



*A voice for our village*

### Interview with Bob Copeland (#3 of 3)

Robert ("Bob") William Copeland ('BC'), born 3 Dec 1919

Interviewer : John Batty ('JB')

Date & Time : Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 14.45 hrs

Location : Bob's house in Grange ?

Recording duration : 59 mins 3 secs

JB So, we're now recording ... we're ... its quarter to three in the afternoon of May the 15<sup>th</sup> 2015, and I'm with Bob Copeland, at his house in Grange. Bob's very kindly agreed to talk to us again. And this time we're going to ask Bob to tell us about the job that he spent most of his life doing. He was a Postman.

BC 31 years

JB 31 years. OK. So he was a Postman, or he worked for the Post Office, and a lot of his time was spent ... some of his time was spent delivering the post in Cartmel. But Bob, just to start with ... how did you happen to get the job in the first place ?

BC Well in the first place, y' see, I was working in the shipyard. Y' see jobs were hard to come by when yer first came out of the army, and the first job I got was puttin' up the ... helping to put up the race course at Cartmel race course. [1 min] Y' see in those days there was only one day's races, Whit Monday. And they put it all up, and then after the race day, they took it all down again. So what happened then, was, ... when y'd took it all down again, there was ... where was I goin' to work ? I'd just come out of the army after seven years – six years and two hundred and twenty eight days, actually, so that's nearly seven years.

JB And how did that lead to a job at the Post Office ?

BC So what happened then was Mr ... Unsworth of Cartmel – all the Unsworths that are there now, it was their Granddad, he had ... had a ... got a taxi.

JB So which Unsworth was that Bob ?

BC The Unsworths that are there now, all the ones that are at Cartmel now, it was their Granddad.

JB What was his name, do you remember ?

BC Ernie, Ernie Unsworth.

JB Ernie Unsworth. OK

BC So what happened was ... he already had a taxi, and so ... the first garage he had ... y' know where the Village Hall is in Cartmel, well as y' turn the corner to go in the Village hall, [2 mins] there's an oak tree there, before y' go in the gateway, that oak tree was there then. But there was no Village Hall, 'cos I remember that being built. I remember the people that

worked on it and everything. And he had a big wooded garage there. And so then, of course, we got ... where ... after that, he decided to move to ... where ... Bob's hairdressers are now, and he even had petrol pumps in there, y' see. And of course, all this business with the EEC and God knows what, they wouldn't allow petrol pumps near the roadside. So that was it then. Of course then ... of course what he did then was ... there was rationing on at the time, and of course, what ... as regards coal and things, and everybody was crying out for fuel. And so, what he did, he bought ... a lot of wood out Rusland way. It was like on a steep slope, it was really bad. [3 mins] It was what yer call 35 year old coppice. See that coppice used to be cut round about 30 years, and it used to be taken up to Sparkbridge to make bobbins, cotton bobbins. Course later on, see, cotton bobbins went ... they went over on to plastic, didn't they. [JB : Yea] Y' see. Anyway, so he bought this , and engaged a few men to go and cut it. There was no ... no chain saws in those days, it was all axe work. And believe you me, it was ruddy tough work, I'll tell yer. And of course, they used to drag this cut wood, just the Fordson tractor, down the rides to the wood wall, then connect the Fordson tractor up to the saw bench, and saw 'em out in logs. And then, yer know when yer have a wheel barrow, yer put a sort of thing round the top of a wheel barrow when yer collecting leaves, to get more in, well he did that with his lorry. And I believe he put 3 ton springs on, ... it was a 3 ton lorry and he put 6 ton springs on, I believe, [4 mins] I'm not sure about that, and of course, loaded these logs up, and one of the lads was permanent, just driving it, driving it to Blackpool and Preston, flogging all these logs.

JB Anyway, coming back to Cartmel though, Bob,

BC Yea, I'm getting round to that eventually.

JB Are you ?

BC So he'd made a fair old ... he made quite a bit of money on that, y' see. Well then, 'cos I'd got married, of course, come out of the army, so then, what happened was, mi wife was expectin', and mi mother had bought that place there, that Bluebell House, we lived across the road in Eea Court, and ... 'cos when mi wife was expectin', she said, I'm not havin' any babies 'ere. I thought – charmin' mi own ruddy son, an' all, y' know, I'm getting to hell out of this, so, I went to Barrow, where mi wife come from, and 'er mother had died maybe about 12 months before with cancer, so we lived in the sitting room and [5 mins] I got a job in the shipyard, workin' on the boats, all the time, on the ships.

JB So was this about 1946, after the war ?

BC Yea, oh yea, course it was. So what happened was then ... I was work'in in the plumbing department, I really enjoyed that job, it was really good, 'cos I wasn't in the shops at all, on the ships all the time. I remember being on the ... I know it was the Stranraer, ...or the Stranraer ... or Stran..., they were always Stran boats anyway, and it had bin a ... it had bin ... a troop ship, that were going back to passengers. And then we did two ... , two ... brand new ships from the Elder Dempster Line, .....[?] line, they were about 18,000 tonners, and funny enough, I met someone in Grange who'd even gone out on that when it was on call, y' know, .... the 12 ... no. two years they did, didn't the'. And he said, I was on that ... one of those ships named ... [6 mins] one was called the Papa, it was called the Apapa [?], the ... and

what was the other ... doesn't matter about it ... And so ... while I was there, I was there about 18 months or more, I said to my mate Steve, he was the plumber, I was only the plumber's mate, I said, y' know I said I love this job, I said, but I said, I'm afraid it's a dead end, I said. I said I can be 'ere wi' you, I said, till I'm 65, and I said what is there at the end of it, I said. They'll say Thank You very much, shake hands with yer, and that's it. He said, well what are yer goin' to do ? I said I'm goin' to apply to go on the Post Office. So I wrote and ... mi step-father, who was already on the Post Office, but I didn't ask 'im to ... at all. I just did it on mi own bat. I wrote for a ... vacancy. And they told mi to come through ... and I 'ad an interview.

JB Where, here in Grange ?

BC In Grange, yea.

JB Was the Post Office then where it is now ?

BC No. The Post Office was down Main Street, then, [7 mins] where the ... its a ... estate agents' now. Underneath was all the sorting offices, there was quite a big cellar in that there , next to the book shop, it is now, isn't it.

JB It is now, yea.

BC And so ... and of course, the new Post Office ... mi brother-in-law, who married mi wife's sister, he was a stone mason, and he worked on that new Post Office. He's dead and gone now, of course.

JB So you applied for a job.

BC I came through, and I 'ad to sit an exam then – y' had to do writing and arithmetic, I think it was. Writing and arithmetic, 'cos ... don't know if there was anything else, can't remember now. Anyway, that's it. So I got the job, and that's how I started.

JB OK. And, at what point did you start going over to Cartmel, to deliver over there ?

BC Oh, it was a long while after, y' see, 'cos y' see, I was what yer call ... either on a walking round ... Y' see one week yer do a walking round and another week yer used to do a bike round, y' see. [8 mins] And then after yer'd been there two or three years, they said : well ... can yer drive ? I didn't have a driving licence. Well, I learnt to drive actually when I worked at Merlewood before I went to war, the man who owned Merlewood had got a provisional licence, just went down the drive and back, yea. So I'd had hold of a car, and a rough idea ... I remember it was a 20 horse Standard, I always remember. He was nice chap, he was. Then when I went in the army, of course in the desert, and had loads of chance to drive, y' see, Albion ... big Albion lorries and all sorts, y' see, and there was nothing to get in mi way in the middle of the Western Desert, was there ?

JB Anyway, back to Cartmel again.

BC So, what happened then, of course, see I got to the Post Office, just on a walking round one week and a bike round the next, then a walking round ... Then of course they said : right oh,

you can have driving lessons with a Post Office driver ... Post Office man ... so I'll ... [9 mins] for one week after that, ... came off that, and they just took me out driving, teaching me to drive, y' see, which I already knew, and of course after that, of course, then ... what is it ... go to any civilian ones, they just passed yer out, y' see, so piece of cake it was.

JB They gave you a licence ?

BC Yea, of course. Well, they had their own vehicles, y' see, the Post office,

JB So there wasn't a central agency that ...

BC to go to ? No.

JB No. OK

BC So then after that, of course, it was either a walking round, a bike round or a van round, y' see. And of course yer did Cartmel one ... another time yer did Beckside, which was all the outer ... on a push bike, and then another bike round, so that's what yer did.

JB So if you were doing Cartmel, y'd start off from Grange on yer bike, would you ?

BC No. I was on a van then.

JB OK. So, you'd have the van and drive over to Cartmel ?

BC Yea.

JB And you'd park somewhere ?

BC [10 mins] Y'er'd start off ... Pit Farm ... all the ones ... down the Hags was on the bike round. He used to start at Cart Lane there.

JB Sorry, who was this ?

BC Well, one of the other Postmen, y' see.

JB Yes

BC And he'd work up that way to there, then call at Ricks[?], and then High Fell, and all those places going down there as far as Pit Farm. And of course, then you started on Cartmel round. Y' see, before that, before we had that, yer used to have what they call an auxiliary person doing Cartmel round, 'cos there was a woman used to do it, and then a fella did it, y' know, it was a part time job, it was, see, in those days. Then of course when they incorporated it in the way ... with the vans, of course. And of course yer started off by those ... bungalows ... I remember all those bungalows bein' built there on the right hand side. Y' see all there was there was the stream comin' from the tarn there. That was the field o'er there. [11 mins] See the're even going to take over that ring where they do the walking round, aren't they, the're going to build houses on that, aren't they, I believe.

JB Permission has been granted. Yea.

- BC Yea. And of course the Police Station was on the left hand side, and ... all those new ones were built, of course. The Police Station was there, of course.
- JB The Police Station was where ?
- BC The Police Station was there, just ... there's that ... two semi-detached houses there, and then next to that is the two old houses. Well, one of them used to be lived in ... Adam ... he was the caretaker to do the ... the little church there, what d'y call it.
- JB The ..., not the Methodist, yes, I know the one you mean.
- BC No the're not ... the're Quakers.
- JB Quakers. Yes.
- BC Well that went with the job y' see ... one of the little cottages, and the other one was let to ... d'n know who they let it to ... And of course they built the bit on the end of the Police Station as well. And right opposite there, as these bungalows were built, was another bungalow was built, and it was called Cartmel Weavers. They had a big shed, [12 mins] they used to weave a ... do weaving in there. Y' see. [JB : Yea] And then next to that was another two bungalows. Well, one is the local ... it's the nursery now ... not nursery the ...
- JB The Doctor's Surgery.
- BC The Doctor's Surgery, see. Well, one of the local policemen, he was from Grange, he got married and he had that built there. That used to be all wet, and all that corner there, always wet, and that ... that ... In that corner there, where all those other bungalows are, behind Maggie Puddle Cottage, that was all a wet corner, it was always really wet there. They must have really ... sort of ... done it with
- JB Must have drained it properly ?,
- BC Drained it all properly. Y' know. [JB : Yea]. And then of course, the row of houses, well they wasn't there, those council houses. They weren't there at all in those days. Just one jutting out, of course. That belongs to Pit Farm now.
- JB So when you started your round, if you were doing the Cartmel round, where would you start delivering ?
- BC I just told yer. Those houses.
- JB So those were the houses where you'd start ? [13 mins]
- BC Yea.
- JB And can you just walk me through the village, so to speak. Tell me what your round was, where it would take you ?

BC Well, yer just go round, as yer got there ... and along ... and along 'cos the school wasn't even there. There was a row of houses on the other side. 'Cos they knocked them all down. It was called Gladstone Terrace, that was.

JB But you didn't have a set route that you followed every day ?

BC Oh yea; course yer did. Yer went round there, and up Allithwaite Road, and Cark Road, and then came to Headless Cross, and came in that way, y' see, into the village.

JB Right; and then, through the village ?

BC Yes, through the village.

JB Then where ?

BC Right round the village. Well, yer came up Aynsome Road, and down Priest Lane, along Barn Garth, and then round into the village, and do The Square and everything, Cavendish Street, and then ... then course with outlying places, yer had to go down to the Game Keeper's Cottage, ... well its all derelict now, in Seven Acres, in't it there, we had to go there. And then we had to go that other one ... the ones that do ... [14 mins] through the plantation, there's a man does ... Savenham[?]

JB Cartmel Game, isn't it ?

BC Yea, that's right. [JB : Yea] That was their living [JB : OK] that we went to, y' see. Well, the reason, y' see, that used to be on a bike round that, all that bit, y' see.

JB So you had a canvass bag, did you, with all the mail in ?

BC No, yer had the mail in the van, yer didn't have a bag, yer just took yer bundles of letters out as yer went.

JB So you just held ... just literally held everything in your hand, did you, as you were walking round ? [BC : Yea] OK

BC Yer had a bag on the side of yer, of course, ... and as yer reached into it, yer just used to take that bundle out. And yer used to use string ... it was all string, wasn't rubber bands like they have now. Everything was tied, everything.

JB And I think you once told me, Bob, the first time we met, that you sometimes, if you can't get to sleep at night, you still, in your head, in your mind, you'd go through your route, and you'd remember delivering to everybody.

BC Oh, well I just did that ... just ... just for something to do, y' know, all the names of the people, I mean, this is donkey's years after I retired, y' know.

JB [15 mins] But this is what we're interested to know. So, could you do that for me now ? Could you just mentally walk through the village, and say who lived where ?

CB Well, there's quite a few

[break in recording for 3 secs at 15 mins 12 secs]

JB So Bob, sorry

BC Go further along still ...

JB But let's just start again, when you're coming down Hagg's Lane into the village, you were telling us who lived where, and what their names were.

BC Can yer not go any further ?

JB So yes, Bob sorry, can you just tell us again, from the left hand side.

BC Are yer switched on then ?

JB Yes, we're recording again.

BC Well, started off at John Shaw's, ... and ... those block there. I don't know the names of the people there now, I've forgotten them – bin left the Post Office 30 odd years. And there was Mrs Burrows, I know she's there in one of them. ... Those two houses were what yer call [16 mins] Agricultural Houses, b'cos ... and next door ... They were actually built for people who worked at farms, and things like that.

JB What were Agricultural Houses, Bob ?

BC Well, you either had to work in agriculturals, or connected with agriculture. And ... the one next door ... the people there now ... 'cos he's a builder. 'Cos I bin waiting ages and ages to get the corner of my house done. But ... he's never showed up. Then next door was Roger Shaw. I wanted to tell yer all about him, but anyway, I'll tell yer about him later on. He did work ... but he didn't work in ... on a farm. He worked for Croasdales, amongst the heavy timber, and they're the people who do all this playground stuff now, y' know, for ... all over ... stuff goes abroad, it does, swings and things like that in playgrounds. That name ... I think they ... the people who ... carried the name on, of course, [17 mins] but anyway it's in a big way now, in Haverthwaite, there it is. And then, of course, after that, was the Police Station. Well, there were ... there used to be two Policemen, of course, see, 'cos one ... it was two semi-detached houses, and then later on the ... well, one used to sort of operate into Grange here, but the other one, the main one, was the Cartmel one, and they built a sort of ... little office on the end of it. And then later on, of course, it went defunct. They sold it, and ... the local ... one of the local Policemen and that was there, and he bought it, and knocked the Police sign down, the office down, and then he ... believe it or not, he had it rebuilt his own side, and then ... and he must have already built the next door, and he knocked that down and had rebuilt as well, so, he did alright for himself. It've cost him a lot of money. Anyway, next to that is two old cottages, and one [18 mins] Jimmy Thompson who went to school with me, he worked at Glaxo, did Jimmy, he did alright in the Air Force, 'cos I remember seeing him with his wife one day. He got to what yer call either Class 1 or Class 2 in the Air Force, that means with a ... not a ... like a ... above a Sergeant Major, I don't know what it is in the Air Force. It's ... I think they call it Warrant Officers. He was either Class 1 or Class 2. And they wear ... they wear the ... the coat of arms on their here, y' see. And I don't know what he was an Observer or what it was, ... 'cos the're really important job is

Observer, y' know, ... the're as important as a Pilot, y' know, on the bombers. And ... I mean, if ... if the Observer doesn't know his job, I mean, the Pilot can't take him there, can he ? And I said to Jim, I said, why the hell did you come out of the Air Force, Jim. Oo, he said, I was glad to get out, he said. I said, what d'y think of the money that you must have been getting in that job ? He says, aye, he said : I was [19 mins] well paid. And I said, and you're balmy. 'Cos I said what ... I know what happened, y' see, all people who stayed on the Forces, what ever rank they had ... (this was to save money, the government), ... they reduced them down one rank. Y' see, if you were a Staff Sergeant, they just made you into a Sargeant, or if you were a Sargeant, they made you into a Corporal. See. Well, they were saving money by doing that, y' see. That's what happened. And he said, oh, I was glad to get out, y'know. I remember seeing him. Anyway ...

JB Who was next door to him ?

BC Well, it was somebody called Phillips. He was ... they were a well known family here in Grange. They were up there quite a long while, but ... And then after that, I say, Jimmy must have looked after the Quakers' ... Quakers' Church, because ... I think that partly went with the job of sort of living in the little cottage, y' see. Anyway now ... he's living here at [20 mins] Grange now, as a matter of fact, so I don't know who's got the job. Then of course, yer come along, after that, there's a row of houses ... all brand new. They weren't there then, of course, 'till later on.

JB So when would they have been built ?

BC Oo ... a long while after. I know four of five houses there, there is. But the little old cottage on the other side is called Maggie Puddle Cottage. It's a funny name, that is. Well, behind there, there's a lot of bungalows bin built. And it was always very wet in that bottom, because originally ... there ... it was all a ... Y' see in those days, there was what yer call ... people used to go in for kitchen hens. There was a big hen farm, it was. That, now, is ... the ... dining room for the Elementary School, is built on that ground in there, isn't it ... the ... Dining Hall for [21 mins] the Elementary School. Yer know what I'm on about, don't yer ?

JB The Primary School ?

BC The Primary School, yea, the Elementary School. [JB : Yea]. Well, that's on that side. Well, all that area was ... was Gaskarths ... the firm ... people called Gaskarths ... they were quite a big family, they were. And they were ... they practically ran the Cricket team in Cartmel as well, that family. Anyway ... after ...

JB And they had a chicken farm there, did they ?

BC No. One ... one of the sons did, y' know, not just one, not the other ones. They were a painting and plumbing outfit. And they had their places ... yer know where that row of shops in Grange is ... on Windermere Road, that row of shops there, well, they were just all garages there. And there was ... they had it as a paint shop, and different things like that. And of course, someone came along and bought the lot, and made all those ... all those shops there, of course. But ... anyway ... After ... after those, there's the one that [22 mins] sticks out, that's a little old cottage, right against ... where the beck is, and it was ... it belonged to Pit Farm, and



of course, whoever was in that, of course, there was a farm man at it. Pit Farm. It wasn't a racing stable, as it is now, as you know. But ... and mi ... one of mi uncles, mi great uncle, he lived on the other side of the road. There's three houses there. One's called Bridge Cottage, that's the one he had, and then there ... on ... next to it was a little tiny house next to it... think it was some people called Iles, and then I can't remember who lived in the end one. It's quite a big one, that one, they had a big garage built on that ... there ... and ... but I know mi ... Uncle Ike it was, Uncle Isaac, and he used to have ... and his wife was a funny old woman she was, she had specs on the end of her nose, and they were all tied up with cotton, ... [23 mins] and they used to have a milk round which they used to go to Pit Farm at night time with this kit, big kit on iron wheels, with a brass tap. And they used to round the village at night time, knocking on people's doors, they were customers, and of course yer used to go to the door with yer jug, or used to have either a quart or a pint, yer see. And that's ... that's how they must have saved their money, because, as I say, he just used to do bits of little gardening jobs, in fact he did bits of jobs on the Post Office, just temporarily, yer know, and ... I always remember when he bought the .....[?]. And then when it came with all the earth lavatories, they had to be turned over to water lavatories, of course everybody had to do it, and of course to save money of course, he didn't have ready money to get builders in to do it ... I remember him doing it. I remember him at the little old top of the garden, the toilet, 'im diggin' the trench all the way down the garden, and out to the road, [24 mins] and puttin' the pipes in himself, he did, then of course he had to get the proper people to connect it to the mains. Yer couldn't do that yerself, yer see. Yea, he was a really hard working fella, I always remember him doing that. Anyway ...

JB Carry on on your round

BC Round the corner we went, and where the school is, that was just a field then, of course, but on the other side of the road was a row of houses called Gladstone Terrace. And of course they must have thought they looked shabby or something, so they knocked them all down.

JB Where was that ? Opposite the school ?

BC Right opposite the school, yes, there was a row of houses. There was ... there was Pickles lived in one, and Boundys[?] lived in one, and Barnes ... people called Barnes lived in that one, the end one.

JB Is that where there's an open field today ?

BC Yes, it's all open there now.

JB Ah, so there used to be houses built there ?

BC Yes, there was a row there. [JB : Right]. And then I went across and up Allithwaite Road. [JB : Yea]. And the first one to have it built ... there's a bungalow, of course first, ... a man who [25 mins] has the station garage, it was his parents who had that built, ... but it wasn't there ... it was ... it was built later on. The first semi-detached house ... the man who had that built, he was a joiner by trade. And what happened ... how he come to build that house was ... he actually ... before that he lived in ... where ... where the sticky toffee pudding is now in the main square, that was the Post Office, and there was a flat above it ... above this ... and yer

went down the side of the road which goes into the bottom of the Park, and that was the way into the flat, and they just ... I always remember it was a sad case, it was. They just had the one little lad, he must have bin about four, or three or four or something like that, and I don't know what his wife was thinking about, but anyway, she had a bath of hot water, steaming hot water, somewhere in the passage, up in the ... and he had his little engine ... [26 mins] pulled his little engine along, and he just went into this bath and that was it, scolded him, course he died, of course. And that was it. Never had any more kids, as I say. But that was him. I suppose, his wife couldn't bring 'erself to even live in the flat. [JB : No]. And that was when he came and started to get them semi-detached houses built. [JB : Right]. And that was the first one he lived in, that one there. [JB : OK] And next one is ... a Miss ... Miss Crowe. She used to own ... she used to have the haberdashery shop down Grange here. She lives in there now. And then who else is there. Then the next place to that is a lovely bungalow which the local joiner ... well used to call him joiner and wheelwright and undertaker, Birch[?], they live at Clogger Beck there. Yer know which is Clogger Beck, don't yer ? And of course where ... on the side of Clogger Beck there, there used to be sort of a shed [27 mins] with all the wood in and everything, yer know. I was saying, he was the local undertaker. Well, when he was going to retire, he had this stone built bungalow, and everything he put in that bungalow, it had to be the best, everything had to oak, everything, the doors and everything, yer know. Well, ... I don't know how long he lived in it, but it was ... anyway ... one of our clerks at the Post Office, his wife, his daughter, she lives in it now with her husband. He was a mechanic at ... he was a diesel mechanic with that firm that had these big ... cranes. Whenever yer wanted a crane, yer used to ... They lived at Sandside there, this firm, I forget the name, and of course, he used to work nights permanently, and I think eventually it got him down, yer know, he had to leave. They live in that bungalow now. And then, of course, yer come further along ... [28 mins] there's a lass called Lucy ... oh I forget what her name is ... she used to live with her mother... she used to live up Cartmel Fell 'cos I remember seeing her when I used to do beyond Bowland Bridge round. And then the other ones, I can't remember who's in the other ones, except the ex-schoolmaster.

JB And where are you now exactly Bob, you've lost me ?

BC I'm at the last one along there, Allithwaite Road. And we turn round, and there's bungalows on the other side of the road. One of our Postmen lived in the last one, for a while. He's dead and gone now. He was the brother of the one I've just mentioned ... Crowe ... from Hamsfield Hall, a farm. And then ... yer come out and went on Cark Road. The first house was a proper house, a tall building, 'cos all those bungalows weren't there for a long time; they built them later on, for old people's bungalows there, on the corner. [29 mins] That was a really wet corner that was in there, they must have done that drainage as well. And then, the first house on the hill was a maiden lady, I forget what her name was now, and then there was a Miss Dixon[?], then there was Holmes[?] house, and then ... there was the fella I told yer about who ... his girlfriend from Meathop ... Sergeant his name was. 'Cos I always remember him for the reason if yer ... if yer ever met 'im anywhere ... y' see, there's characters, y' never forget these characters. If yer ever met him ... his name was Joe, Joe Sergeant, and her was in his early 50s, and of course if yer met 'im, y'd say : How yer doing today, Joe ? . Nay, I's just same he used to say, y' know. That's all y'd ever get out of 'im. And there was nothing wrong with 'im, I damn sure there wasn't. [30 mins] Anyway, the next

house to that is Barnett, and then of course, after that they wouldn't allow 'em to build any more 'cos the ground starts to fall away there, after that bungalow. And then yer come to the cottages there, right in the corner. I used to remember when I was a lad, mi mother and mi aunty, mi great aunt, used to do washing. And ... I had a little bogey which Pop made. I always called him Pop 'cos he was mi step-father, y' see. Never could call him Dad at all. And I used to put this on this bogey, and I had to go all the way down Cark Road to this Miss Suthers[?] with this washing in a basket. I always remember going with it. And I always remember her saying one day, I don't know why, I suppose, whether I complained about earache or something like that, but I know ... I remember her saying to me ... yer remember how things stick in yer mind ... she said : if yer ever have earache Robert, she used to say, don't put cotton wool in yer ears, she said, [31 mins] yer know when you go round and yer see wool that's been caught on hedges from sheep, she said, going through hedges and things like ... Get some of that wool, she said, and take it home to yer Mam, and let her wash it, she said, and when its washed and dried, she said, its better than any cotton wool to put in yer ears, she said, because it's more open, not like ... Cotton wool will stop yer hearing. Yer can't hear through cotton wool which is ... Cotton wool is sort of very close, isn't it ? [JB : Yea] And it's funny how I always remember that woman saying that to me. And that's where sticky toffee pudding first ... When he got married, he lived in one of those little cottages.

JB Howard Johns ?

BC Howard Johns, yea, yes. Anyway, and then of course we came back from there to the ... the Headless Cross. Well, of course, his wife ... Unsworth ... Ernie I've told yer about, his wife, she ... she came from there, Headless Cross, yer see, and so it was always connected [32 mins] with the Unsworths was the Headless Cross. And the cross itself, on the other side of the road, that little bit round it, I remember Pop building that, when it was very first ... when it first had a wall round it, they got 'im to build it, and flag it in the inside, 'cos it gets knocked down with cars and what 'ave yer. It's knocked down now I think, hasn't it ? Somebody must have done it. They don't know who'se done it, and of course they can't claim insurance 'cos they don't know who'se done it, as ever was. It's a damned disgrace, it is, isn't it ? The only thing I remember, that the Brownies, when they were in Cartmel, they planted a Rowan tree in it, didn't they ? There's a nice Rowan tree grows in it, I think.

JB There is, but I didn't know that the Brownies planted it.

BC The Brownies had that, put that in there, yea. Anyway, and then yer came along, and there was a fella ... he was actually ... I remember him working in the shipyard. He was a joiner. I remember him coming off the boats when the buzzer used to blow. And then of course he came there, and he had two daughters, and he ... he ... he couldn't have been ... he must have been really nice to be honest ... [33 mins] I suppose he was one I always called a ruddy freemason. And ... 'cos I used to have fun about that in the Post Office with freemasons. They always used to pull my leg about 'em. But ... he had these two bungalows. The two used to live separate – the two lasses lived separate. One works at Grange at ... one was a nurse, a sister she was in a hospital, and the other one ... neither of them got married ... the other one works for Wilson Robinson, the people who does the carpets and one another, at Grange here, yer know, on a machine doing curtains and all the rest of it. And then there's

the house there, next to that, on the side of the road ... it was built in the orchard. That was a little orchard there then. And the family who lived in there was a well known family called Dawsons. They were quite a big family, they were. He was ... I always remember ... he used to be a really good bowler in the cricket, but the groundsman called Laisby, [34 mins] he was one of men who was the labourer on the Village Hall, when they built the Village Hall, and he ended up doing the groundsman for the cricket club, and he used to play hell about ... They used to call him Ramsey MacDonald, Ramsey Donald. Ramsey Dawson, his name was. And when he used to bowl, he used to have a big long run, and yer know when yer run, and when yer come to deliver the ball, yer sort of stamp yer foot there, and yer throw yer arm over, don't yer. Well he used to be that hard, that as he stamped his foot, every time, he used to make a ruddy hole there, where he stamped his foot, 'cos I know .....[?] said : He's a bloody nuisance is that Dawson, he might be a good bowler, but he doesn't half make me some bloody work, he used to say. Yer used to have to cut that bit out and re put ... And then of course they move it, they don't go on the same place next time when they come ...

JB No, they move it across. So keep on going down ...

BC He used to play hell about it. I can hear him playing hell [35 mins] about it now ... poor old Laisby.

JB Keep on going down

BC And anyway, after yer leave there, there was ... Mason's[?] Farm. I could never stick them. They were real tight. I know the two lasses went to school with me. I know one was called Agnes. Later on, after their parents had died, she used to live tally with a lad ... a chap who was married, who lived in The Flags.

JB Where are The Flags ?

BC The Flags ? The Flags is where they have the ... y' know where the archway goes through where ... yer know where they have the market ? [JB : Yes] There, that ... that place there where you go through that archway, down there, that's called The Flags. Did yer not know that ?

JB D'you mean down by the Fish Slabs ?

BC No. Nothing to do with the Fish Slabs.

JB Where are you ?

BC No. Yer know where Unsworths have their ... where those two lasses have the ... shop ?

JB Oh yes, OK.

BC And then yer come [36 mins] along a bit, and then there's that archway.

JB Yes, there is.

BC Well, that's called The Flags down there.

- JB Is it, OK. I didn't know that.
- BC Yea. And there's a little turning that yer go through, isn't there. Well that's where ... Anyway, yer did that, and then yer came round into the village, and yer delivered down there, and ... all around the village, round Devonshire Square, and on ... And the funny thing about Devonshire Square ... down ... yer know where the shop is, don't yer, well people used to have to pay sixpence to go into the Priory, and then the Verger used to take yer round, and describe everything around there. It only cost yer sixpence in those days. Well that place down there, there's a gate there, its called Priory Close, down there. Now there used to be, on the left hand side, after yer got through the gate, it was a big house that, and there was two ladies lived there, two ... two [37 mins] sisters, and we used to call ... one was called ... she used to have her feet like that when she walked, used to call her quarter past eleven, they did, yer know the local lads, of course, yer know, and the other one ... But they were very very nice ... very very ... they were upper class folk anyway. To give yer an idea what upper class they were, their brother came through once. That was the first and only time I've ever seen one, and he was a bishop, he was the Bishop of Peterborough, and he was in his full clarb ... garb, three quarter black coat, knee ... pants up to his knees, with ribbons, long black stockings, polished shoes ... black polished shoes with big bright buckles on, and that was ... He must have been Bishop Blagden I suppose, 'cos that was ... these two were his sisters. That's the only time I've ever seen a bishop.
- JB Is that the surname ? What was their surname ?
- BC Blagden. Blagden. [JB : Blagden ?] Blagden, Yea
- JB B L A G [38 mins] D O N ? [note : incorrect spelling of Blagden]
- BC Something like that it was. But ... but they were very very ... they were very nice people, and used to work very hard for the church, and all the rest of it. They were that type of people, yer know. I mean, we lads ... we ... yer know what lads are like, don't yer. And they always had a servant. And they didn't seem to be able to keep 'em either. They must have ... they used have different young lasses come, yer know, of course the lads used to be going aye aye to the lasses yer know, when they come, and the lasses maybe only came for a fortnight or three weeks or something ... they possibly came from Barrow, yer know, the town. Imagine coming from Barrow to a place like that ! Cartmel. There were no lights in Cartmel in those days, yer know. No lights.
- JB No street lights ?
- BC No street lights, no, not a light anywhere, see.
- JB But there were lights in the houses, surely ?
- BC No, only oil lamps. No, only oil lamps.
- JB Exactly when are you now, Bob ?
- BC Yer see, what happened was, yer see : Meathop Sanatorium was [39 mins] in full blow then, there were two sanatoriums there, and they had there own power house and everything,

but they wanted to be on to the mains. And so, y' see there's a women's section and a men's section. One was called The Home ... and that was the women's section. And ... anyway ... so there's a firm came in from London called Johnson & Phillips, and the sign on their ... their wagons was like a J like that, and the top of the J was just a bar across the top, see, so it was Johnson & Phillips, yer see, like a J and P, ye see, it did. And ... d'y know what kind of wagons they had ? Ford Ts. Now, yer remember the old Ford Ts, don't yer ?

JB It's a bit before my time !

BC Well, it's a hell of a long while ago ! And d'y know, those Ford Ts used to take two poles on a ... on the wagon, they were that ... they even went on [40 mins] Hampsfell, those Ford Ts, with two poles on, I mean ... it just shows how strong they were, those little Ford Ts. [JB : Right] Yea. [JB : Yea] I mean up that lane by the golf course, up there they would go. Well, what happened was, when I first came to Cartmel, Pop as I called him, he was out of work, this is 1926/27. He was out of work, he didn't have a job ... and what happened ... 'cos he'd been in the 1914/18 war, yer see, and he'd got two holes in his back, one yer could put yer fist in one, with shrapnel. He was put amongst the dead men, he was, and he happened to moan, and an officer saw him and said : get that man inside to CCS, otherwise he'd have been buried alive.

JB What's CCS ?

BC Casualty Clearing Station.

JB Right

BC And so of course, as I say, he was out of work, and ... anyway ... when this came along ... this firm Johnson & Phillips ... so they engaged the local men they wanted as labourers. [41 mins] And what they did, they brought the power line across Ulverston viaduct, and across that green there ... have yer ever been down to Old Park ? Yer know where the Cale[?] is ? [JB : Yes, I do] Well the line passes right over the top of there, ... it came over Ulverston viaduct, over there, right the way through Holker there, over Howbarrow, down into Cartmel, over Hampsfell, and then right down again, and right the way through to Meathop ... on to Meathop. That was the power line, and that's how Cartmel got electricity.

JB About when would that be, Bob ?

BC Well, it would have been 19 ... somewhere about 1930, I think, somewhere about that, 1928/29, there. And of course then ... of course, he was just diggin' holes, helping to put these poles in, y' see, for the power. I think it was somewhere about three hundred and sixty volts, three hundred and sixty thousand volts, or something like that, it was, the line then.

JB But we started [42 mins] talking about this because you said these lasses, who had come from Barrow, to be the servants of the ladies of the Blagdens, [BC Oh yea, yea, yea] they would find it surprising that there was no electric light in the village.

BC Yea, well, that's what I mean, everything was in darkness, yer see.

JB But this was in the 50s, wasn't it ?

BC Oh, no, no, no. This was a way back in 1930s.

JB Oh, I'm sorry, I thought you were on your round as a Postman still.

BC No. Well, yer see, I got to the Blagdens, and of course I was telling yer about that ...

JB OK, so this is ... [BC : Devonshire Square there, yea] So what else was in Devonshire Square at that time, when you were doing your round ?

BC There was ... they used to have a shop, and it used to go the full length of there then. They used to have toys, and everything like that, and there was two old dears came in the corner, and they opened a café, and they didn't want people to go in ... what they used to say : yer know, we've come here because we enjoy Cartmel, looking at the Priory. They didn't want people to go in the café. I remember ... [laughs] ... They called it Bay Tree Café, I always remember. And then, of course, the other side of the road was the Institute, and then next to the Institute [43 mins] was a little haberdashery shop. And then next to that was Bluebell House.

JB And is that this photograph that you've got here for me ?

BC Yes.

JB Tell me a bit about Bluebell House.

BC Well, Bluebell House, of course, it's 16<sup>th</sup> century, it is. And when mi Mam sold it, d'y know how much she got for it ? £3,000.

JB When was that, Bob ?

BC Oh dear ... good long while ago.

JB But your mother was alive, at the time ?

BC Oh yes.

JB Were you living there then ?

BC Oh, no, no. I was married, no. I was living at Grange then.

JB Now just let me exactly which house this is. Is this where the restaurant is now ? Rogan's ?

BC The Rogan's ... the cars are parked ... it's all boarded ... the widows are all boarded up, y' can't see into it. Y' see next to that, mi uncle ... what he did ... he made the little coach house, as I called it, into a little cottage for 'imself, with nice red tile flagged floors. Y' see ... and of course, in the back, [44 mins] there was a big yard where they used to make their own beer, y' see, brew their own beer, and so he split that off with ... these concrete blocks, yer know ... I remember ... he only made 'em so high ... about ten foot high or something like that, and so there was a yard for 'im, for there, and a yard for Bluebell y' see. But there was also a cellar as well, but when the beck used to flood, the water used to come up the pipes,

and flood the cellar as well. It used to come up in the cellar, it did. Y'see. Well that's where they used to have the barrels, in there.

JB So is this ... is Bluebell House on the corner, next to the beck ?

BC No, no, no, no. ... No, after the little coach house, as I say, there was this ... 'e made into a cottage, ... well that fella from the ... El Coom [for L'Enclume], whatever yer call 'im, he bought the whole lot, he bought Bluebell House, and I believe he even bought next door as well. But, I've heard since that he's been trying to sell what used to be the... be the ... haberdashery shop. [45 mins] Mind you, later on the Dawson family lived in there. Dawsons I mentioned, yer know. But ... anyway ... the next to that, that there, was a nice little grocery shop, which is a wine bar now. Y' see. There was ... Miss ... what was 'er name now ... Was it Airey ... no ... Miss Carter I think it was. No. Can't remember, forgotten now what 'er name was.

JB Bob, sorry, I interrupted you before. But before you go on ... Bluebell House, [BC : Yea] did it used to be a pub, did you say ?

BC It was a pub, yea.

JB And they closed the pub and just made it into a private house, did they ?

BC Yea. When 'e bought it, when mi mother bought that ... when she bought it off mi uncle, we lived on the opposite side of the road in Eea Court, we were renting that. And of course, he was getting on, of course, and his wife was still alive, and she got it off 'im for £600.

JB Do you remember how long it had been [46 mins] since it had been a pub ?

BC No idea. No idea. [JB : OK] And then he ... of course he come to some agreement to live in the front room as a bed-sit, did mi uncle who owned it, yer see.

JB And this picture that we've got here, who are the people in the photograph ?

BC Well, one's mi mother. I don't know who the hell the other one is, no idea. That's mi Ma there, there, that one there.

JB That's your Mum in the background, is it ?

BC Yea. [JB : Right] There's seats outside as well, isn't there ?

JB There is, there's a bench.

BC I know she had some two benches made as well.

JB So you were living there when, Bob ? Just trying to put a date on this photograph ?

BC No, I wasn't. I wasn't. [JB : No, you weren't living there]. When I came back out of the army ... when I came home, ... I got ... I came home in a Lancaster bomber, I told yer about, one of the ... yer know ... quickly ... it took me six months to get out there, but I came home in same day. Nine o'clock in the morning ... and I was here in England at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.



[47 mins] And ... we ... I got a pass for the railway, and I came back, and I got to Lancaster. And there used to be two stations at Lancaster in those days. Yer could only get as far as one, and yer had to go to the other one to come up this line 'ere. And of course, when I was at Lancaster, of course, I got off ... and when I went to the other one, it had closed down, it was empty. And I always remember walking away, and I had all mi .....[?] gear on and everything.

JB Anyway, back to Bluebell House. So that was where your Mam was living at the time ?

BC No, she was living in Eea Court.

JB Which is Eea Court ?

BC That's the one the other side of the road.

JB Opposite this ?

BC Yes. [JB : Right, OK] So what happened, see ... I'm trying to tell yer ... to get to that far .. what happened was that ... when I got off ... off there ... along this road, this Sergeant pulled up in a wagon, on his push bike, and he said : where d'y think your going young fella, he said. I said, well, I said, I'm trying to get to [48 mins] Grange, I said. There's no trains, I said. Well, he said ... he said I'm going to visit my ... one of my men, he said, policemen, he said, on the other side of Kirk... what is bridge ... Scurby[?] Bridge, I think they call it, that's where everything had to go over that bridge then in those days. There wasn't a motorway then. He said, when I get over there, he said ... he said I'll tell him to fit yer up with one of the wagons that come over; stop one of the wagons, he said. I said, oh, thank yer very much, and away he went. Well, of course I walked on and over the bridge, and the policeman was there. And he said : are you the young fella that just seen my Sergeant ? I said : Yea. He said, oh he asked me if I'd stop a wagon. So the next wagon that come along, he put his hand up and stopped it, and he said to the lorry driver, long distance lorry driver, where are yer going ? He says: Glasgow. 'Cos everything went through Kendal then, y' see. And ... he said : Oh. He says : why ? He says : Well this young fella wants a lift; he's is trying to get to Grange. Oh. [49 mins] Well he says, I can drop 'im off at Levens Bridge, he said. So I said, oh, smashing. So gor'in, and he dropped me at Levens Bridge. Well, it's a ruddy good walk from there that night, I tell yer, it was about ... it was midnight or after, it was, I know when I set off walking from Levens Bridge. And I got nearly to where the petrol station is. It was called Bear Café then, that was. Used to be great big bears stood outside. There was a Land Rover past me on that ... it was the only thing that passed me, t'd be a bloody farmer, of course, 'cos ... and I thumbed 'im and he just went right straight past me. And I thought : you rotten sod, yer know. Called 'im all the names under the sun. And of course, it was a good way from there, even there, to Grange, and then over the top to Cartmel. [JB : Did you walk that then ?] And then when I got to Cartmel. I know old fella got up in the morning at half past four, and made 'imself breakfast, and then he used to go to Post Office, y' see. He was on Post. And so when I got there, I tell yer, I think it was about half past three, or something like that ... [50 mins] quarter to four in the morning, so I thought, oh, I won't disturb 'im, so I just flopped down there in the porch, with mi ruddy kit bag, and just curled up ... it was summer time ... summer ... Well of course, when he opened the door to go to work, there I was. Four

and a half bloody years since he'd seen me. And of course, away he went, he couldn't sort of wait and talk to me. Well, of course, I went in, and there was mi Mam, and mi cous' come down, and that was it. And of course, it was while I was there, that she bought Bluebell House, yer see. That's when I was there, and her .....[?] were there.

JB Right, right. OK. OK. So, after Bluebell House, keep going on your round, Bob, just for a few more minutes, then we'll call it a day.

BC Then I went up the Square ... I got on about Howard Johns, he had ... he had the pub ... The Kings Arms, and of course they came along and said, oh, you can't ... but yer can't take any more business in , so of course Howard said well, he said yer taking ... yer taking me living away from me, which they were, I mean 'cos he had [51 mins] rooms to let as well, and so, of course, he thought oh to hell with this, I'm going to move out, and so he did. He applied for the Post Office, y' see, it was up for sale then I think. Y' see, well, that was ... had been the Post Office for donkey's years, that had, yer see. It was always the Post Office. And, of course, while he was there, he started all this business with the Christmas trees, outside, yer know.

JB No.

BC Eh, well, they've got a hole in the ground, by the widow, just outside there, where they can stick a Christmas tree in. [JB : Yea] And then there's another one goes over where the pillars are, yer know. Yer know the pillars in the corner there ? [JB : Yes] There's one goes up there. And they put one up by the Royal Oak, I think, don't they, I think they put one up there, they always have a nice display, don't they.

JB At Christmas time.

BC Well Howard was the one who started it, was Howard, yer know. But the only thing was, he thought he could rule the roost. When he got there, he said to the Post Office, he said eer ... that he wanted more money, 'cos that Post Office at Cartmel used to be one of the best Post Offices in this area, [52 mins] as regards the wage they got from it. There must have been a lot of pensioners, and things like that, yer see. In fact they used to employ somebody separately from the rest, just to manage the Post Office. Always had somebody separately to look after the Post Office. .....[?] And when they were always a bit slack, they would give a hand with the Grocery side as well, 'cos it was really busy ... Yer could buy anything in that shop. Yer could buy a snare to snare a rabbit; yer could buy a halter to put on a horse; yer could buy fresh ground coffee when yer went in. It was smelt beautiful. I know hanging behind the door there used to be a great big old iron poker, which I ... these old fireplaces ... I suppose that was the thing ... if ever they were stopped with y' burglars ... there was no burglars around in those days like there is now. [JB : No. So ... ] And so what happened was, Howard said, I want more money, y' see. [53 mins] And so, they said, well I'm sorry, yer can't have any more money. So he said : well to hell with yer, take yer bloody Post Office out of here. And so ... they took the box out, and everything, yer see.

JB Where did it go to ?

BC And it went down ... down Cavendish Street, in a little corner, in a place that was like a ruddy stable, it was.

JB That was what ? The Post Box or the Post Office ?

BC The Post Office itself.

JB Oh, right. On the right then as you go down Cavendish Street, just before L'Enclume ? That's where the Post Office was ?

BC It was there, yes, 'cos there's a way down to the beck there.

JB So what else was in ...

BC And after that, of course, when the woman retired, nobody else wanted it, and so it went to Spar at Town End now, didn't it ? That's where it is now, isn't it ?

JB It is, now. So stay in the Square for a minute. You've got the Kings Arms, [BC : Yea], and the Royal Oak, [BC : Yea]. What else was in the Square ?

BC The funny thing about it was ... later ... later on ... they ... what they did ... they went and put an iron ... a proper iron staircase on the end of the Royal ... of the [54 mins] Kings Arms ... for a fire escape, yer see. A proper iron one, which was that was what it wanted, yer see, and of course then after they could take people in, yer see. [JB : Right, yes, OK, so ...] And then next to that is the Ford House.

JB Yes, what was that at the time ?

BC Well, that was always Ford House. There was people ... big big family lived there.

JB Do you know their name ?

BC Called Bells.

JB Bell ?

BC Yes, Bell. A really nice family, they were. And then next to that was the Royal Oak. ... The earliest people I remember living there, I think I've told yer about them, was two sisters, ... who used to run it, and they ... I always remember ... yer see in those days there wasn't even any fridges, y' see, 'cos for a fridge y've got to have electric, to have a fridge, haven't yer. People used to have what yer call meat safes.

JB OK, but you're back before the war now again, aren't you ? Your going back ...

BC Aye.

JB Well, you're back before electricity came to the village, aren't you ?

BC Yea. Yea.

JB You said electricity came ... ?

BC Later on. Yes, [55 mins] later on. Anyway ...

JB Stop, sorry Bob, just to ask you again, about when did the electricity come to the village ?

BC Maybe ... about ... 1934, or something like that. [JB : OK] Somewhere about that. [JB : OK] See [JB : Yea] 'cos I was going to tell yer, yer see, but yer didn't want to know, all about the troops coming, and Territorial Army, ...

JB We do want to know, but ...

BC Well yer know so, about when they put the sewerage in, and things like that. And what they came across, and things like that.

JB It's so difficult to keep you focused, though, isn't it, because you've got so many good memories. I'll tell you what we'll do. 'Cos the battery is about to run out on me now, we'll stop for today, and I'll come back to you another time to continue. [BC : Yea] Now remember where we are, we're in the Royal Oak at the moment, [BC : Yea] and when I come back next time, we'll continue on ...

BC What happened was at the Royal Oak ... then of course ... Next to the Royal Oak was a man called Benson who was a tailor, a proper tailor, who mended ... sitting there ... [56 mins] yer know ... with his needle and that. And then next to that was the ... the local District Bank, yer see. And then ... there's a little alley way there which yer can go through. There's houses down there. And then there's a little shop there, where the pillars are, y' see. That used to be a cigarettes, tobacco and sweet shop y' see there. And ... then the big house next to that ... belonged to Holker, and then ... on the other side of the road, by the Kings Arms, there was ... El Coom [for L'Enclume] has got that as a coffee shop now. Well, yer see, that used to be a confectioner's shop, that did, and the café upstairs. People called Grant[?] had their own bake house as well. And then there's the Priory Hotel. The people called Davies who run that. And then of course next to that is the ... big place which has been made into three flats.

JB Well, you've got the [57 mins] book shop, the little book shop on the corner, haven't you ?

BC Yea, I mean that ... but I mean ... mean the house ... the whole building is three flats there. It used to belong to a lady who was very religious, who lived out at Stoney Dale, at Field Broughton. D'y know where Stoney Dale is ? Well, it's a big house. D'y know Egg Pudding Stone then ?

JB No, I don't.

BC Well, when yer go up that road, as if yer goin' to go to Lindale, yer see, [JB : Yea], and yer get to the crossroads, [JB : Yea], ... crossroads, yer go straight on, and takes yer up to Newton. If yer go to the right it takes yer up to the motorway. If yer go to the left it takes yer into Field Broughton. Well, while yer at that ... that Egg Pudding Stone there, in that wall ... 'cos what they used to say ... you can hear the church bells, the bells ringing, the stone turns, and all the rest of it, it was all legend. Well, when yer at that, yer can see a big house in the fields across there – that's Stoney Dale.

- JB Oh right, sorry. So Bob, lets leave it there for now, because we've run out of ...
- BC [58 mins] She owned that house, as I say, and we used to go in as Band of Hope.
- JB Band of Hope ?
- BC Band of Hope, yea. And they used to give slides ... for ... all related to drink, y' see, Band of Hope. And of course they used ... we used to like to get hold of these little frogs yer get in Christmas crackers, where knip it and it goes, 'click, clock', yer know. And of course, the man that was operating the thing, yer see, and the man who was doing the lecture was at the front, yer see, with his stick, I mean now they have a torch which shines a light on to it now, but then they used to have a billiard cue and point, yer see, these sort of things, and they were in colour, of course, but stills. And of course, we used ... when yer got ... we used to go click click with things, and the fella would move the thing, and he said, no, no, not yet, put in back, put it back, and it was us that was doing it, yer see. And of course what happened was ... when they went round with the box, the collection box, that yer put money in, well if yer didn't have any money, we used to put [59 mins] acorns in !
- JB I'm stopping it now Bob, or we'll be here all day. [end 59 mins 5 secs]