark on the gatepost to say whether it is worth calling or not.

MA Oh I believe it is ... I heard that story too, yes, yes, yes. Was there much real poverty, do you think, I mean ... was there a lot ... was there much poverty ... were the children ...

JS Well, everybody was poor, you see, everybody was ... such low wages ...

- MA Because I believe that some of the children went to school without any ... barefoot, didn't they, some of them ?
- JS I don't remember barefoot, [MA : no], no, [MA : no], ... but they had very clumsy shoes, [MA : yes], toe holed and that sort of thing, [MA : and clogs], [1 hr 10 mins] and clogs, yes clogs, [MA : yes], a lot of them went in clogs, [MA : yes], but I don't think that they actually were barefoot, [MA : no], and I think they had warm coats, and so on, ... but you see, now everybody ... all the houses were lacking paint. Nobody had their houses painted, [MA : no], everything was very shabby outside, [MA : yes], and patched up, [MA : yes], ... you know, home done ... and if a slate came off, father put it on again, [MA : yes], and so forth.
- MA Yes. I wonder if, before we sign off ... could you just tell me ... you did tell me you came from a fairly large family, could you just tell me the sequence of your brothers and sisters, and when they were born, before we finally finish the tape. [JS : yes]. Could you ... who was the eldest and who ...
- JS You want me to tell you now ? [MA : yes, I'll put in on here, yes]. [1 hr 11 mins] Well my sister ... my father's first curacy was in Barrow, St.James, St.George's, Barrow, [MA : yes], and from there he married, [MA : yes], he got engaged whilst he was there, and what they thought would be nice for his bride, they sent him to Grange, [MA : yes], to be curate at Grange, [MA : yes], and there my sister Elizabeth was born, [MA : she was the first one ?], she was the eldest, and that was in 1907, [MA : yes], and then, from there, he moved to Walney, [MA : yes], and I was born in 1909 on Walney Island, [MA : yes], with great difficulty because the ferry couldn't get the doctor across ... I very nearly wasn't born ... and then ... from there we moved to Cartmel, [MA : yes], two years when my father built ... supervised the building of the church on Walney, [MA : yes], and when it was done, he was sent to Cartmel, and there were [1 hr 12 mins] two little girls by then, you see, my sister and me, and no sooner had he got to Cartmel, than Armand was born, [MA : he was the first boy], 1910, [MA : yes], and then .. there was a lapse of three years, I think, my mother felt that three babies was enough for the time being, and then Sydney arrived in 1913, and in order that we ... we were all sent to live with, to stay with an aunt while Sydney happened ... and then a year later John arrived, in 1914, just after war had been declared ... August the 25<sup>th</sup> his birthday was, and war had been broken out of August the 4<sup>th</sup>, hadn't it, [MA : yes], and so he was to be called [1 hr 13 mins] John Miles, Miles Miles Militaire, to celebrate the war, you see, and he was registered as John Miles, and then my eldest uncle wrote to all the family and said, please have all your boys from now on christened McKenzie, so that they can call themselves McKenzie Smith, and so the name was changed, regardless of the register, he was baptised John McKenzie, and not John Miles, [MA : oh I see, yes], and it made a great impression on me, because I thought it was a very funny thing to do, and that was 1914, and then there was a long gap ... of the war, and of rationing, and I think my mother had a miscarriage during that time, [MA : yes], but I remember her going away to Liverpool, we none of us knew quite what was the matter [1 hr 14 mins] with her, you see, but I think that's what it was, and then my sister Grace arrived in 1918, [MA : yes], just before the end of the war, [MA : yes], 1918, and she was the first baby to be baptised in the restored old font, [MA : oh yes, yes], you know, that was brought up from Cark, [MA : oh, the one that is in the ...], Town Choir, [MA : Town Choir now, yes, that's right, yes, yes], and it was the original font of the Priory,

[MA : yes, yes that was interesting], and it had gone ... when the new font was given by the Cavendish family, the big square font, [MA : yes], that was installed, the little font was taken down to Cark, it had been a kind of Chapel of Ease, there was down there, not a proper church, [MA : yes], but a Chapel, and they used it in the Chapel. Well then, the Duke of Devonshire built Cark Church, [MA : yes], Flookburgh Church, [MA : yes], [1 hr 15 mins] and put a font and everything in, so they no longer needed the Chapel of Ease, [MA : so it came back again], sorry, [MA : it came back again], well not quite, [MA : no], no, it was put out into the Market Square, out of the Chapel that was used there, [MA : at Flookburgh ?], yes, [MA : yes], do you know, the font stood in the middle of the Market Square at Flookburgh, and people said cats were drowned in it, they said, and it was just there, you see, a bird bath kind of thing, until the Vicar of Flookburgh, who was Canon Sam Taylor, [MA : oh yes], and my father put their heads together, [MA : yes], and decided that it ought to come back to the Priory, [MA is that right, yes], so they brought it back, [MA : yes], and Sam Taylor baptised my sister in it, as the first baby ... it's a bit of her history that she was very fond of ... he was great fun Sam Taylor was, [MA : yes, I like his book], yes, we loved him as children, he was good fun to play with, [MA : yes, I believe he [1 hr 16 mins] was very popular], he never had any children of his own, [MA : didn't he, no], he was very good ... he was very good to everybody else's, [MA : yes, yes]. Now who had a car, the Remingtons had a car, the MacGregors, Lady MacGregor had a car, and ... I think the Newbolts did who lived where Colonel ... oh dear, what's his name ... the boy ... they were Hibberts really ... Edmund Hibbert, you not remember him ? [MA : yes, yes], well his aunts were called Newbolt, and they had lived there, and they had a car, actually, but there were no other cars, [MA : no], I mean people went about on horses, [MA : yes, I can quite appreciate that], and Holker, I never saw a car driven from Holker, [MA : yes], they all, [MA : horses], had horse carriages, [MA : yes, yes], and a trap, [1 hr 17 mins] [MA : yes], one of the girls drove a trap, [MA : yes], to school, they called them governess carts, [MA : oh yes], governess ... [MA : yes, yes ... good].

[recording ends at 1 hr 17 mins 17 secs]