

## Summary of Interview with Ron Thompson

Interviewee : Alfred Ronald (known as Ron) Thompson, born 1 July 1917

Interviewers : Irini Tzortzoglou & John Batty

Date of Interview : 10 June 2014      Duration of Recording : 36 mins 24 secs

Approx time (mins)	Content
0 – 2	Introduction, confirming Ron's age, born in Ulverston, came to Cartmel in 1919 when father was demobbed from the army because his previous job as organist and choirmaster at Ulverston parish church had been filled, so he took up vacancy for that sort of person in Cartmel.
2 – 3½	Initially lived in house at Clogger Beck attached to joiner's workshop, rented from Rawsthorn family, with comments about that house.
3½ – 4¾	Started at Primary school in 1922, remembering splinters from seating forms, no teachers or pupils named, school hours, home then in Barngarth for lunch.
4¾ – 5¾	No memories of neighbours at Clogger Beck or Barngarth.
5¾ – 7	Brief comment on old Grammar School in Cartmel.
7 – 9¼	Village doctor lived at house called Fairfield in Cavendish Street, entrance opposite current L'Enclume; brief mention of other village facilities, i.e. telephone exchange in Cavendish Street, (but very few lines), and Police Station in Priest Lane.
9¼ – 10½	Memories of Henry Teasdale running the Post Office, which sold practically everything, and had various meats hanging from the ceiling.
10½ – 12½	Vague comments on early memories of Cartmel, but mentioning Mrs Ayres' 'eating house' in Cavendish Street, for afternoon teas, and that there used to be more pubs than at present, but none served food.
12½ – 14½	Father liked his beer, but no memories of him going out to pubs because too occupied with music; father took on local Choral Society, which had no connection with the Priory at that time; later, after return to Cartmel, RT joined Choral Society which competed in the Westmorland Music Festival in Kendal.
14½ – 15	RT lived in Cartmel until 1924, then returned in 1948, the year after he married Joan, when his employing bank moved him to their branch in Grange.
15 – 19½	Discussion of RT's banking career, with implication that he started with the Lancaster Banking Co. which became part of the District Bank; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cashier when first moved to Grange, later Manager of Ulverston branch, specialising in lending to farmers whom he visited; never any failures in lending to farmers.
19½ – 21¼	Location of bank branches : District Bank in Grange was where Nat West is now; location of branches in Allithwaite before & after re-location; location in Cartmel Square, adjacent to Bank Court which, when viewed from outside had District Bank on the left and Martins Bank on the right.

21¼ – 27½	Discussion of formation of Cartmel Priory (Secondary) School, of which RT became an initial governor; intention to replace Old Grammar School in Cartmel; fundraising; gift of Cavendish land; pupils from wider area; opened by Princess Margaret in 1950s; comments on her and her visit; experiences as a governor; Canon Fullerton was one of the instigators of the need for the school and very active in promoting its formation..
27½ – 30½	Ron's own family : notes on a brother and sister, and his own children and grandchildren.
30½ – 36	Concluding childhood memories of father's involvement with in various local musical organisations; mentioned good relationship with the archdeacon, involvement with Grange Operatic Society, and Ambleside Choral or Operatic Society; story of Grange Operatic Society members appearing at Priory in costume and archdeacon's greeting in same spirit.
36 – 36½	Concluding thanks.