

Summary of Interview with Gerald Whiteway

Interviewee : Gerald Whiteway of Lindale, born 12 January 1910

Interviewer : Denys Vaughan

Date of Interview : 17 November 1992

Duration of Recording : 29 mins 51 secs

Approx time (mins)	Content
0 – 2	Introduction; earliest memory was news that brother had died in WWI.
2 – 3	At school in Lindale; headmaster Thomas Coward; his wife was infants teacher.
3 – 4	Attended “Cartmel Centre”, in former Grammar School building, probably one day a week from Lindale school; remembered gardening there with teacher Mr Greenwood.
4 – 5½	On leaving school at 14, worked 2 years as delivery boy for his brother who ran Lindale Post Office; then at 16 joined Blakemores at Grange as apprentice joiner; after apprenticeship, became a foreman by age 22 and stayed with Blakemores for 7 years.
5½ – 7¾	After father died, went to see local joiner Roger Knowles to arrange funeral, and after funeral he was persuaded to join him; learnt wheelwright skills making agricultural cart wheels; Knowles died 12 months after Gerald joined him so he carried on his business for 6 or 7 years; then health problems, probably stress related dealing with Knowles’ widow.
7¾ – 9	Changed to self employed and started Whiteways Joiners and Undertakers; had married Doris Park after 10 months at Knowles’; she had been at school with friend Arthur Frearson.
9 – 10¼	No memories of school holiday activities because brother always wanted help in the shop, which continued when not working during apprenticeship; later had a bike and would cycle alone to Witherslack or Newby Bridge for church; joined a church choir at age 17 after voice broke.
10¼ – 11	After marrying Doris, had one child, Marie, who now lives in Canada; has visited there 3 times; she was ill with a brain tumour but now successfully treated.
11 – 17	Discussion of obviously incomplete photocopy of Lindale’s “recently released” 1891 census which DV wanted to discuss; GW notices Jane Bell, his grandmother, whose house Fern Cottage was incorrectly entered as Pine Cottage; discussion of where some properties might be; GW remembers names of people whom he had buried; estimates that he had done about 700 Lindale burials.
17 – 20½	Discussion of a 1913 map that DV had brought, with comparisons to incomplete copy of 1891 census; GW comments that school house was built in 1903, and points out location of his own first house Wood Villa.
20½ – 23	Discussion of Carriage Works and adjacent land bought by GW in 1950s, formerly Wilsons; evolved to a garage with Wilsons; George Wilson died, and after Doris died, GW married his widow Mary, Edith Mary Wilson.

- 23 – 24 Discussion of village blacksmiths : Robert Castle’s “at the end of this road” was converted into a bungalow; another smithy above Lindale Inn; father’s smithy was at carriage works, he worked for Wilsons making iron fittings for coaches; another local blacksmith named Ogden mentioned.
- 24 – 25½ Change of subject to makers of joinery for bigger houses, but no names mentioned, and to joinery etc in DV’s own house.
- 25½ – 29¾ Discussion of fireplace in DV’s house with mostly DV talking; changes made to it by former owner Mrs Armstrong; conservatory now added; conversion of former dairy there.