

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

Respondent: Teresa Watson

Year of Birth: 1945

Age: 77

Connection to project: Grew up in Glenboig

Date of Interview: 09/02/2023

Interviewer: Yvonne Ioannau

Recording Agreement: Yes

Information & Consent: Yes

Photographic Images: No

Length of Interview: 31.37

Location of Interview: Glenboig Life Centre

Recording Equipment: Zoom H4n (internal mics)



Time (from: mins/secs)	Description	Transcribed Extract (from- to: mins/secs)
0.00 – 0.49	Interviewer introduces the interview and confirms information with respondent. She confirms she grew up in the Ramone area of Glenboig.	
0.49 – 4.04	Interviewer asks respondent to talk about her early life. She tells us that her mother was a nurse and her father fought in the war. She tells us how her parents got their house allocated to them. Respondent talks about her family and her siblings, she tells us that her father made sure that they all got an education as both of her parents never got that chance.	
	“Well, my mother was, she was a nurse, but had to give it up when she got married, in those days married women weren’t allowed to be nurses, same as teachers, married... you couldn’t be a teacher if you were married that was way back. My father, god love him, he was in the First World War and when he was 17 he had his hand amputated in the battle of Cumbryan and he was only 17, 18. So he had menial work to do, you know, and he had a brilliant mind so did my mother, but they weren’t... they didn’t get an education, they weren’t allowed to stay on, my grandfather seemingly wouldn’t let my mother stay on in school cause she was the eldest, she had to go on and earn money you know.”	0.58 – 1.43
	“They got a letter from the Borough as it was in those days, but em, people were to come and meet in our house and the man from the Borough allocated them a house depending on the number of children they had you know, and he’d say ‘Many wee’uns have you got missus? You take number such and such.’ And he said to my mother, ‘what about you missus?’, she said ‘two’, two wee boys at that time, he didn’t know she was going to go and have 5 more. He said well you stay here missus, so the two bedroom house, living room, kitchen, bathroom and it must have been a palace to them coming from a tenement you know.”	1.59 – 2.35
4.04 – 4.57	Interviewer asks the respondent about the community. Respondent tells us about how you had to get recommended to live in the area.	
	“Everybody knew everybody and the houses seemingly were allocated, you had to be recommended for it by a doctor or a priest or somebody or another, you had to be recommended to be a good outstanding citizen, which my father was. I think it was the priest or the doctor or something them, so that’s how the houses were allocated, in Ramone anyway, and it	4.09 – 4.46

	was a great community, you knew everybody and we also knew if there was a house empty, who was going to get it. Cause you knew who had got married and who was in a bedsit or something, you knew oh so and so they'll be getting that house, that's how it was then, you know."	
5.02 – 7.43	Respondent tells us about starting Primary School when she was 5. She reminisces over not being able to find her school one day due to the fog. She remembers all of her teachers at the time although she didn't like school, mainly due to a hearing problem that got diagnosed later in school. The respondent tells us about games that she remembers playing as a youngster at school.	
	"I remember one day, I was walking on my own, by the road, got to the big shop, looked up, it was a really foggy, foggy day and I couldn't see the school. So I went away home and I told my mum 'the school wasn't there.' She took me by the hand and she found the school, but I mean I can still visualise it, standing there saying where's my school?"	5.34 – 5.57
	"I didn't know and nobody knew then, I couldn't hear. I had a hearing problem, but because my father had been in the war and had shellshock, everybody spoke loudly for him, so it wasn't until I was about 8 or 9, they discovered that I couldn't hear so I've got hearing aids, so I missed a lot of school because I wasn't hearing right."	6.22 – 6.42
	"Balls and peevers and things like that, its like a cone shaped thing, you'll need to go to the museum and... cone shaped piece of wood carved out and you wrapped the string around it and you had a whip and you moved it along."	7.01 – 7.15
7.46 – 8.39	Respondent talks about going on holiday when she was younger, she said they were a fortunate family as her dad worked on the railway and so got free travel tickets. She talks fondly about going to London to visit a family friend and tells about the other places in England she had visited.	
	"Very, very fortunate, my dad worked on the railway, so he got free tickets and passes and privilege tickets and he made sure he used them, and I was very fortunate and we went on the train. There was a station in Glenboig then and we used to get the train into Glasgow and then get the train into London. Bits of the platform can still be seen, so it was great."	7.46 – 8.08
8.57 – 10.25	Respondent talks about High School, she went to St.Patricks High in Coatbridge. She tells us that she didn't like High School either. The respondent tells us the social activities she did when young. She mostly enjoyed reading.	
	"Well I wanted to leave and be a nurse, and my mother being a nurse and she said she didn't think that would suit me. So I got a summer job over in Gartloch, I think I stayed for 2 days, it was horrendous, so then I decided no I didn't want to be a nurse so I stayed on."	9.17 – 9.33
10.28 – 11.25	Interviewer asks if there was much focus on religious groups in the area. Respondent tells us that there was a bit of bigotry but not much now. Interviewer asks if there was any swimming. Respondent talks about going to Coatbridge for swimming and the cinema and also tells us about the cinema in Glenboig.	
	"There was a cinema in Glenboig, just before you go under the bridge on the left-hand side there was a... what do they do, restore cars, that was a cinema. Infact you can see from the front of it, it looks like a cinema, used to go there every Saturday after I scrubbed the steps at home, that was my Saturday morning task. Scrub the steps and then get my money to go down, but you could sit right through you know, there was a wee picture then a news thing, then a big picture and you could just sit on as long as you like."	10.56 – 11.25

11.40 – 14.06	Respondent tells us about her favourite subjects for studying in Secondary School. She discusses which subjects she enjoyed and which she disliked. Interviewer asks the respondent what she did after school. The respondent tells us that she got a job in an office in Glasgow. After a while she went back to night-class to study. She talks about having a love for working in Special Schools after becoming a teacher.	
	“Anyway it was enough qualifications to get to Notre-Dame, I went to Notre-Dame and at that time it was in a downhill in Glasgow. In my third year they moved to a new building out at Bearsden and I stayed in then, I lived in then, that was it in Notre-Dame for 3 years.”	12.48 – 13.04
14.10 – 16.41	Respondent tells us about her social life where she went into Glasgow on a Wednesday when she wasn’t studying. She tells the story of how she met her husband while studying in a language class, and again at a Rambling Club. She tells her memories of getting married.	
16.42 – 17.25	Interviewer asks if respondent was ever involved with anything Political, the respondent tells us that she used to help with leafleting etc for the Social Democratic Party until they merged with the Liberals.	
17.35 – 18.39	Respondent tells her opinion of the media portrayal of her area. She also talks about the biggest changes in the area that she has seen, such as the amount of houses and public transport.	
	“Then it was ignored, nobody bothered with it, but now aw I think everybody is interested in what’s going on. Seemingly people are coming down visiting from, you know from the Scottish Parliament, they’re taking an interest in how things have developed from a very deprived area to what it is now.”	17.34 – 17.52
	“It’s too big, I think enough is enough now, and there are no facilities, there are no shops, not a decent bus service, John’s bus goes up and down there from Glenboig to Coatbridge, without him we would have nothing and we used to have great bus service and train service and buses to Glasgow, you don’t get that now.”	18.09 – 18.26
18.45 – 18.58	Respondent shares her thoughts on what could be done better within the community	
	“The community sides of things is fine, but we need, we definitely need to get more shops in, now that’s what people need, you just need to get on the bus and go down to the post office and you meet people there, we need an awful lot more of that.”	18.45 – 18.58
18.58 – 23.12	Interviewer asks how respondent became an author. The respondent tells her interesting story of becoming a writer from having an interest in reading books to being convinced by an author she likes to start writing and publishing fiction books.	
23.22 – 25.40	Respondent talks about her view on the current crime in the area which she says there is very little of. She also talks about what she does in the community and mentions being part of The Autumn Group and that she tries to get involved with whatever else is happening. She shares her opinion on what is the most important thing about the seven lochs area as a neighbourhood, she thinks the most important thing is the community vibe in the area. She retells a few memories from her younger years.	
	“When I was in primary school we walked down the hill and there was a railway crossing there and that was the wee train that came from the brickwork, and if you were lucky you got through before the train came. But I remember too you know, the hooter would go for the end of them, at lunch or whatever, there was a swarm of men coming out, hundreds and hundreds and hundreds. If you were a wee girl you know, ‘what’s this all about?’, you know I remember. I also remember they put the	25.01 – 25.40

	bricks on the lorries and they'd trundle up through Ramone, and you could feel the vibration you know on the clay, you know the coal mine and the clay mine, we were on the clay up there, em you could feel the vibration."	
25.44 – 26.09	The respondent tells us that her brothers used to work in the mines during summer holidays and also that there was a lot of women that worked there.	
26.21 – 30.10	Respondent recalls all the shops that used to be in the area when she was younger. She talks about having her ration books and travelling by bus to the shops to use them. She remembers stories about her brother that her mother used to tell about his antics.	
	"Yes, we used to have lots of shops, well there was one in Ramone and then down in the village they had the Post Office, the newsagent, the wee café, the Co-Op, there was a grocer Co-Op, the drapers, there was a butchers, all sorts of shops there in the village."	26.21 – 26.40
	"As a child I used to go on the bus, Carmichaels bus, and we would go to Mollinsburn because the, Mollinsburn was part of Kilsyth Co-Operative and the Dividend was more... I'd go there with my mother and you just had an hour before the bus would come back, the bus dropped you at Mollinsburn and then it would went to Kilsyth and came back so you had an hour to get in and out the shop. So my mother used to send me in with the store book, you had your book, run in first and you put your book on the pile and then you sat and waited until they call your name, and I remember it was you got butter and fats, cut it off, big lumps of cheese and then you'd rush back and stand and wait for the bus, and if you missed it you'd an hour."	26.42 – 27.25
31.27 – 31.37	Interviewer thanks the respondent for taking part in the interview.	

