

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

Respondent: Teresa Keating

Year of Birth: 1947

Age: 75

Connection to project:

Date of Interview: 22/11/2022

Interviewer: Yvonne Ioannou

Recording Agreement: Yes

Information & Consent: Yes

Photographic Images: No

Length of Interview: 1hr 47m 44s

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 – 00.57	Interviewer introduces both herself and the respondent for the purposes of the interview. Respondent confirms she was born in 1947 in Glenboig.	
01.06 – 05.09	Respondent talks about her early years and the members of her family who lived with her. They had 8 living in a 2 bedroom house. Her father only worked for a short while with Stuarts and Lloyds before they had protective clothing so he unfortunately couldn't work due to having Pneumoconiosis and also Tuberculosis. She tells us stories from growing up where her older brothers shared babysitting duties and looked after her and where they used to take her. She also had a younger brother.	
	"We lived in a three apartment house, 2 bedrooms, 1 sitting room."	01.06 – 01.11
	"So we now had, my mum, dad, 3 sons, 1 daughter, a granny and a cousin."	02.45 – 02.52
	"He was a darling even as a young man, and of course because I was the youngest at the time, the babysitting, the childminding was split between the two older brothers, so he would take me all over to, over to Gartcosh, Molliesburn, walk the feet off me, him and he's pals, no bother. The one that came after him, Billy, well he was a Brylcream boy as they called him, he was in the airforce eventually, and when it was his turn to look after me, Billy would take me down at the railway line, the railway line from the pit ran through Glenboig at the time. It was always a bit of an adventure getting across it and not getting killed you know."	03.21 – 04.05
05.12 – 09.09	Respondent tells us that she went to the Local Primary School, Our Lady and Saint Josephs, which was down beside the brickworks. She tells us stories of how she used to play down by the brickworks and how you couldn't do that now because of the dangers. She also tells us the story of how her headteacher trusted her to go down to the local pub with money to get it changed over into notes, highlighting the difference in today's society where that wouldn't happen. Respondent reminisces also about her school friends at the time and how she is still in contact with her closest friend.	
	"Brickworks were exciting places, and at lunchtime, sometimes, we weren't really meant to be doing this, but we would go in amongst the stacked bricks and eh, have adventures in there and kid on we were dead	05.26 – 05.52

	adventurous and all this you know, and ehh we didn't realise the danger we were actually putting ourselves in. They could have fallen on us and killed us and all that, but children very often don't."	
	"I was trusted two or three times a week, the headmaster would send me down to the local pub, with the dinner money, now I don't know what was in these bags but it must have been considerable, you know, it happened a couple of times a week, and what happened was, primary 7, I'm talking about 11 years of age, down to the local pub, which was only a very short walk away, with this nice big bag of cash, and down to, I went into the home entrance, you know the sort of off-sales as we would call it now, and the chap in it was a man who had gone to school with my mammy, a lovely, lovely man. I'd pass over the bag of change to him, and he would give me the notes for it, that had to be banked. This was all to save any of the staff having to go up to Coatbridge and carry a barrel load of coins with them and eh, every other week he would give me a cake or an ice cream, and that was the highlight you know that made it all wonderful you know."	06.14 – 07.16
	"Her daddy was a manager in the brickworks, so um, she had things like a selection of kilts and stuff, fancy, you know, I didn't have anything quite as nice as that, I had one kilt, and one kilt only. But it was one with you know, the attached bodice."	08.12 – 08.30
09.15 – 13.10	Respondent speaks about the different games she played at both school and home. She reminisces about her other best friend at the time who went to another school in the area which was for a different religion. A family had moved in beside her and her mother encouraged her to call round to play with the girl next door, and they have been friends ever since, over 60 years.	
	"The games were seasonal as many people can relate to, and whatever went on in the school playground kinda carried on at home you know, we played skipping ropes and kick the can and American times and eh, I can't even remember, all the rules were very flexible. You had to get from this side of the road to the other side of the road past the person in the middle without them catching you, that was it. Bare in mind very little traffic you know, you couldn't let children play it now really you know, it was, it was good fun, you didn't need to buy anything for these kind of games you know. When we were at home there was things you did in the house like play cards and guessing games and all the usual stuff you know."	09.15 – 10.01
13.17 – 22.24	Respondent reminisces about the food that used to be served in her house. She tells us what she got served for supper in the evening and how her and her brothers friends would always come round for it. She goes on to describe how it was like with a lot of teenage boys being round the house when she was growing up and mentions that they had 'colourful' stories. She talks about her other friend who lived beside her and how she would help her out by caring for her friends dad. She tells us a story about her and her friends going out and getting asked on her first date that night. She tells how she went out on the date and she is still with the same man.	
	"And people did have suppers in those days, it would be roasted cheese, or pieces and chips, or scrambled egg and toast, that kinda thing."	13.26 – 13.34
	"Half past 6 bus the following night, and we go into the town, and we went to a place down by the river, what was it called again... it'll come back to me I can't remember. We had a great night, Hells' Angels came in, there was music, there was guitar, there was singing, it was fantastic.	19.51 – 20.16

	To finish the night off he said, 'We will need to go and get a bite to eat.' So we went to a place called the Sol su Sea.	
22.29 – 29.18	Respondent sums up her childhood as being blessed. She talks about her relationship with her younger brother and how they were always closest. She tells us a story about her brother moving away and then giving her a call to check out a nearby house for sale, which he then moved back into in Glenboig. She tells us memories of her grandmother when she lived with them and how they would hide from storms together. She tells us that she is grateful that she came from such a considerate and caring family.	
	"My wee granny, one of the bedrooms was given over to her and our Jane, and the other one the children slept in and my mum and dad took the couch in the sitting room, which couldn't have been easy but hey ho. Anyway my wee granny when it was stormy in those days, especially when it was thunder and lightning, and you don't seem to get as many storms now, she was terrified of it. She would collect me wherever I was, put me in at the back of the bed and keep me there until the storm was over and shut the blinds and all the rest of it, so that's the kind of melee I was brought up in, she was a joy, I was called after her."	27.03 – 27.37
	"My pals used to come into our house to do their homework and all the rest of it and it was as busy as anything, and as adults then you look back on your childhood, the one I spoke about whos down, she says, it was lovely coming to your house, she says because it was just, it was just lovely, she says and you got made to feel welcome, she says I just can't quite put it into words, because as a child you feel these things but you can't always express them you know, and Sarah she says, your homelife became part of mine. It was really empowering."	28.19 – 28.57
29.32 – 33.10	Respondent tells us about her social life when she was a teenager. She tells us it had to be planned due to lack of transport and money. She talks about her decision to join the civil service rather than go to university as she didn't want to leave her mother due to her ill health and go to university. She spent a few years working as a librarian before going back and going to university to be a teacher.	
	"I was in a, as I say I was a senior student because I'd worked, that was the way the dynamics were. So I was with people that had families and kids, and that was another kinda learning curve for me and I got to know a couple of friends very very close friends over the years. We kept up a night out every month until one of them was taken into care, the other ones quite disabled. Good, good friends, terrific experience."	32.34 – 33.07
33.20 – 42.04	Respondent tells us about her secondary school experience. She tells about her qualifying exam and a story about a teacher being authoritative with her. She discusses her favourite subject and also corporate punishment in both primary and secondary school.	
	"I went to secondary school when I was 12, passed in those times you sat what was called a qualifying exam you know, it had to be the crème de la crème you know, and it was, people didn't know that that was destructive in those days, they really didn't realise it, and now as a professional in education I know how destructive it is, and definitely was.	33.26 – 33.47
	"I went to the local high school, before I went, it had all been sorted out, one thing and another, and I had my uniform and that, cause you had to have your uniform right down to the colour of the socks that you wore."	33.48 – 33.59
	"I lent towards the sciences, and my children funnily enough, they've all got their sciences aswell. Naw I did like, I like anything to do with science. I liked most of my favourite subjects, and we did latin in those days, it was kind of compulsory if you were in the upper echelons of the school,	38.09 – 38.37





	you had to take Latin or Greek, I didn't take Greek I opted for Latin. I've always been grateful that I opted for Latin because I'm a crossword fanatic."	
	"Because it was High School, and High School didn't.. they had to get permission to, if they had to chastise a female pupil with corporate punishment, they could belt seven shades of anything out of the boys."	39.14 – 39.26
42.13 – 45.39	Respondent tells us about things she did in her teenage years for entertainment.	
	"It was the coach painters now just before the bridge, that was a cinema, the old building is still there, if you stand back and look at the face shell of it, you'll see where the steps are and how, you know the white doors that they had, and I can remember the wee door inside, where you got the tickets to go in and that. There was always an A movie and a B movie you know, so you got your moneys worth. When we were little it kinda closed until we were maybe into our later teens you know, but when we were at kinda primary school or that, you used to get money back on ginger bottles and things like that you know. So we would do that and get money back for the cinema on a Saturday you know and then when you were a wee bit older, you could eh, you could up they had a balcony you know. You could go up to the balcony or you could sit at the back you know."	42.12 – 43.03
	"As we got older of course we had to go further afield, but it was quite common to go walking in those days. I mean we walked to Moodiesburn and Gartcosh and Mount Ellen. Sometimes even down to Mollensburn, we thought nothing of it. You know that was what you did, on a Sunday when we were really young, my mammy and daddy after Sunday dinner which was 1 o'clock, go away up Charlie's Brae and round the back roads, we'd go down the back road to Mount Ellen, and back round Gartcosh past the Loch and back home. That was normal practise."	44.11 – 44.42
	"As teenagers we wandered about, not with alcohol, well maybe, maybe some of them did, but that was never a draw to my group of pals you know. We'd go to each others houses and blether, and have cups of tea. Kind of boring stuff now for a lot of youngsters you know, but that's the way it was, and of course, when we had a bit of money we would go into money we'd go into the town for the dancing. That was the big nights out, sometimes to the cinema and stuff you know. And it was the days at dancing when the girls stood on one side and the boys stood on the other you know. And my mother, I think coming from a house full of boys, she impacted on me at a very early age, she says, 'doesn't matter who comes across that floor, if they've the courage to come across the floor, supposing they look like Frankenstein, you need to get up with them!' "	44.42 – 45.30
45.48 – 49.11	Respondent talks about a local mining disaster which affected her community badly.	
	"There was a mining disaster, now I can't remember the year, all I can remember is people running through the village, saying that something had happened at the pit. And there had been a collapse, and they put out, bare in mind that I'm a teenager at this time. My eldest brother was in the pit. That was Franks daddy. Henry was, he started his career in the pit, I don't think our Bill was in it, but he was in it a couple of years before he went to the air force. But Henry was certainly in it. And the chaos in the village, because nobody knew, at first it was a, there had been a disaster. They weren't even sure what pit it was in. Em the media didn't keep up the way it does nowadays. It connects very quickly with anything that happens. And I can remember the melee and people in the streets	45.53 – 47.03

	that day, and we didn't really know until later on in the day, A – what pit it had been, how many deaths there had been, how they got the survivors. We didn't know that until it was dark, it was the evening. And eh, that was traumatic, that stayed with us for a long, long time.”	
49.12 – 52.41	Respondent talks about the event of The Coronation, where her brother was born on the same day. She also reminisces on her memories of Halloween.	
	“Things like the Coronation, now our Arthur was born the day of the Queen, the 3 rd of July 1953, so not only was it his birthday but we were all given time off from school, and we got a tin, a small tin full of caramels, and we got this and that, and there was things put on round in the local park for children and we were all marched down into the one area. Oh I can remember the atmosphere being electric, you know? And you got a free ice cream of the ice cream man. That wee box, one of them was mine, one of them just had odds and ends in it, but one of them my mammy used as a tea caddy for years. You'd have thought they'd have given us a fortune.”	49.14 – 50.03
	“They talk about Halloween being an American idea now, Halloween has been with the Irish and Scottish populations for over 400 years for goodness sake, and we went round faithfully every year and we thought for weeks about what we were going to be, what we were going to sing, what we were going to say and we practised and all the rest of it. I went as a granny, aw I can't remember them all. But our laddies were great at actually giving you ideas you know. I remember, you went all through the village, you were out for hours and hours and there was no parents who went along with you, you know, you were on your todd, or with your pals you know.”	50.13 – 50.50
52.52 – 1.04.44	Respondent describes her husband to us, she tells us where he worked and that he was a hard worker. She reminisces over the time when he proposed to her. She also tells us about her wedding.	
	“Stewarts and Lloyds he started in, he did his apprenticeship there, then he moved on to Clydesdale. He worked in the steel industry for years, anywhere and he worked well and he was well appreciated, well thought of, he was really good at his job.”	53.45 – 53.58
	“He did work hard, because in those days if anybody did a Sunday shift, that would be enough to get our kids new shoes.”	54.07 – 54.14
	“The local Church was getting rebuilt, so the Church was closed, so I would have had to get married in the hall. We both decided we wanted to be married in a Church. We decided St. Barbaras, that was the next, that was the nearest one. And it was a Fr. McGlinchey that had been there, and it was Fr. McGlinchey years before that had told me about the Civil Service needing training librarians. Which was a strange thing. We went over and we arranged it and he was quite happy to marry us and I went to the local Pastor and that was fine. He says that's you know, whatever suits you. 26 th of September, my brother came over from Moodiesburn, with the taxi to pick me up. I was all in my regalia, aw I wore white and his best friend, Michael, at the time. Michael's wife had made my wedding dress, handmade my wedding dress and she'd made a lovely job of it. It was all silk and I hate to say it but it was lovely.”	1.00.18 – 1.01.15
1.05.01 – 1.08.09	Respondent tells us about going to Aberdeen for their Honeymoon and her memories of their break in Aberdeen.	
01.08.13 - 1.22.45	Respondent talks about having her first child and also going into work after having her son. She talks about falling pregnant again and unfortunately losing her child. She fell pregnant with her second born not long after this, she talks about a scare she had with her second born. She	

	tells us the story about the birth of her girl. Respondent then tells us the story how she got pregnant shortly after and gave birth to twins the year after.	
	“Started our wedding eh life, marriage life, with his mum. But we had got a house now round the corner and of course he parked his bike and his mothers hanging out the sitting room window, cause no phones, no mobile phones. This is at 2 O’Clock in the morning, because our Martin was born about 6 minutes to 12. Oh she was, not, because she loved her granddaughters, she had 6, her daughter had had 6 granddaughters and Martin was the first Grandson.”	1.09.14 – 1.09.45
	“During the summer holidays, he was born in the March, it would be about July, I got in touch with the authorities and you could practically pick your school then when you were graduated you know, and I started teaching in St. Michaels in Moodiesburn.”	01.10.11 – 01.10.24
1.22.46 – 1.24.52	Respondent talks about life with 4 young children.	
	“I did get a home help for 6 weeks after they were born and it was a lady I knew from the village, Mrs McPeake, or Bessie Crawley as my mammy used to call her, um and she was great, all I wanted her to do when she came in was to let me go and lie down for an hour and look after the wee ones. Just for that hour or so and then, I would get up, I didn’t sleep, but I would get up, feel quite refreshed. Her and I would have a cup of tea, we would feed the feed the wee ones and then she would go home and she became, even after that as they started to grow up, she would always ask how they all were. “	1.22.56 - 1.23.33
1.24.53 – 1.29.27	Respondent tells us how she got involved as part of the community in the 80s. She tells us all about ‘Joe’s Fun Club’.	
	“There was another teacher in the village and myself, and we started up, we were aware of the lack of amenities for special needs people. So we started a, a club for them, we decided we would pilot it and see how it would go. We publicised it and we looked for members and we realised it wasn’t just people in Glenboig, there was people further afield, Townhead, Annethill, Bridges Burn, blah blah blah. So within a short space of time, we had quite a register. The first member we had was a laddie called Joseph, now I knew Joseph from when he was a wee, a wee tot because when our older boys were teenagers they had a record player and Joseph and his family lived above the house where my brother lives now at the crossroads. Our Arthur was friends with his big brother Terry, Joseph was born with multiple problems, he was mobile but he had curvature of the spine and communication problems and all the rest of it. So he was the first one in our register and we decided to call the club after him. Joes Fun Club.”	1.25.34 – 1.26.49
	“There was very little, sort of, things for special needs children, to go to. Or people, some of them weren’t children, they were adults maybe who had the mentality of. And within a short space of times Joe’s Fun Club became an entity in itself and we had terrific carers and minders and eh, I was the secretary of it. We got everybody, we called it in those days, School Checked, you’ll know it now as Disclosures. Henry used to do the West Highland Way, well I’ve done it lots of times myself. And he started to do it as a sponsored thing and he would take some of the, the teenagers that were carers, you know that looked after then our clients. He’d take them away to do the West Highland Way and they would all get sponsorship and that’s how we started to raise funds, because funds were low in the ground in those days. That was, that went on for years,	1.27.38 – 1.28.43

	we had dinners out and we had residentials and all the rest of it. And it was great days, great days.	
1.29.43 – 1.39.14	Respondent tells us about Glenboig having a local drug problem. She talks about a Government initiative to eradicate this problem where they managed to get youth work training. She talks about the Glenboig Life Centre started and recalls all their plans for it along with the community. She tells us about different visitors and interests that they have got in the Glenboig Life Centre. She recalls meeting a man at a conference who asked her to come down and help them help their community in Cambridge. She now goes down every year to help.	
	“Drugs were rife all over different parts of Scotland, and you might even have a bit of knowledge about that, and the Scottish Government stepped in, and they wanted to try and alleviate some of the problems in Scotland. And through the council there was the Princely fund of £11,000 allocated to Glenboig to see if it could, if it could make any kind of dent in the Drug situation. The police called together all the active groups. Teresa was working with a youth group. I was doing Joe’s Fun Club and I was, I was teaching in the village aswell, eh this would be 2000, but the police got us all together, The Pigeon Club, you know various other. Basically what they wanted to see if anyone was willing to get youth work training. Well it was a given, Teresa was already working with the youth, I was working in other ways. I was working in education. We had families of our own. We signed up for it, there was quite a few folk that signed on, but eventually we were left with maybe 5 or 6 of us that actually went for that training. Henry, my husband, came along aswell, he was there.	1.29.52 – 1.31.06
	“Because there really was no other provision in the village, and bear in mind the nearest township is Coatbridge and not everybody has transport. It did take off. We started doing the neighbourhood house, which was an old Social Work building, we kind of adapted what we could to suit ourselves, the youthwork was growing and growing and then we started the girls group. The next thing was, that we started to target was the village Autumn Group, well it was a reminiscence group we started. Asking older folk to bring pictures along with memories, aw they were getting along like a mushroom. They became a group within their own, you know yourselves, we were here for guidance and everything but they are still an autonomous group, The Village Autumn Group.”	1.32.23 – 1.33.10
	“We started to employ people, em youth workers, and we just mushroomed until as I say we realised we had to, we needed a bigger premises and em, we were offered this building but we had to have 53 car parking spaces. Now there’s nowhere even that North Lanarkshire has 53 car parking spaces. So, we thought that’s not going to work. The Empowerment Bill came out where they were wanting to sell off some of the Community Centres because they couldn’t up keep them any longer. They weren’t getting used properly and all the rest of it. That’s when we moved in and the Post Office was going to be moved out of Glenboig, they were closing it, the one which is a Hairdressers and Beauticians now. So Teresa and the rest of us got together, the management and that. We thought right, you can’t let them close the Post Office, you need a Post Office in a Village. So we got in touch with Post Office Counters, and they told us, right, they’d need to have a couple of people responsible for it and they would need to be interviewed and do a presentation and blah blah blah. So Teresa and I was it for that. Never thought I was going to be interviewed again in my life. So anyhow, we went and we were successful	1.34.11 – 1.35.54

	<p>and we got the Post Office license and that's when we came into this Building and that. And we came in, and down at the front which is the entrance now, there was a wee kitchen there, but it wasn't big enough. We opened up as a café but it really wasn't big enough. And then as I said we grew arms and legs and eventually we wanted to buy here. Eh, and we were successful, we got money from the Scottish Land Fund, North Lanarkshire and their generosity took over £40,000 for it. We got it and we got this place and then we asked the community what they wanted you know."</p>	
1.39.16 – 1.45.45	<p>Respondent tells about one of the stories that youth workers had put together for Hallowe'en for the locals which she later updated. She tells the local Halowe'en story and also recalls an unfortunate story about the death of a child in the area.</p>	
	<p>"This Hallowe'en, these two young Youth Workers were asked to put something together that would be quite scary and quite believable, and I've still got a copy of the original, The Grey Lady of Glenboig as they called it. They put it together and they made a really good job, we had to update it a wee bit. Now the first story they told, and then there was another adaptation and eventually I told that. What I did with the daughter that had been part of the composer of the original story, eh her and I got down one Sunday, after dinner and I says right, we are going to have to update this. Oh aye she says, definitely. We kept the essence of the Grey Lady because it's a good story and we updated it. I says now this is, this was your initial creation, your and Kate's, I says are you happy with this? Absolutely. We got it run off."</p>	1.40.34 – 1.41.27
	<p>"Young Evelyn was the Lady of Inchneuk Manor, she met and married her husband who was the Lord of Manor, a happier couple you couldn't get. Inchneuk Manor was of course a beautiful place to bring up children. Totally in love and very soon into their marriage they became pregnant and she bore a wee girl. The baby was just a matter of months old and they were deliriously happy. When the husband got called up to the First World War, and oh she was broken hearted, broken hearted but, he had to go. And one night when she was on her own with the child she heard a knock at the door. She opens the door and there's a stranger dressed in black. The storm was blowing, the wind was heaving, the rain was pelting down and he asked her if it would be possible to come in, maybe to get a hot drink and to get a heat at the fire. She felt very uneasy, but because he was in such a miserable state she relented and she brought him in and the babys by the crib by the fire. So he goes to warm himself by the fire and he says, I wonder if I could have that hot drink he says, and then I can be on my way. So I guess her better judgement really, she went into the kitchen, which as you can imagine was quite a bit from the hearth of the house and she got him his hot drink and she came back in. The main door to Inchneuk Manor was open and she dived into the sitting room and the baby was gone. Now she went out into the night, no sign of the intruder, no sign of the baby. She went out that night, she went out many nights to follow, in fact the villagers went out with her, crying and shouting. Eventually she was more or less left on her own. And sadly a few months after the baby had disappeared she got word that the Captain wouldn't be coming back home, he had been killed at the front and she was on her own. And she used to wander all over the top of Inchneuk. Until one night she was above the rocks, crying and shouting and people heard all of this because the village was quite a busy place then. Sadly, the next thing, she was found at the bottom of the rocks, you can actually go up and you can see the rocks at the edge of Inchneuk. They are a real</p>	1.41.33 – 1.44.01

	feature. But she was found at the bottom of the rocks dead and her ghost is said now to come out at certain times when its dark and miserable looking for her poor baby and her husband.”	
	“I went to school with a girl called Ester, and she had a wee girl, eh Margaret-Mary I think it was. And she was going to, she was just about the age to make her First Holy Communion. Her big sister was in my class that’s why it’s so clear. Now the top of Inchneuk, it’s a lovely place to stay around, play around. The girls were up, they used to stay in the cottages up at the top. Ester and her wee sister are up playing. Ester stopped, she stopped to tie her lace, and her wee sister ran on in front of her, right off the rocks and by the time Ester got down to the house and doctors, Dr Clarks car nearly went over the edge when he was called and get everybody up. They found the wee girl at the bottom and she was dead. And I can still remember, and Henry can remember because he was one of the laddies that went up. Mr Sluddon who was a trainer for the football team was up there the same time as the Dr to see if there was anything he could do. Some of the laddies from the village and as I say Henry was one of them, Henry was one of them that went up. She was taken away in an ambulance, I don’t think they declared her dead then I think they waited until the family could, you know? But she did, she died with her fall down the rocks. And I can still remember the day she was buried, the children, we lined down outside the school, down Inchneuk when her wee coffin was taken away from the church.”	1.44.07 – 1.45.32
1.45.48 – 1.46.57	Respondent talks about how she would describe her National Identity, she sees herself as British and Scottish but is aware of her Irish background. She tells us that her Grandfather moved to Glenboig from Ireland. The interviewer asks whether she thinks the people from the Seven Lochs Area have a strong identity and she indicates that she thinks they do.	
1.46.57 – 1.47.44	Interviewer thanks the respondent for her time and participation.	
   		
Communities Past & Futures Society cpandfs@outlook.com		