

Project: **'Memories of Seven Lochs' Communities: A people's history'**.

Respondent: John Harold

Year of Birth:

Age: 1934

Connection to project:

Date of Interview: 07/03/23

Interviewer: Yvonne Ioannou

Recording Agreement: Yes

Information & Consent: Yes

Photographic Images: No

Length of Interview: 38min 15sec

Location of Interview: Glenboig Life Centre





Recording Equipment: Zoom H4n (internal mics)



Time (from: mins/secs)	Description	Transcribed Extract (from- to: mins/secs)
00.00 – 00.45	Interviewer welcomes respondent and confirms his details and that he grew up in Glenboig within the Seven Lochs Area.	
00.53 – 2.52	Respondent tells us about his father who was in WW1 where he was invalidated out due to losing his hand. He tells us that although it restricted him he always helped out at home. His mother was a nurse. He tells us that his parents had seven children although two unfortunately did not survive. He tells us that his father then worked on the railway line as a crossing keeper.	
	“With one hand they put him onto a job with hands to answer the telephone and write things down. He did everything, dug the garden, soled our shoes, the only thing he couldn’t do was wallpaper, because of the one.. my mother did that.”	2.39 – 2.52
2.56 – 4.36	Respondant tells us about his home growing up. He chats about the community and how everybody knew each other. He tells his memories of the soldiers huts which were close to him.	
	“It was a 2-bedroom, it was, we were fortunate, it was just new, just a few years before I was born so they had all the modern facilities and it hasn’t changed much, it’s still.. and you knew everybody in the street, I still could tell you their name, who lived, who all lived, nearly everybody who lived in the street.”	2.58 – 3.21
	“Infact, none of the houses there had letterboxes, the postman always knocked once, whenever you got a letter which wasn’t very.. Again, most women were in the house in those days.”	3.32 – 3.44
	“On the way to Coatbridge there was the Soldiers huts, and this was a unit of Soldiers in the war, and they were based there, I think they were artillery cause they were, there was no officer in charge, there was a Bombardier which was the Royal Artillery. They used to march up and down and we marched up and down along with them, it was either Church parade or Pub parade I’m not sure.”	4.03 – 4.24
4.38 – 6.39	Respondant tells us about his community memories. He tells us how his mother used to get a bus out to go to the shops. He tells us about the different foods his mother used and substitutions for other foods during the war. He tells a few memories of during the war such as a flare being dropped from a plane.	

	“Infact, my Aunt Nelly, that was my Fathers, brother’s, Wife, they live right at the top of, of.. and she used to feed some of them now and again, I think they were a bit desperate for Rationing.”	4.41 – 4.53
	“She’d change her margarine for jam with Mrs. So and So, and she would get the butter and the margarine and she would mix them together so there wasn’t, you couldn’t take a piece and margarine, you got a piece, this was the thing you see... I remember when our neighbour across the road from us made banana sandwiches during the war, but it was eh turnip with banana flavouring in it.	5.27 – 5.54
	“A flare dropped from, must have been from a plane on it’s way home and whether it dropped, I don’t know why but I remember John from the next block, John Armour ran over the fence with a bucket of water. It didn’t affect us, but again that was, everything else affected us.”	6.01 – 6.17
6.50 - 9.59	Respondent tells us about his Primary School and different memories he had there. He tells us that a lot of people at the time didn’t go to secondary school after primary school. He tells us about the first school dinners. Respondent tells us the most popular game from school and also about having to do air raid practise.	
	“So we started there, and every morning was the same, we lined up in the corridor and Miss Glennan would come round, she would see, make sure that you had your gas mask, she’d look at your hands and make sure that your nails were clean, check your shoes to see that they were clean, she lived in the village, some of them didn’t have shoes.”	7.19 – 7.40
	“Miss Donnelly, she was the primary teacher, first primary, the room had a fireplace in it and the janitor had to come in every now and again and chop up the coal you know. I think the other ones had radiators, there was Mrs Egan, Mrs Shoan, that’s the one I finished up with, they were all Mrs, although I think some of them were married, at that time if you married you lost your job, although I think maybe during the war then that changed.”	7.44 – 8.11
	“See at that time, although it was primary school, some of them didn’t go on to secondary school, there was a secondary part upstairs of the school, and the ones who didn’t go to either St Patricks or St Marys in Coatbridge finished their schooling in there and I remember when they started the first school meals started up, it was 4pence per meal, 4 pence for me and my sister, just under 2pence now. It wasn’t bad, food was fine.”	8.20 – 8.50
	“The boys part of the school, there was a quite a big long hill, during the winter it was, there was a slide built up right down there, I was never brave enough, the school fell down, they built something in its place.”	9.09 – 9.22
	“We had to go to the air raid and the air raid was the entrance into the mines, the thing was, the brickworks was just the same, just across the road. So we would march across there and under the entrance into the mine, we only ever, done it once, practise when needed to do it, cause.”	9.25 – 9.44
10.00 – 11.18	Respondent tells us that he did his secondary school study after the war. He didn’t like school and was happy to leave. He tells us a bit about the subjects he studied. He left school at age 15 to join the railway.	
	“I hated Geography, I mean I love it now, and history, history too then was learning dates, that was it, there was no, that was all you had to do was learn dates, you know the Battle of Hastings and all.”	10.31 – 10.46
11.19 – 12.25	Respondent told us about holidays when he was younger, and how they got free passes to travel because his father worked in the railways. He tells us about going to Aberdeen with his brother with free passes.	
	“People thought we were rich, our father, see my father worked on the railway, we got free passes so it didn’t cost us anything on the railway.	11.23 - 11.47

	We had friends which was Olive, infact her daughters are still there, in Ryslip in Middlesex just outside London and we stayed with them so there was no, but he'd take us away so we would go way down by Scarborough or something like that."	
12.26 – 14.19	Respondent tells us about his job in the railway as a booking clerk. He tells us about getting the chance to go abroad to Germany and then to Korea to work with the railway. He found his job boring so he decided to go into teaching in a primary school.	
14.24 – 15.25	Respondent tells us what he did when he was younger, he had joined a drama class that his uncle ran.	
15.32 – 17.25	Respondent tells us about his father being in the Labour party and how he knew all the MP's. His cousin was a MP in Coatbridge who was knighted as a sir by the Vatican. He tells us that he feels that Glenboig was very working class and most supported Labour in those days.	
17.30 – 19.35	Respondent tells us that he now lives in East Kilbride. He had moved to Moodiesburn a few years after being married before moving to East Kilbride. He talks about meeting his wife and the children that they had. But his family still come back to visit Glenboig every Saturday. He tells about his family tradition of the "Sausage Club" where his family meets up on Saturday for Sausage Baps.	
19.40 – 20.53	Respondent tells us about getting married to his wife and going on Honeymoon to Spain.	
	"We went on honeymoon, it was the first Annette had been out of the country I think, to Spain, because I worked in the railway for nothing, I had to pay 50pence to take Annette."	19.52 - 20.04
	"Infact in those days, you were restricted to £50 cash to take with you, it was to do with, aw there was some, some crisis on or something, I took 20, I couldn't afford £50, we were nearly coming home and that was nearly all souvenirs."	20.15 – 20.34
20.58 -22.01	Interviewer asks a few questions about respondents wife. She had worked various jobs until the respondent took ill health, she gave up her job to look after him.	
22.16 – 23.11	Respondent tells us a job about a criminal he had heard about around the time of the war. He also tells us that there was a Celtic player and a Rangers player that lived around Glenboig.	
23.20 – 23.35	Respondent tells us about the changes he has seen in Glenboig, he has seen a big number of houses, when he was younger there was more shops than houses and now it is the other way about.	
23.42 – 25.02	Respondent tells us that the local loch used to freeze over, which was made for the Brickworks. He reminisces about where some local industries were situated.	
	"But there was also Stellmacs, can't remember maybe Stellmacs, Stellmark, that made slabs, concrete slabs, and further up there was also a place that did marble."	24.32 – 24.45
25.10 – 27.00	Respondent shares his opinion on what would make the community better, he thinks that more shops would help. He mentions different places which were in the area when he was younger such as the war memorial and the cinema. He tells us his memories from the cinema.	
	"Films changed four times a week, you had Monday and Tuesday, and then it changed on a Wednesday, then Thursday and Friday, they were all double bills. And a Saturday was different, there was a matinee on a Saturday with the kids and then there were two shows in the evening."	26.26 – 26.45
27.13 – 28.02	Respondent talks about the community spirit in the area how everyone helps each other out and back in the day they didn't need to lock the	

	door. Although he has moved away he feels the community spirit is still there.	
28.07 – 29.53	Respondent reminisces over a few memories of his hometown. He tells us that he remembers local bonfires that they had. He also tells us about the local football teams that were there and how he used to watch them.	
	“There was two football teams, one of them, the park is still there. St. Josephs, it was St. Joes, which was across from the cinema, it’s still there, it still uses the football park, and the other one was further up in the village, just up the road there. Carrick, Carrick Park, that was the Glenboig Juniors, it was Glenboig Juniors and Joe’s were an amateur team, Glenboig Juniors I think were semi-professional, I mean it was probably a pound a week or something like that.”	28.28 – 28.58
29.58 – 33.19	Respondent tells the story of meeting his wife and getting engaged in London. He tells us where they would take their kids for their holidays down mostly in England. He speaks about his sisters also looking after their kids for trips away.	
33.20 – 37.20	Interviewer asks if he has any other memories from the area. He talks about remembering the Head Mistress from his school. He remembers different shops in the area too. He tells us that although he has moved to East Kilbride he still would call Glenboig home.	
	“And that’s were all the shops started, there was a Post Office, who was run by Mrs. Watson who lived in the same block as us at home, but things about Mrs Watson, she was there until she was 100, she was still working, I say she was working, her daughter was doing all the thingmy, next door to her was her husband who had a shop that sold radios and people used to come, mostly from Annethill with their batteries or accumulators to get them charged up because they had no electricity up there. Then there was jokes shop, well he didn’t know at the time, but they said joke paper shop, then there was Denardos, Denardos was a café, you couldn’t sit in it, it was just an ice cream... then there was Chapmans the butchers next to that, then there was the Co-Operative, it had 3 sections, although it was the one building, you got 3 sections, first section was eh, it wasn’t the butchers it was the fleshing department, then there was the grocers and then the next one was the drapery.”	34.28 – 35.29
37.56 – 38.14	Interviewer thanks respondent for taking part and sharing his memories.	
   		
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