

Project: **'Memories of Seven Lochs' Communities: A people's history'**.
 Respondent: Carol Quinn
 Year of Birth: 1968
 Age: 55
 Connection to project: Lives in Cardowan
 Date of Interview: 27/04/23
 Interviewer: Thomas Stones
 Recording Agreement: Yes
 Information & Consent: Yes
 Photographic Images: No
 Length of Interview: 40 minutes, 59 seconds
 Location of Interview: St Josephs Parish Hall, Cardowan
 Recording Equipment: Zoom H4n (internal mics)



Time (from: mins/secs)	Description	Transcribed Extract (from- to: mins/secs)
0.00 – 0.47	Interviewer confirms respondent details. He confirms that the respondent was born in a Seven Lochs Area (Glenboig).	
0.48 – 1.23	Respondent gives an insight into her parents lives.	
	“My dad was originally from Muirhead, my mum’s from Annethill in Glenboig and they met, came here to Cardowan. My dad worked all his days in the pit. Cardowan Pit. My mum, was a mum, do you know what I mean, she raised, hm she raised 5 kids and my dads family aswell for many years, eh brought up Roman Catholic in this area.”	0.54 – 1.16
	“Aw my siblings, aw there’s 5 of us, I’ve got eh 2 older brothers, a younger brother, a younger sister.”	1.17 – 1.23
1.31 – 1.43	Respondent describes her house growing up.	
	“I stayed in a big 5 apartment house in Frankfield Road, 4 in a block aye, upstairs, coal fires in every room, eh brilliant, loved it.”	1.32 – 1.41
1.45 – 5.21	Respondent tells us about what the community was like in Cardowan. She remembers how her family struggled in comparison to others, she remembers the hard times but also says she had happy memories from then.	
	“The community back then when I was growing up, eh I loved Cardowan, I loved everybody because everybody knew everybody we had great neighbours, do you know what I mean?”	1.45 – 1.55
	“And it was only at a young age I knew what poverty was, because I pallied with a girl that didn’t live in poverty. Do you know what I mean, to me I used to say she was very rich, and posh, do you know what I mean? Because she had a quilt before I ever had a quilt, I still had an old patchy blanket, do you know what I mean? So I knew back then what poverty was, yet my dad worked 7 days a week aswell.”	2.21 – 2.48
	“And when Mary came down mum used to go, ‘In to the room!’, I never went into the room, I used to go round the door. And it wasn’t anything that I wasn’t meant to hear or anything it’s just that they were struggling, everybody was struggling.”	3.07 – 3.18
	“Andrea’s granny and grandad were Coyle and they had the sweetshop in Muirhead in the corner, at the corner and that’s how I always knew they had money because of that, they had a house up one of the drives in	3.26 – 3.55





	Cardowan drive, one of the big, not Cardowan drive, what do you call it, the Avenues and I was in they houses and then I was in Mary Ropes house so I knew, and I was very aware of it from a young age about poverty. Definitely cause I knew how much a struggle it was for my mum with my dad working 7 days a week.”	
	“And I can remember, I don’t know when it was, but I remember my dads wage was £130 a week and that’s him working the 7 days, and that still wasn’t covering the rent and everything else.”	3.59 – 4.12
	“Mick Walsh used to come here, he was a man, but you got tick off him until the end of the week, do you know what I mean and my mum was having to do that even although my dad was working, and I was very aware of it.”	4.15 – 4.26
	“As a family we never went on holiday, holiday. Our holidays were always at the fair when the buses got run, and were going to Ayr, Burntisland and all that, never had a family holiday as such, because we couldn’t afford it.”	4.30 – 4.43
5.25 – 6.25	Interviewer asks respondent whether she remembers any local issues affecting the community at the time. She recalls the strike at the time.	
	“And then the strike, when that hit, that was horrendous, absolutely horrendous because you were up at the picket line do you know what I mean, and it caused an awful lot of thingmy at my mum and dads house and at that time when they were on strike the kids were getting fed, I don’t know if it was here or the hall at the time, but my mum wouldn’t allow us to go. We never once went down to it, its like the soup kitchen it was called. Do you know what I mean? But that’s the only major thing I can remember was the pit strike and it was horrendous. I mean I can remember, I don’t know if you can remember aswell, primary school you used to be able to go up and go to the gates right at the back and you seen them all, going in and out and that is where the Picket Line was, wasn’t it and we were down a few times but not a lot.”	5.41 – 6.25
6.27 – 11.24	Respondent tells us which schools and nursery she went to. She describes her primary school in which the interview is taking place. She tells us that she didn’t like school and talks about her struggles at school. Although she was good at sports, she reminisces about her sports day and her closest friends at school.	
	“I’m not 100%, I cant remember my nursery days, but I believe my nursery was in the old hall across the road.”	6.34 – 6.41
	“And then from there I came here, St Josephs, right there where that shutter is, that was Mr. Murphys place, and then Mrs, France was your secretary she was through there where the kitchen is, do you know what I mean? And up here, I don’t know, I can’t, the staffroom, roundabout here, and what I do remember is the disabled toilet, well I went to it, Mrs McCauley, Learning Support teacher, that was her wee thingmy. Then you’d the huts up the back, aye I remember everything about this school.”	6.54 – 7.25
	“When it was sports day and everything else I beat everybody, do you know what I mean? Until, my last year and I was ill, at that time we used to do different races every day to see who was in the race for the end for the cup, you always got the cup in primary 7. And I was ill and I wasn’t able to take part and when I got to the sports day I went into the race and the teachers were allowing it. One of the loud mouths in my class, I won’t say her name said, ‘Miss she wasn’t there that day.’ And they put me out so I was done out the cup by 1 point. “	9.45 – 10.19
	“We all just ran about, and it was always Cardowan, we never went venturing really to Muirhead or wherever, I mean I think the furthest we	10.50 – 11.09

	ever went was maybe Stepps and back up the road. But we always just, up here, Tony's Café, when you were old enough to go there, do you know what I mean? But I had good pals here."	
11.30 – 13.08	Respondent remembers her favourite toys and games growing up.	
	"I liked elastics and ropes, that was, that was my thing, but in the house, not really, I wasn't a toy person in the house growing up. I did have a doll called Suzie, I had her for years, big doll like that, it had short hair and big pigtails and eventually as I grew up I cut the pigtails off and just made her shorter. But I wasn't really into toys in the house and that, what we used to play in the house, me and Johnny, me and our Johnny are very, very close when we were growing up and we would improvise a lot of the time. So our ironing board was a horse. We'd put the pillow on it and get my dad's ties and me and Johnny would use that as a horse. And then Johnny and I would eh, would become dancers, me and him would be in the room dancing and he'd be getting me to stand up on his shoulders, and all that and do things like that inside."	11.34 – 12.25
13.12 – 14.11	Respondent talks about her favourite foods when she was younger.	
	"I was very fussy, I never ate anything like so chicken, when my mum had chicken and that, if they were having dinner I would just want chips, I didn't like mashed potatoes and I didn't like mince and I didn't like anything like that, I would have a wee plate of soup but I would live on chips, and when she was having a chicken dinner I would have chicken and I liked Alec the fruiter, some fruit, we did get some fruit of Alec. But it wasn't.. it'd be an apple and a banana, and Alec would come to us, my mum would go down or we would go down sometimes in a line and Alec always and always got out the van and brought the biggest sack of potatoes and put it on the bottom stair, so that was our staple."	13.34 – 14.11
14.15 – 15.46	Respondent tells us more about the holidays on the bus that she went to Ayr from when she was younger. She sums up her childhood as being full of trauma but she loved being out and about.	
	"Aw that was eh, every fair Monday wasn't it, and it was people like eh, the wizard right and there was my dad, but it was all like miners, can you remember anybody else, I'm trying to think. It was, it was great, but I really loved it when I was allowed to go on my own. But eh, it would be up in the morning all excited going to the beach, the beach, the water and everything else. And we used to spend our last hour, because the bus used to leave at 7 o'clock so see at 6 o'clock that's when we were allowed to go to the shows, cause it was money wasn't it? And my mum would make the biggest picnic, cause we weren't, we never went and got different things, so it was my mum up in the morning. I can remember her buttering all the bread and making sandwiches and everything else. And then us getting to Ayr and getting right on to the beach, do you know what I mean? You'd be there and other families would be there, and then my dad would sit about with all the other men and go, 'Rose I'm going to go a wee..' and then we'd got the last hour at the shows and go around and pick them up at the pub and then the bus would stop at Millerston, aye, and we'd get a bag of chips. It was brilliant."	14.21 – 15.29
15.50 – 19.19	Respondent tells us what it was like as a teenager in her day. She tells the story of how her and her brothers started smoking at a young age and about when their mother caught them. She remembers the clubs that were in the area at the time and tells us which she joined.	
	"I loved it aswell but that's when I discovered booze, do you know what I mean, I was, I don't know if I was, well I discovered cigarettes before I	15.51 – 16.50

	<p>discovered booze and it was through, I was about 12 and a half, 13, and can you remember the corn fields? That was another great thing, and the farmer would come and he'd bale all the hay and we'd all go up and we'd build and we'd jump and everything else and it just happened the farmer disappear, and our Johnny.. bad.. Johnny noticed a packet of cigarettes in the farmers thing and he went in and took one, and what I done was I started running down the field and I told Johnny I was going to tell my mum they'd stole a cigarette. And he grabbed me, and he took me down to where the swingpark is now in Frankfield and there used to be more bushes and all that, and he pulled me in there and he lit it and he said, 'Try it.' So that was me hooked on cigarettes, and when I took the first draw and I choked and I was choking he went, 'Just keep puffing it.' And then after it he went, 'well if you tell my mum I'm going to tell her you were smoking.' So that was me hooked."</p>	
	<p>"Paul and Johnny they were smokers aswell, do you know what I mean, and I can remember them getting caught, and my mum was disgusted and I can remember standing in the hall laughing because I thought it was funny because she sat them on the couch and she gave them a cigarette each and told them to smoke it in front of her and they were crying, 'Naw I don't want to, I don't want to.' And all that. So it came my turn to get caught and she handed me the cigarette and I put it in my mouth and I was ready for it and she told me, 'Take that out and eat it.' Cause she knew that I would have smoked it.' And eh, oh man, I started crying aw I never, she never made me eat it, but I didn't eat it."</p>	16.57 -17.36
	<p>"I can remember a youth club in Stepps Primary School, we went to Stepps and it was a Tuesday night and we would go down there to the youth club and then you had a , I can remember joining judo for one night, the guides, the brownies, I done all that but I never stayed at it. Do you know what I mean? I was more out, out and about the scheme."</p>	17.48 – 18.11
	<p>"Out in the scheme , the only thing that we done when it came anything like that is if the bus was going to Bishopbriggs we used to go swimming, on a, can't remember what night that was, that was later on, go to the swimming, and I loved that, I went every Tuesday, and coming out of there and your mum would give you a wee bit of money and a wee plate of chips. That was my favourite, the wee plate of chips."</p>	18.19 – 18.39
19.25 – 23.55	<p>Respondent talks about her school days in Coatbridge, she tells us that she wasn't interested in school at all. She recalls a few of the teachers she had and getting told off by one of the teachers. She tells us about not getting to chose her subjects but not being interested anyway. She tells us a story about going to see the Pope in Murrayfield through her school in Coatbridge and counts this as a great memory.</p>	
23.57 – 24.34	<p>Respondent tells us what she did when she left school at 16.</p>	
	<p>"I turned 16 on the January, I went into the Brew, and at that time, my dad was on the Brew because of the, he hadn't worked again from the pit and from there it was a YTS, and there was different cards and that in the Brew and my dad came with me and it ended up it was an interview for Losten Fisher it was called in Glasgow, down at Trongate."</p>	24.00 – 24.25
24.39 – 25.09	<p>Respondent talks about the places she has lived, mainly being Cardowan.</p>	
	<p>"I went to Millerston, I went to Station Road in Millerston when I was 19, cause I had my son by then, and aw I didn't like it, I was back at my mums mostly, I just didn't.. I wanted back. And it was somebody who told me you should put an advert in, and I put an advert in different shops and</p>	24.45 – 25.08

	then I got a swap back up to Cardowan, so I've always more or less lived in, 33 year I've been in that house."	
25.17 – 25.42	Respondent talks about local issues in Cardowan being that there is nothing there for the children.	
	"Local issues it's always been since I was a wee'un, nothing here for the wee'un, totally, and that was always, even back then there was nothing, I mean for anybody to go it's the Barry, Garnkirk, that was Stepps, everything was over the bridge wasn't it. There was no football teams here in Cardowan because we didn't have a decent football park really. We had nothing, so aye theres always been, and it's always been for, nothing here for the kids."	25.17 – 25.42
25.50 – 26.55	Respondent talks about the environment around her as an adult.	
	"When I moved up, most of them were all the very first ones in their houses, do you know what I mean? And you'd the Andersons and the... I knew everybody in the Street, do you know what I mean, it was a brilliant street when I moved in."	26.14 – 26.25
	"Shops, we've never had anything, we've had a local shop at the top, Razas, do you know what I mean and we have a Chinese, but there used to be a, it was Russells."	26.39 – 26.48
26.55 – 27.07	Interviewer asks if the respondent has many memories of St Josephs Church, she tells us that she didn't like religion from a young age as she was an un-wed mother.	
27.10 – 27.27	Respondent talks about her family life, she has a 35 year old son and a partner.	
27.28 – 30.24	Respondent talks about what she likes to do in her leisure time, she tells us she likes to go to the pictures with her partner. She tells us that her social group is Alcoholics Anonymous which she has been involved with for a long time and is 20 years sober.	
	"So that's my social life because even although they don't drink, we still have dances and we all get together, and we have things called conventions and the conventions can be Helensburgh and eh to America, and eh every 5 years in Alcoholics Anonymous, I think I was 10 year, they do a world convention in America and they meet up and its all the Alcoholics from all around the world meet up in America in different States."	28.40 – 29.05
	"For the years I was in Alcoholics Anonymous eh, I was the Glasgow Telephone Liaison Officer, cause your helpline's 24hrs a day and what the Liaison Officer done, I started off just doing the helpline and eventually I worked my way up and, what that entails is, me setting up a whole programme for a full week, and it's putting the telephone the likes of 12 hour shifts they do, So I would put yourself on in the morning and I would do it all through the phone and all that."	29.26 – 29.56
30.28 – 32.18	Respondent talks about the jobs that she had. She tells us that she didn't have many jobs and got fired from her first job due to her alcoholism. She talks about a scheme that she was involved in which was cleaning closes in Glasgow.	
	"One of these schemes that you had to take on and it was cleaning closes in Glasgow, I can't remember the title of the job, it wasn't YTS, it was something else, but I done that for a bit but I wasn't out cleaning the closes, I was the office girl. And on a Friday I'd go round different departments, It was different flats that would get cleaned and collect the timesheets in, things like that, I done that for a wee while."	30.59 – 31.23
32.20 – 34.11	Respondent shares what she thinks were the main employers in Cardowan at the time. She talks about the miners strike in Cardowan.	

	<p>“The pit, and the black and white, aye the bond, that was it I think, the bus carriage, aw you’re going up a bit, the Stepps bus carriage I can remember that, but the biggest was the pit, that was about it here.”</p>	32.24 – 32.36
	<p>“But I wasn’t a big part of it but I was a big part of it when the pit shut, so it was that was... That was awful, that was awful so it was, and the pit went on fire, can you remember the explosion? Lost our community, totally lost our community.”</p>	32.45 – 32.59
	<p>“People moved away from here when it was here, because there was a, when the pit shut, my dad had spoke to mum about moving to a different pit, my mum didn’t want to move, she didn’t want to move any of us, and then, it was a thing with our works, so you had, they were going to Fife, and that was a news headline, the Ropes go, the Quinns must stay, that was in the paper years ago do you know what I mean? And when that happened it was just, it was, I mean my dad worked 7 days a week and we couldn’t live, so now. I think I spent most times outside because it was my mum and dad that were always arguing, about money, aye I spent most of my childhood getting up in the morning and getting ready and just going out, I couldn’t wait to get out.”</p>	33.02 – 33.45
	<p>“Cornfields, we spent a lot of time up the Cornfields, up by Frankfield Loch where it is now, up the trees, the tree line, up there, behind, ah whats that, see the garages, we spent a lot of our times up there aswell, just sitting in the garages, and we would all play and we would go into the carpark and play rounders or things like that. But I just escaped, I liked to escape.”</p>	33.47 – 34.11
34.15 - 34.36	<p>Respondent shares her thoughts on how the working in the seven lochs area has changed over the years. She doesn’t believe it has changed much.</p>	
34.41 – 35.31	<p>Respondent talks about how living in the Cardowan area has changed since she was a child.</p>	
	<p>“I lived here in Cardowan, one way in, and one way back in and that’s what I loved about this wee village, it was over the bridge and back out the bridge, now you can come in from different ends, house building, house building, the pit closing, the pit closed and they build all they houses there, Frankfield, that was brilliant, they fields were great, the cornfields and it was all childhood memories, houses there, it’s just surrounding, it is its boxing us in, and the changes, even they opened a train station didn’t they, we never had that when I was growing up, and that was oh, that was many years ago cause I’m trying to think, our Stacey was maybe 5 or something. The train Station, just more houses, new school, that’s a big change as well because this used to be the school, now you’ve got the school across the road, I was never at it, I was already at secondary school.”</p>	34.42 – 35.31
35.44 – 38.19	<p>Respondent talks about the issues affecting the area today. She talks about housing issues in the area from people buying Council Houses and how because of this she doesn’t know most people in Cardowan now unlike the older days.</p>	
	<p>“There’s not much gangs here, I wouldn’t say there’s gangs or anything like that do you know what I mean, its just eh, it’s a different, this isn’t Cardowan anymore I don’t call, I don’t see this as my childhood place anymore, its definitely not. Not so much crime, I don’t hear much about any crime and all that but I do hear a lot about the housing thingmy, I mean growing up it was poverty, but I think Cardowan looks more run down now than it did when I was growing up, and a lot to do with private houses.”</p>	35.48 – 36.18

	“Especially in the winter, see when its dark, I won’t go a walk with my dog, go a walk with my dog round Cardowan anymore. When it’s dark, or I wouldn’t approach anybody, do you know what I mean? I really don’t know who lives in Cardowan, half the people I don’t know now.”	37.20 – 37.32
38.22 – 40.45	Respondent describes her national identity as being a ‘Pure Cardownian’. She tells us that she feels part of Cardowan and part of her meetings. She talks about getting to know more people in the area which is positive. She describes the Seven Lochs area of still having a strong identity. She believes a big centre would help the community come together as people are most important.	
40.45 – 40.59	Interviewer thanks respondent for sharing her memories.	
   		
Communities Past & Futures Society cpandfs@outlook.com		