

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

Respondent: Sandra Mackie

Year of Birth: 1974

Age: 49

Connection to project:

Date of Interview: 07/08/2023

Interviewer: Josh Cannon

Recording Agreement: Yes

Information & Consent: Yes

Photographic Images: No

Length of Interview: 28minutes 5seconds

Location of Interview: The Pivot Centre, Moodiesburn

Recording Equipment: Zoom H4n (internal mics)







Time (from: mins/secs)	Description	Transcribed Extract (from- to: mins/secs)
0.21 – 0.39	Interviewer confirms respondents details and confirms that she was raised in Cardowan, a Seven Lochs Area.	
0.40 – 1.35	Respondent talks about her family. She tells us that her father came from Motherwell and her mother came from Ruchazie before moving to Cardowan. She describes the house that she grew up in.	
	“We stayed in a terraced house, it was a row of 8 houses, we were number 2 in the row, um and we had great neighbours, it was a two bedroomed house, with electric warm air central heating, which we thought was great.”	1.17 – 1.35
1.38 – 1.59	Respondent describes the community that she grew up in.	
	“The community that I grew up in was Idyllic, I had two aunties and uncles that stayed round the corner from me. My other aunty stayed down the hill, my gran stayed down the hill and round the corner. We knew everybody on the street and we were in and out of everybody’s houses all day long.”	1.38 – 1.59
2.00 – 2.26	Interviewer asks respondent whether she knew of any local issues at that time. She tells us that as a child she wasn’t aware of any although she knew there was unemployed.	
	“I know that there were people who were unemployed, but I was probably too young to kind of be affected by it until my dad was unemployed and then realised just how hard it was for lots of other people.”	2.09 - 2.22
2.27 – 3.36	Respondent tells us about her early school days.	
	“Went to Stepps Primary School with all my friends. Everybody in the street, half of us went to Stepps Primary School, half of us went to St Josephs Primary School and we were all best friends.”	2.36 – 2.46
	“I remember that we used to do litter picks. The teacher would take us out the school and where the old school was, not the new school, we used to have to cross the bridge and always somebody fell on the bridge and ended up with a big gravel rash up the side of their legs, and we would go down to the other side of the bridge where all the Rhododendron trees were, just across from where the bank used to be, we used to do our litter picks in there. I remember the teacher telling us	2.55 – 3.33

	to always use the litter picker and not our hands, and she used her hands and cut herself on a bit of glass.”	
3.37 – 4.06	Respondent tells us about the games they used to play outside as a youngster.	
	“We were always outside and we always played football and aside from that we always played balls, we used to have our balls and we used to throw our balls against the wall. And we used to plays Hunts every night in the summer holidays and there was easily 30 odd kids that were out running about playing hunts, yes, so if you were a fast runner you were great because you never got caught.”	3.44 – 4.06
4.08 – 5.02	Respondent tells us about the holidays they used to go on when she was younger. She sums up her childhood as being great.	
	“We were lucky, my cousins granda had a caravan at Anstruther, so we used to go to Anstruther for our holidays or I would go with my wee cousin Louise, em and her family for their holidays, and we used to get a can of Irn Bru and a packet of cheese and onion crips every night from the chip shop, not chips but crisps and juice. Then we used to go to the arcade, cause they had an arcade and we played the video games in the arcade, hail, rain or shine.”	4.16 – 4.49
5.08 – 5.58	Respondent reminisces about her time being a teenager.	
	“I can remember I was 17 before I was allowed to go into town, as that was obviously the big City Centre, but before that we didn’t, I didn’t want to go into town I was quite happy climbing trees, just being outdoors, we were outdoors from noon, from morning, noon and night, you went back when you were hungry or when the rain came on. So being a teenager for me was not a typical teenager upbringing because I was just still happy out playing rather than being on the corner with maybe other people, um congregating, you know, having their odd can of strong lager. Naw being a teenager was still just great fun until I got my first job at the age of 15 in the Garfield.”	5.09 – 5.57
5.58 – 7.26	Respondent shares her memories about her high school. She talks about getting to visit her old school before it got knocked down.	
	“I went to Chryston High School, when I started in first year in Chryston High School, there were two art teachers, they were both called Mr. Smith, so there was young Mr. Smith and old Mr. Smith. Old Mr. Smith taught my dad when he was at school, and I just thought that this was, I was amazed that old Mr. Smith was obviously still there and that my dad remembered him and he remembered my dad. Old Mr. Smith used to give my dad a ride home on the back of his bike, which I’m not sure that teachers are allowed to do these days.”	6.08 – 6.45
	“I remember when they actually knocked Chryston High School down and everybody was invited back to have a wee walk round and have a look at the place before it was obviously raised to the ground. And I can remember, I had left school obviously a number of years before and I remember going into the art department and they had the same sinks in the art department that were there when I had started school and I was thinking, ‘Aye its maybe about time they had a new school.’ Having a walk round was really actually, it was quite nice, just the reminiscing and the fact that everybody turned up and you knew everybody and then we all went up to the café for some ice cream.”	6.48 – 7.26
7.32 – 8.35	Respondent tells us about her first job that she had in the Garfield.	
	“Like I say my first job was in the Garfield, serving, doing silver service, function waitress for all of the weddings. Everybody in my family pretty much had worked in the Garfield. My mums side of the family and my	7.36 – 8.33

	dads side of the family. My gran worked in the Garfield, my aunty Margaret worked in the Garfield, my dad, my uncle Jim worked in the Garfield, my aunty Sadie whos my mums sister, she worked in the Garfield, everybody, my cousin was a chef in the Garfield, we all worked there and everybody else in the area worked in the Garfield aswell. It was the when you were not quite 18 and you could go and get your first job. I started when I was 15 because I was too young to work the bar, you had to be 16 before you could table service for the bar so I was 15 when I started and 19 when I left.”	
8.40 – 11.35	Respondent tells us about the places that she has lived. She talks about the first flat she has got over by Ibrox. She remembers the coldness of her house due to not having heating. She talks about the difficulty of getting to know the neighbours there as it was in a close. She talks about there being people from different communities in that area which didn’t mix well and kept themselves to themselves. She eventually moved back to Cardowan.	
	“It wasn’t a community in the sense that I knew a community cause I was used to going out the front door and whoever was there you stopped and spoke to them for 10 minutes before you got anywhere.”	10.59 – 11.10
11.40 – 12.06	Respondent talks about her family life. She tells us that she has two children and they live together with her partner in Moodiesburn.	
12.11 – 12.39	Respondent tells us about her leisure activities that she likes to do now. She tells us that she is part of a walking group	
12.40 – 14.52	Respondent talks about her working life and how she is big on volunteering. She helps out with the parent council and the walking club now.	
	“At the ripe old age of 18, I went to work for a company called Harvey and Donaldson which rents houses rather than selling houses so it was a letting agent rather than an estate agent and that was really my first experience of the private renting sector, before that the house that I grew up in was a council house and everybody round about us had a council house and everybody paid their rent, um so this was the first experience I had of people renting from private landlords, first experience obviously second hand because I’m there working, not renting, and I worked there from when I was 18 for 29 years. Yes, and the company changed hands a couple of times.”	12.59 – 13.48
14.53 – 16.17	The respondent talks about her memories of the mining strike.	
	“Laterally yes, as in, when I was younger I was aware obviously that it was a mining village that we lived in, that Cardowan was a mining village and my Granda was a blacksmith, he worked in the pit as a Blacksmith as opposed to a miner. So when the miner strike was happening I was only young, so I didn’t understand what was happening. It wasn’t until I was an adult you can look back and think about the hardships that everybody went through because there wasn’t a family in Cardowan that didn’t have someone that had worked there, and then when the pit closed I was still at school, Stepps Primary School. When obviously the pit had closed by that point and we got let out early so that we could go and watch the tower being demolished. So I was aware that there was sadness that that was happening and people in the community had been talking about it. A lot, incessantly at the time, but as a child you didn’t, it was a spectacle as far as we were concerned because we got let out of school 10minutes early so that we could go and watch it being demolished, but um obviously the adults in the community were not as excited about the effect it was having.”	15.00 – 16.17

16.18 – 17.38	Interviewer asks about whether the respondent thinks that working life has changed in the Seven Lochs Area. Respondent tells us that she is not sure, she says she thinks that some of the industries are still there. Also due to not living in the area now she finds it hard to comment on the rate of unemployment in the area.	
17.39 – 19.45	The respondent reminisces over the old trees that used to be near her home. She talks about the treehouses they made and the swings they had before they unfortunately got knocked down.	
	“We used to play in the swamp, the swamp is now called Frankfield Loch, and people pay lots of money to buy a house and look at the swamp which we used to play in, which just still just beggars belief so it does. We were surrounded by fields and those fields were our playparks, there was one summer holidays that we , the fields bordered onto where the hockey fields are, so when you think of Hoggie Loch and then you get the Strathclyde Hockey Uni fields, fields obviously in Frankfield Loch, ie the swamp, joined up with that. So on the fence line from where the hockey field started, we, as in all the kids in our street. We built a treehouse one summer holiday in the fields and nobody found it cause it was hidden and there was no house there and it was tree-lined avenue that we lived until the trees got cut down and there was a storm, and one of the big oak trees at the end of the road got brought down and it was determined that the Oak trees were, it was too dangerous to have them too close to the houses and they all got cut down, utterly distraught so we were. I stayed in Clayhouse Road and there was literally big giant trees that lined the whole of the road, so they were, and they were taken down.”	17.50 – 19.16
	“They had an old railway bridge at the end of our street, this was when Red Deer Village was just a caravan site at that time and it was not like great big fancy units that are there now and there was a fabulous big oak tree and we had a rope swing on it and it was just the place to be. The rain was never cold, when I was young.”	19.19 – 19.45
19.45 – 22.18	The respondent recalls the Red Deer Park. She also recalls gangs that were in the area. Although she doesn’t think there has been a significant increase in crime over the times.	
	“It got bigger and bigger and bigger, it didn’t really encroach on the footprint on Cardowan as such because it went more towards Garthamloch fields that we used to play in. All houses, I remember when they built houses and I was like, ‘Where are we going to play?’ That’s no use, the deers used to walk up and down the street so they did.”	19.55 – 20.15
	“Not gangs as such, it was pretty much, it was more a kind of juvenile... but I do remember essentially we, Cardowan was at one side, there was a field and then there was Garthamloch and the GYTO, ‘Garthamloch Young Team’ used to meet with the Cardowan Young Team in the middle and shout and bawl at each other. That was the extent of it.”	20.23 – 20.45
	“Crime, wasn’t any kind of crime at all, we never locked the door. I can remember if I went into the house and there was no-one in, you’d go in and you’d shout hello, there was no answer and you’d think, ‘aw right okay, theres obviously my mums either across the back at her neighbours, or my dads down at the shop.’”	20.47 – 21.00
22.20 – 25.07	Respondent tells us that she has never been politically active. She talks about the media portrayal of Cardowan, she believes there is none and that it has been forgotten.	
	“I remember when Brian moved in, when my partner moved in with us, with me into Cardowan, he used to keek out the door to see if there was anybody about before he would go out because if he got caught with any of the neighbours, it took him half an hour to get into the car and he just	23.08 – 23.29

	wasn't used to this, he was used to saying, 'Morning' and walking to the car and not actually having to stop and spend the time of day with anybody."	
	"And you've never actually been up over the hill and if you did then you would see that there are award winning gardens in Cardowan, there's people who have won prizes for their flowers and growing their vegetables and there's not anybody that doesn't have their grass cut because your neighbour would have chinned you for leaving your grass uncut."	24.06 – 24.24
25.07	Respondent describes her national identity as British and describes Glasgow as home. She also feels like part of the larger part of the Seven Lochs Area. She gives her opinion on how to improve the community where she thinks that people should try to get out more and meet more people. She expresses her love for the nature in the area as the most important thing in the Seven Lochs Area.	
	"I think communities like Cardowan, like Garthamloch literally just across the field, like Gartcosh, I think as a community they're still very close knit, which is great and I loved growing up there when I was wee, if there had been housing available for me to buy when I was in that position I would have stayed in the community because I would have wanted my kids to grow up with the same feeling of community and the fact that you couldn't get away with murder because everybody knew you and knew who you were, and if you got up to nonsense then you either got a clip round the ear or your mammy was phoned and telt what was happening. Yes I still feel that there is a community aspect in living in those areas."	25.28 – 26.16
	"I think we have to keep a hold of the nature that is remaining in the Seven Lochs, stop building houses on it and also just, yes, we have to embrace what we have, that is what is going to continue to make Seven Lochs a good neighbourhood to live in."	27.23 – 27.46
27.46 – 28.05	Interviewer thanks the respondent for sharing her memories.	
   		
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