

Voices of Hickling

Interview Transcript: George Newman



Interviewed by Ann Louise Kinmonth on 26th October 2014

ALK: *If you would just say your name aloud, and your date of birth and where you live.*

GN: **George Newman, 82 years old, now living at number 1, Rest Homes, Hickling.**

ALK: *So, let's start off with any special memories that you've got about Hickling. When you think about Hickling what do you think about?*

GN: **Football.**

ALK: *Yeah, tell me about that*

GN: **Well, we got to the Primary Cup Final, Norfolk Primary Cup Final, all village lads.**

ALK: *When was that?*

GN: **Oh. '54.**

ALK: *Fantastic.*

GN: **And we got drubbed. [LAUGHS]**

ALK: *Did you? Who by?*

GN: **Er, a team from Yarmouth.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **They were a good side. They were a lot better than we were.**

ALK: *Yeah. Where did you play it?*

GN: **Carrow Road.**

ALK: *Did you? Yeah, you got a photograph to prove it, excellent. Which one is you then?*

GN: **I'm on the back row there somewhere.**

ALK: *I ought to be able to pick you out now I've taken your photograph.*

GN: **I've got hair on that one.**

ALK: *They've all got hair on." [LAUGHS] Is this you as well?*

GN: **That's me at work. Yeah.**

ALK: *It's a lovely picture. I'll take a picture of that at the end, that's very nice. We'll come to that, yeah. So, you were a keen footballer.*

GN: **I loved a game of football.**

ALK: *Yeah*

GN: Yeah, I did.

ALK: *How long did you play till?*

GN: Too long.

ALK: *Why? Why too long?*

GN: I'm paying for it now. [LAUGHS]

ALK: *Did it hurt you?*

GN: The old knees aren't like they used to be.

ALK: *Yeah. Yeah.*

GN: Yeah. I loved football. That part of the time, as the youngsters come through, that all changed.

ALK: *In what way?*

GN: Well, they knew more than what we did.

ALK: *Did they? Or did they think they did?*

GN: Well, yeah. They had all sorts.

ALK: *And you could get a good team from Hickling in those days?*

GN: Do you know, the year after the war finished, we had 3 teams in Hickling.

ALK: *Really.*

GN: One was the Hickling first team, and the reserve side, then we had a team called Brightmere Albion Minors, played down on the farm here, and I played for them for 2 or 3 years till I was 18, then I moved to Hickling and then [LAUGHS] we went in the bloody army which was a daft thing to do, wasn't it?

ALK: *Did you choose to go in the army?*

GN: Yeah, I'll tell you why. I worked on a little fruit farm in Hickling from the time I was 14 until coming up to 20. I was doing exactly the same work as everybody else on the farm but I was only getting boy's wages, you know.

And I thought, my friend who was a couple of years younger than me, he was getting pounds more than I was. And I knew if I left that job I'd have to do National Service. So I left and I done National Service.

ALK: *Mmm*

GN: I went and asked them to do it and I thought to myself the first night when I was, what the hell have I let myself in for?

ALK: *How old were you then?*

GN: 20.

ALK: *What year was that? Do you remember?*

GN: '52.

ALK: *'52, that was a year after I was born [LAUGHS].*

GN: Yeah, 1952.

ALK: *So you were born in 19-----*

GN: '31. Yeah.

ALK: *Lot happened then didn't it? Between 1931 and 1952.*

GN: **Been a lot happened since then, I can say.**

ALK: *Where were you born?*

GN: **Stubb Road, number 6.**

ALK: *Were you?*

GN: **I was the first baby born in them council houses.**

ALK: *Were you? [LAUGHS]*

GN: **Yeah.**

ALK: *Who's in there now? Do you know who's in there now?*

GN: **I don't know what the young girl's name is. I suppose she's still there. My brother was in there ----**

ALK: *Yes*

GN: **---- and, of course, after he died, they put these youngsters in, you see.**

ALK: *How many of you were in there?*

GN: **Us?**

"ALK: Yeah. What size was your family?"

GN: **Well, there was 10.**

ALK: *Ten of you in that little ----"*

GN: **Well, no, they weren't all in at the same time.**

ALK: *Were you born, you were born in that council house"*

GN: **I was born in number 6.**

ALK: *Yes, but the others, where were they born?"*

GN: **Some were born about here somewhere and another lot on the heath. Er, down where, do you know Harry Nudd?**

ALK: *Yeah*

GN: **Down there my mother lived, down there somewhere.**

ALK: *Really?*

GN: **Yeah, the woman who had these built, Mrs Edgehill, she had the house that my mother lived in.**

ALK: *Oh right, right*

GN: **And, er, they moved from there to Stubb Road**

ALK: *They chose to go into the council houses*

GN: Well.Yeah.

ALK: *Why wouldn't they?*

GN: My sister, one of my older sisters, told us that they had lived by where Harry Nudd lived, somewhere, and there was rats in the bloody roof. They poison 'em and got quite a lot out.

ALK: *Yeah, yeah, yeah.*

GN: **Yeah. No wonder they wanted to move out.**

ALK: *Yeah, yeah."*

GN: **Yeah.**

ALK: *When they moved to the council house did it have the lavatory inside, or was that still outside?*

GN: **Outside.**

ALK: *Yeah, they were all outside round here. But did they have electric light?*

GN: **Yeah, we had electric.**

ALK: *Yeah. 'Cos that was very modern then.*

GN: **But the first two houses, 1 and 2, they never had it for a start.**

ALK: *Really?*

GN: **I remember because my uncle, well it was my cousin more than my uncle, we used to go round, and he had a big old paraffin lamp hanging from the ceiling.**

ALK: *Yeah*

GN: **Yeah, but they had electricity soon after that.**

ALK: *What did your mum and dad do?*

GN: **Worked hard.**

ALK: *I bet they did. What did they do?"*

GN: **Well I think my mother, when she first started work, worked in Ludham. In someone, in some big house in Ludham. Then I think she met father and the family started**

ALK: *Just like that, like it does*

GN: **Yes**

ALK: *Where did you come in the family, in the ten children?*

GN: **I was number 9.**

ALK: *Yes*

GN: **Yes. Yeah, five boys. The oldest one, Ernie, he went in the army and, er, he was in India. They brought him home just before the Japs started up. So he spent the rest of the war in England until D Day. Then he was in the second wave that went ashore.....**

ALK: *Yes*

GN: And he survived right through.

ALK: *What a lucky man*

GN: He was very lucky. Brother Jack didn't, he got torpedoed in the Mediterranean.....

ALK: Yes

GN: And that was it, you know.

ALK: *You were just too young, were you?*

GN: Yeah. I was still at school, I was only 14.

ALK: *Were you at school here?*

GN: Till I was 11, yeah, yeah.

ALK: *Do you remember the teachers? Some people remember the teachers.*

GN: The what?

ALK: *Do you remember the teachers who taught you, the people who taught you?*

GN: Yeah, yeah. Miss Gold was the infant teacher and Ruth Vincent was in the middle room and, when I first went there, there was a Miss Chettleborough, and the headmasters, there was, can't remember ----- Turnbull.

ALK: *Turnbull. Yeah. Funny how everybody remembers their teacher isn't it?"*

GN: Oh, I've got a good memory for going back.

ALK: *Yeah, yeah. Did they teach you well?*

GN: Well. I suppose you could say from the time you come out of the infant room you got 9-10 years old we spent more time in the gardens than we did in school.

ALK: *There was a pond shaped like the Broad.*

GN: There was, yeah. But see all the bigger boys, they dug trenches and we used to have a drill to go in the trenches

ALK: *Did you, did you, they thought they were coming over here. Did you have any experience of bombs, or anything, coming over?*

GN: Well, they did drop incendiary bombs up the High Hill there during the war. One or two other bombs out on the marshes.

ALK: *Yeah, quite near Harry Nudds'*

GN: But like, Mr Drake was the headmaster then and he'd be sitting at his desk and all of a sudden he go down, get your gas mask and put on and we had to do the same.

ALK: *Oh he'd just do it. And you copy him?*

GN: Oh he, 'cos them big desks and they had a hole in the middle, he'd go under there and we all had to dive under.

ALK: *What did you make of that?"*

GN: I always remember he was giving us a lecture about raising morale... and he said, ... one way of doing it he said, bit of bother, is to have a sing song. I don't know whether that was thundering or anything. We all had to pile into the porch or some of us in one porch and, of course, we started singing "Cockles and Mussels". Last, we were giving it a bit of stick and Ruth Vincent come in. "Hold your row" she said "the Germans will hear you 12 mile off"!

No, that wasn't much of a ---, never had much of a school to be honest.

When I went to Stalham School the teacher, Mrs Pestall - she was good. She was pregnant, and half way through my first year she had to leave. We had another one. She wasn't bad but she wasn't the same. And after that that's all garden and gardening.

Do you know what I done the last term I was in Stalham School? I was stock feeding. [LAUGHS]

ALK: *Really, why was that? Why weren't you learning things?*

GN: Well, they had all this stuff during the war.

ALK: *I see.*

GN: All the gardens, bloody great gardens they had there.

ALK: *So, you're like the Home Guard really?*

GN: Yes. Well, I ain't to ----- (?) pigs.

ALK: *You were only 13?*

GN: They had pigs, chickens.

ALK: *What, were they Stalham or were they here?*

GN: Stalham.

ALK: *Ok, so round the school. The school was turned into a farm.*

GN: Yeah. More or less.

ALK: *Yeah*

GN: but the trouble was we couldn't milk the old nanny goat.

Old Bob Smith, the headmaster, he'd say "What you done with that nanny goat's milk?" "She kicked it over."

ALK: *And you'd drunk it.*

GN: No.

ALK: *She had kicked it over.*

GN: We couldn't get it out [BOTH LAUGH].

ALK: *Couldn't get it out. Oh dear.*

ALK: *So, what did your dad do? Did he help you with that kind of thing? Tell you how to get it out?"*

GN: Who?

ALK: *Your father.*

GN: No, no. My father was a sailor in the First World war and after he come out, 'cos I think he was a regular, he went fishing, er, herring catching and trawling.

ALK: *Off Yarmouth or?*

GN: Er, Yarmouth and Grimsby. He trawled out of Grimsby and they didn't make the money, that was the trouble.

ALK: *Yeah*

GN: And he packed up about the same time as I was born. From then on he sort of worked on farms or reed cutting, anything like that, you know.

ALK: *Yeah*

GN: Any job what was going, and there weren't many going at that time of day was there?

ALK: *Like now*

GN: In the '30s.

ALK: *Yeah. Bit like now. So you left when you were 14*

GN: Yes, left school at 14.

ALK: *And what did you do then?*

GN: I worked on a fruit farm for

ALK: *Which one?*

GN: There's a little, you know, er, what do they call it now? Just before you get to the Broad, on the left.

ALK: *Yes, it's the fruit farm behind my house. Hill Common."*

GN: McHardy had the fruit farm.

ALK: *Yeah. It's gone now.*

GN: At the house with the wooden doors, as you go down the Broad road.

ALK: *Yes. On the left.*

GN: Yeah. What do they call it?

ALK: *The Thatched House"*

GN: No, no. Not on the Hill Common.

ALK: *No. Not on the Hill Common.*

GN: You come past the Reccy. First house on the left.

ALK: *When you come past the Reccy?*

GN: Yeah.

ALK: *Coming this way?*

GN: No. Going towards the Broads.

ALK: *Towards the Broad, on your left. Oh yes, it's called, got a funny name hasn't it? I know, I know the one you mean."*

GN: **Anyway, that was the farm buildings.**

ALK: *Ok. Yeah. It looks like it, long and low, all converted.*

GN: **That's it.**

ALK: *Converted. Yeah.*

GN: **The stable, the little barn, parking shed, pigsties.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **And that's where I worked. McHardy that is.**

ALK: *Yes, yes, and they didn't pay you enough?"*

GN: **Nobody got that, did they? Until you were 21 you didn't**

ALK: *Is that right? Nobody. So what was the hourly rate when you were doing that then?*

GN: **The army.**

ALK: *No, when you stood on the fruit farm. Do you remember how much you were paid?*

GN: **Yes, I can remember the first week's wages - 29 shillings.**

ALK: *What did you spend it on?*

GN: **Mother took the biggest part of it. [LAUGHS]**

ALK: *Did she. And she went on doing, for your keep, is that right?*

GN: **She was good. She was good.**

ALK: *I'm sure. She must have brought you all up.*

GN: *"Yeah."*

ALK: *So, you made the decision to go in the army. Did the pay go up? When you went in the army.*

GN: **It go down. £1 a week. [LAUGHS].**

ALK: *But all found?*

GN: **In the army.**

ALK: *So, what was it like? Going in the army."*

GN: **A waste of time as far as I was concerned.**

ALK: *Yes?*

GN: **I spent 8 weeks training in Wales.**

ALK: *At least you didn't die. Like some of them do, training in Wales.*

GN: **No, there was a war on at the time. Korean War. But there was a fortnight's marching and rifle drill and all that, and then I done 6 weeks training to learn how to load and fire a 40mm Bofors gun.**

ALK: *Yes.*

GN: And I done it. Goes to Germany, and some of us gunners were doing the drill, and this big sergeant came along, he say to me “What you doing on there?” So I say “I’m gonna fire it, I look.....” he says. “You’re too bloody big, you’d be the first to probably get killed” he say. I thought Hooray, and I never fired it anymore.

ALK: *What did you do?*

GN: I was a layer after that.

ALK: *What does it mean?*

GN: You know, you’re on the elevation, for the guns. There’s two, one does the transverse, the other

ALK: *Oh yes. Getting it so that the trajectory is right.*

GN: Yeah.

ALK: *Very good.*

GN: And, er, we done, I dunno, 2 or 3 fire, we would fire about 20 rounds. We went all around from where we were in the Ruhr to the Isle of Sylt to fire about 25 rounds of ammunition, and we were there a fortnight to do it.

But the best part of it, as far as I was concerned was, they selected a guard ’cos the next battery was going up to relieve us, and they selected a guard to stay behind for another fortnight and I was one of them. And that was lovely...

ALK: *Was it?*

GN: ...a sandy beach.

ALK: *Swimming?*

GN: We were on guard all day. 4 or 5 of us – just guarding the ammunition. That was the best part of it.

ALK: Yes.

GN: But, er, the last exercise I went on in Germany, we never had no guns. [LAUGHS] They were obsolete.

ALK: *Really?*

GN: So I spent two years doing nothing.

ALK: *And then you come home?*

GN: Apart from bullshit. That’s all we done, bullshit.

ALK: *Yeah. You made good friends? Did you make some good friends there?*

GN: Oh yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yes. I often wonder where they are now.

There was one boy, from London, he was a good footballer, we all played in the same battery team.

ALK: *Oh yes.*

GN: And, of course, he used to go home when we come on demob. to Woolwich, he used to go home. I used to have to call his name out in the morning when we had early parade. [LAUGHS]

ALK: *Didn't they get that you were speaking with a different accent?*

GN: **No. I mean I made it sound different, you see.**

ALK: *Aah [BOTH LAUGH]*

GN: **Yeah. It was funny 'cos we'd do that for parade and then, later on, he'd come walking in through the gate and no one would say anything.**

ALK: *When did you come out of the army?*

GN: **'54**

ALK: *You weren't in long then?*

GN: **Two years.**

ALK: *Two years. And what happened next?*

GN: **National Service that was.**

ALK: *Yes, yes.*

GN: **Oh. I was a territorial. You had to do territorial for three and a half years.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **That's another funny thing.**

You went to Yarmouth, there was a boy from Ormesby although he was in Gibraltar when they did, we were on the same time like, you know. Then we had to go to Yarmouth, you see, to do this TA, up at South Down Road, got on the bus at Potter Heigham and the bloke said, I held out a pound to pay for my fare and he never had no change, so I had to give my army number and everything. But I said "Don't bother about that, just send it to number 6 and I'll pay it"

But we went to this, um, territorial, the only blokes in the uniform was me and Eric and whoever was in the same time as us, all the others were in civilians, firing .22 rifles and the Captain, we had to go and see him, "If you come again" - "If you come again" he say "come in your civvies" you know what and be like others.

So I couldn't get home. So they had to find me transport to get home.

ALK: *Yes.*

GN: **When this bloke dropped me off near the Pleasure Boat he said "I don't want to do this every week" and I thought "No, you don't want to be." I never went no more.**

ALK: *Aah.*

GN: **I'd got to do 14 days, down in Bude. You know, re-training.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **That was another holiday.**

ALK: *Yeah - Beach again.*

GN: **Yeah. Never done nothing. I didn't any rate, I don't what all the others. But, er, and after that they put me on a reserve, so I didn't go at all, you know.**

That was three and a half years, all that.

ALK: *So, what was it like then? Suddenly you had to decide what to do.*

GN: **What? When I come out.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **I worked on farms for a while.**

ALK: *You came home and lived at home again?*

GN: **Yeah. I worked on**

ALK: *You were a big boy then.*

GN: **I was, yeah. 13 stone. [LAUGHS].**

ALK: *But your mother wanted you back?*

GN: **Yes, she didn't want me to go.**

ALK: *No. You were her little boy.*

GN: **I was. I regretted afterwards, to let you know, 'cos she lost a son and she didn't want to lose no more.**

ALK: *No. But she'd got a fair number.*

GN: **Yeah, my brother, another brother was in the marines, although that was just after the war, he joined up as I got called up. Yeah, the war finished.**

ALK: *Yeah. The one younger than you, that was a girl, was it?*

GN: **Doris was younger than me, yeah. Dennis was next to me. No, Lolly, still alive, she lives at Sutton. She'd be 82, 84.**

Yeah, yeah. But my sister who lived at Gorleston, her husband was took prisoner of war by the Japanese and, er, he's 100 this year.

ALK: *Is he? Where's he then?*

GN: **He live at Gorleston.**

ALK: *My dad was taken by the Japanese.*

GN: **Was he?**

ALK: *Yeah. He'd be about 95 now.*

GN: **Oh yeah.**

ALK: *If he was still alive. He died about 2 years ago.*

GN: **Did he?**

ALK: *Yeah. Some people say that because they were starved they lived longer, it was a bad business.*

GN: **People always said to me the Japanese treated their own the same.**

ALK: *They did.*

GN: **I never did see any Japanese walking round with their bloody bones sticking out.**

ALK: *That's true. That's true. But they were hard people.*

GN: **They were, yeah, they were. Yes, John, he's 100 this year. He may be 100 now, I aren't sure.**

ALK: *Fantastic. That's your brother in law?*

GN: **Yeah.**

ALK: *So, you're working on the farms and then you got into the reed cutting.*

GN: **Not straight away ...**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Mrs Perry, well she didn't exactly give me the sack, but she told me to look for another job, but I could have a job till I found one.**

Two of the boys in the village went to Bacton to start on the sea wall and when they come back they said "Do you want a job?", the same day as she'd, of course I said yes.

I went straight away and I worked on the sea wall at Bacton.

ALK: *Ah. You built the sea wall.*

GN: **Yeah. Helped to.**

ALK: *Yeah [LAUGHS].*

GN: **We had a bloody scare there and all.**

ALK: *What happened?*

GN: **They had a little railway, used to bring the skips of concrete. I was in the concrete gang, and, er, when you fill a bay up you move on to the next one and we get up and lift this chute along, carry it along like that and then lower her down.**

Then when we come back someone said "What's this?" – there was a bloody mine and that chute must just caught the edge of it, and brought it out.

Cor, that would have made your ears ring, wouldn't it?

ALK: *That would.*

GN: **And they, they come and , they come and blew it up, took it down on the beach and blew it up – it was an anti-personnel mine.**

After that was finished I wasn't doing anything and a boy in the village, he see me on it, he said "What are you doing?" I said "Nothing at the moment."

"Do you want to come as carpenter's mate?" he said. "They want another bloke at Caister, on the sea wall."

So I go to Caister. I had a motor bike and I was in the steel fixing with this chap, he was in charge and we used to go and get the steel with a bulldozer, drag it down the beach. He always used to ride on there with the driver and he said to me " Why don't you ride on the bulldozer?"

'Cos they'd already found an anti-tank mine there and I said "You don't want them anti-tank mines, John"

He weren't there on Monday and I made my mind up then to pack it in, to go on the pea harvest, 'cos that's local, weren't it?

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: And, er, the old foreman came and he said "I'll give you another 2d an hour" he say. "I'm going to leave Friday" I said "and, er, go on the peas" and that was it.

Weren't many days after that I see Roy in the village. I said "What are you doing about here?" "Cor" he said "bulldozer ran over an anti-tank mine, two people got killed"

ALK: *No.*

GN: And the driver was blind, never got over it.

ALK: *What a story.*

GN: Pushing it a bit, wasn't I?

ALK: *Someone was looking out for you, weren't they?*

GN: There's somebody.

ALK: *Yeah. That was a narrow one.*

GN: And that was the end of my sea wall. And then I got into reed cutting and I used to work pea harvest. No, I used to combine. Hoe sugar beet, combining, pea harvest.

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: No. Pea harvest, then combine. Used to go up Nicholsons, combining. And, er, then I used to go and work for Blaxall 'til reed cutting come, then I'd do the reed cutting.

ALK: *So you'd do the reed cutting in the winter?*

GN: That's right.

ALK: *So, you'd got the whole year?*

GN: Yeah, pretty well. That's how I was working. And then on the sugar beet lorries, loading them by hand.

ALK: *So, when was that? Like October?*

GN: Yeah, from September to, er, January, if you like.

ALK: *Yeah. And then you'd do the reeds after that.*

GN: Yeah.

ALK: *How do you manage to do the reeds when the water's so high?*

GN: You can't. Well, you can if you know what you're doing.

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: I've got a photo. I don't know where to find it now. But one year the water was that high I used to cut all the reeds, lay them on the end, then gather them up and put them in a boat.

ALK: Yes.

GN: Dragged them ashore and tie 'em.

ALK: And what were you standing in?

GN: Rubber boots.

ALK: Long ones. Right up there.

GN: Thigh boots, yeah.

ALK: Did you use a big scythe for that, or a little sickle?

GN: I had a scythe.

ALK: You did. Yeah.

GN: Whether that's in this one [looking for photo]. These are some of the first photographs I ever took.

ALK: What did you use to take those? Was that an Instamatic?

GN: No, that was a little thing, put a cube on the top, flash.

ALK: You got a flash.

GN: This one's the scythe, look.

ALK: Wait a minute. Get a close up. What is that? Looks pretty wet to me. [LAUGHS]

GN: There's another one there, somewhere.

ALK: There's your dog.

GN: Yeah. That's my other dog.

Not sure if this is the one. That's the one I was going to show you.

ALK: Ah yeah, yes, absolutely.

GN: Yeah.

ALK: Yep. And you've got your whetting stone there.

GN: Yeah.

ALK: How often did you have to sharpen?

GN: On sedge you could nearly go all day but reed cutting you want to sharpen every time you wanted to cut.

ALK: This is sedge, yeah? Here.

GN: Yes, that's sedge cutting. Yeah. That's Gerald and me.

ALK: That's hard work. [BOTH LAUGH].

GN: Yeah. That's as hard as you make it really. There's Billy.

ALK: This is very artistic, isn't it?

GN: Yeah. That was an old boat what lay down past Billy Nudd's mill, and that finally got broken up.

ALK: *They slowly rot in, don't they?*

GN: **That was the one we used to use.**

ALK: *Yes.*

GN: **Can you remember the hurricane when all the boats got blown on the Broad? Were you about here?**

ALK: *Is it the same one, was it in the '70s?*

GN: **Summat like that.**

ALK: *60 ----*

GN: **That's where they sunk all the boats look.**

ALK: *Yes, yes.*

GN: **And this was on the Hill Common.**

ALK: *May I see?*

GN: **Just before the parents' house. There's a house set right back, isn't there? From the road, a thatched one.**

ALK: *Yes. Big one.*

GN: **Next to, er ----**

ALK: *Oh! I've got you. Yeah. This is Red Roofs, this is Red Roofs, I think.*

GN: **No.**

ALK: *Isn't it?*

GN: **No.**

ALK: *The one that's*

GN: **What's that chap's name. Prettyman. The house just past that.**

ALK: *Oh yes.*

GN: **That's the Hill Common Road. And this is all what blew in, a tree blew down there as well.**

ALK: *That's my house.*

GN: **Is it?**

ALK: *Yeah. [BOTH LAUGH]*

GN: **We used to store apples down there at one time.**

ALK: *Did you and ...*

GN: **There was another little**

ALK: *Mr Riley used to live there.*

GN: **That's right, I think so. Yeah.**

ALK: *There's a lot more trees there now than there used to be.*

GN: Yeah.

ALK: *Back to the football now.*

GN: That was the first team at Brightmere.

ALK: *Do you go down there to Hill Common now? They've put flood defences all along there.*

GN: I haven't been down for a long while. I can't get about quite so well now.

ALK: *Do you sail? Is that your boat that you've got on that*

GN: Eh.

ALK: *There's a sailing boat on that page before. Is that ----- Just, er, this one. No, yeah, no. [LAUGHS]*

GN: Yeah, they're wherries.

ALK: *Very nice. Is that "Maud"?*

GN: I don't know what they called it. I think I took these on Heigham Sound

ALK: *White sail*

GN: Yeah.

ALK: *Not the black sail.*

GN: We were going across. They were pleasure wherries.

ALK: *Yes. I think it's "Maud"*

GN: That's that old boat that was going, what I was travelling on.

ALK: *Yes, it's "Maud"*

GN: That's the first Brightmere Albion team.

ALK: *I like that. Is that the one you were telling me about?*

GN: Yes. That's me.

ALK: *I think we'll have to have a picture of that, won't we? Oh, you look grand. You look pleased. You look a happy boy don't you?*

GN: Yeah, in the Cup Final. We lost that one 5-2.

ALK: *That was in Norwich as well, was it?*

GN: No. That was at North Walsham. That was where we won the shield. That's me again. Look.

ALK: *Very nice.*

GN: These are old Hickling football teams. That's some of the mother and father.

ALK: *Right. Let's see where we've got to. Oh yes, I'm interested in whether you were ever ill, when you were little, when you were young.*

GN: III?

ALK: *Yeah. Whether you had any diseases you remember. You know, anything you remember. Whether you remember going to the doctor. What the doctor was like.*

GN: Well. I weren't at the doctor much. But, of course, I had the whooping cough, measles and yellow jaundice.

ALK: *Did you? When was that?*

GN: Oh, it was going about during the war weren't it?

ALK: *So how old were you when you had those things? Were you.... Was that in the army, or was that here?*

GN: No, that was when I was a boy. Still at school. Got 3 weeks off school with yellow jaundice.

ALK: *Worth having*

GN: And, er, the other thing we used to get 3 weeks off school, you got to scratch, you got impetigo.
That was catching.
That was another 3 weeks off school and mother sent me back on the Monday, and I didn't go. I come back and told her they said "have another week" [LAUGHS]
If she'd have found out I'd have got... [LAUGHS]. Oh yeah.

ALK: *So what did you do with your week that you got off?*

GN: Well, played most of the time.

ALK: *Played*

GN: Yellow jaundice made you ill,

ALK: *It did. Made you tired, sick.*

GN: 'Cos she'd given me an old pair of her dungarees. If you like, bib and brace things. To wear. She'd cut a hole in the front for me.

ALK: *Good of her.*

GN: I had short trousers on as well. Been down to Billy's mill and, gosh, I did feel bad. I put it down to those trousers, I took 'em off, rolled them up and walked home. But I still had yellow jaundice.

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: Of course they wouldn't take your blood if you had jaundice.

ALK: *No, no.*

GN: And I think I had got pink eye. I got over it.

ALK: *Did you have any help from a doctor or a nurse at all to get better?*

GN: The local nurse used to come and see us, yeh, Nurse Bishop that was then.

ALK: *That's right.*

GN: And Dr Brown was in the surgery.

ALK: *Here in Hickling?*

GN: Yeah, he had a surgery just there, where you now went, you first went to.

ALK: *Yeah, I went to 7, I thought it was 1.*

GN: **Dr Brown... we had to have a needle for, I dunno, diphtheria or something like that.**

Then my sister come and got there and they put a needle into you.

And you had to go again to have a second one and, of course, we..., you do it on your own the second time.

We got how we just kept walking – we never did have the second one.

ALK: *... Oh dear.*

Didn't break anything, didn't break any legs or arms, falling out of things or off things?

GN: **No, no, not really.**

ALK: *Anybody else in your family get ill, to worry you?*

GN: **Brother Jimmy was ill. Well I, I didn't know, 'cos he was older than me, but he was very ill as a young.**

And, er, my mother told us 'cos we used to, we need to take the juice out of, you know, 'course she stopped it.

He walked out of the Pleasure Boat, it was in, during the war, straight in the front dyke, didn't he?

ALK: *Splash.*

GN: **We used to sing, there's a song going about at the time – when you're up to your neck in cold water, cut to hot water, be like the kettle and sing.**

We used to "When you're up to your neck in cold water".

Coo, Jimmy, he used to get angry, she stop, put a stop to.....

ALK: *What was that last line? "When you're up to your neck in cold water..."*

GN: **Be like the kettle and sing.**

ALK: *That's the hot one.*

GN: **I know. That's the bit we added on.**

ALK: *Oh. I see. [LAUGHS]*

GN: **Put Jimmy in the dyke you see. [BOTH LAUGH].**

ALK: *Ah. Very good.*

GN: **But there. She told me he should have died, by the time he was 21.**

ALK: *Because of the way he went on.*

GN: **He went on. 81.**

ALK: *Not bad. So all ten of them, she grew them all up, she brought all ten of you up?*

GN: **Yeah.**

ALK: *Didn't lose a one of you?*

GN: No.

ALK: *No. Just the war.*

GN: No. We were all there.

ALK: *You used to have family reunions. Big Christmas and that kind of thing?*

GN: No. Our family was a family during the war.

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: When the war was finished we just had to fight among ourselves.

ALK: *Is that right?*

GN: Yeah. I won't get involved.

I allus told my sister. She said, I said "Look, if two people have an argument, they're not arguing with me".

ALK: *Too right. So when did you stop all the working round the year with the peas, and the this, and the reeds, and the.....*

GN: I tell you, when I was on the sugar beet lorries, the combines, I had to go combining if someone had got the job, it was my fault, didn't go and see 'em.

I used to be on the sugar beet lorries and I thought to myself I don't know, I'll go to Cantley, see if I can get a job in the sugar factory, and I did.

A sugar trucker, loading sugar. 2 cwt. bags of sugar on your shoulder. Cor, and I was going to pack it in.

I thought, I ain't sticking this all bloody winter.

The chap who was in there with me, he say "I've seen bigger chaps than you pack this job up." Course, I bit. I said "If a little old prat like you can do it, I know I can."

ALK: *Yeah. You're a big man.*

GN: I stuck to it.

Do you know what we used to load in a shift, 4 hours, 8 hours, sugar?

ALK: *No.*

GN: Over 200 ton.

ALK: *Extraordinary.*

GN: That used to come out of the factory, about 700 ton of sugar a day.

You used to do 8 hour shifts, you'd handle over 50 ton of sugar on your shoulders.

Mind you, once you got the hang of it it was easy.

ALK: *Really?*

GN: Yeah. You just come up, bang, in the truck.

ALK: *And off you go.*

GN: Yeah. Get back for the next one. We used, we got good at it, two of us used to do it instead of four.

ALK: No.

GN: So one lot used to sit out in the truck. Yeah, 'cos ----- (?) the silos and that was, we went up there but they kept us on and we had to go in the warehouse and that was all 1 hundredweight.

And they'd come one after the other, cor, that was bloody boring.

Course then mother was took ill so I didn't go no more. Well I wouldn't anymore after that year and I carried on as I was and I took up cutting sedge and reed full time.

ALK: You looked after your mum?

GN: Four years. I had to work as well.

Mind you, I had a good neighbour, Mrs Brooks. She was a big help. I couldn't have done it without her.

ALK: Yeah. You kept her at home?

GN: Yeah, 'cos when father died I said ...

ALK: Well done.

GN: I used to put mother to bed every night.

Yeah, well, I used to go and have a drink and I used to come home and they slept downstairs then.

I used to go and see her before I went to bed, say "Do you want to go to the toilet?"

ALK: Yeah.

GN: And I used to put her on the commode and wipe her. Funny times, but if I could do it again I could do so much more.

ALK: Yes.

GN: But that's You don't know that to start with, do you?

ALK: No, no. You just take it as it comes in front of you.

GN: Yeah. So much more could have been done for 'em.

ALK: Yes. What sort of things?

GN: Well, help.

ALK: Yes. Other sorts of help.

GN: I mean people get help today, don't they?

ALK: They do, you did the lot.

GN: The nurse used to come in and give my mother a bed bath.

ALK: And that's it?

GN: Apart from Mrs Brooks.

ALK: *Did you get meals on wheels here, or anything like that?*

GN: **Er, no, we didn't have them, no.**

ALK: *Did you do the cooking?*

GN: **Mrs Brooks used to, we had stuff ready to go and if it'd want to go in the oven, she used to get it in the oven for us.**

ALK: *She got the cooking ready?*

GN: **Got the rest so it was ready for me when I got home to do the**

ALK: *So it was just manageable?*

GN: **Yeah, yeah, we got it.**

ALK: **Well good for you.**

So, thinking back then over a life in Hickling, what were the things you really valued about living here? What was good about living your life out here in Hickling? What did you like?

GN: **Well, I lived a country boy's life. Shooting, catching rabbits.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Ducks, where you live. [LAUGHS]**

ALK: *Mmm.*

GN: **It's alright to tell them now I suppose but Mrs Perrin, old Percy Perrin, they used to feed them ducks. We used to get down there early mornings and throw bread and one of us used to shoot - and we used to pick them up and we used to rob them.**

ALK: *Nice fat ducks.*

GN: **Oh. Is there any ducks on there now?**

ALK: *Oh yes, 'cos Mr Mann feeds them now.*

GN: **Do he?**

ALK: *Yes. You could do that now.*

GN: **No, I shan't bother now. I tell you why, I love duck, wild duckling, lovely. But as I'm sort of, part diabetic and you've got to take the skin off.**

And once you take the skin off a duck, ain't nothing there.

ALK: *No.*

GN: **Pheasant ain't too bad, but duck....**

ALK: ***Yeah. Who did you shoot with? Or did you shoot on your own?"***

GN: **Mostly.**

ALK: *Mostly.*

GN: **Yeah.**

ALK: *You were a poacher.*

GN: You could say that [ALK LAUGHS] **Not to make a living.**

GN: No

ALK: *No. To fill the pot.*

GN: **To fill the pot, yeah.**

ALK: *Well, that's what a countryman does. Yeah. My, my great uncle Aubrey, Aubrey Herbert Smith, he liked to go shooting."*

GN: **Yeah. Aubrey Smith.**

ALK: *Do you remember him?*

GN: **Pink gin man.**

ALK: *Yeah. [GN LAUGHS] He's my great uncle.*

GN: **He lived down there, what's the name of that?**

ALK: *Smee. Yeah, he loved to shoot.*

GN: **Fisherman too, wasn't he?**

ALK: *He was indeed. Pike.*

GN: **Yeah.**

ALK: *He shot with Jackie Borritt.*

GN: **Yes, I remember them.**

There was a girl. Had a daughter, didn't he?

ALK: *Well, did his wife have a daughter. I'm not sure he did.*

GN: **I dunno. I dunno.**

ALK: *Married a second time. I think maybe she did. I don't know that. Yeah.*

GN: **No, I know. My mother used to say, talking about pheasants , and she used to say they aren't meant for us.**

I didn't realise what she was talking about, you know. Course they were meant for us after a while. [BOTH LAUGH]

I always remember I said to my mother one Christmas, "Would you like a turkey for Christmas?"

'Cos we'd never had a turkey.

And she "Yeah, that'd be a nice change"

So this bloke went to the sale and got me and the bloke I was on the lorry with two hen bird turkeys.

I thought they were going to be dead but they were still alive. So, I was on my bicycle then and, er, I had an old mac that I used to wear for loading. So I got the old turkey, we put him into the mac, and covered him up, and put him under my arm like this, and coming down the long road towards Hickling something kept brushing against my ... He'd got his bloody head out, didn't he. [BOTH LAUGH]

Anyway I got him home and put him in the shed, down the garden and they fed him for a day or two afore I killed him.

And we had turkey for Christmas, she didn't want no more.

ALK: *She wanted pheasant.*

GN: **No. Cockerels.**

ALK: *They've got much more taste to them.*

GN: **We used to have chicken once a year. Christmas.**

I have it one day a week now.

Mind, it's only a leg [LAUGHS]. I like a leg. I don't mind a chicken's leg on a Monday.

ALK: *Yeah. That's good. So what else? A country boy's life you liked. Anything else about living in Hickling that was good?*

GN: **Well, when the Broad froze over you could skate.**

ALK: *Yes. Now what were the winters you remember? The really cold winters?*

GN: **The forties.**

ALK: *The forties, yeah.*

GN: **Yeah they were. They were cold, 40s. 'Cos I was still at school then.**

ALK: *Yeah. And you'd be out skating?*

GN: **Well, I tried to skate. Those skates, they were poor old things you know. You screw them into the heel of your leather boot and tried to tie them on.**

I had a good pair of skates to finish. Did you know old Colonel Gordon?

ALK: *I know who you mean.*

GN: **Yeah. Well I had his skates. 'Cos my mother went and worked for him when he come here, and I had his skates. They were Canadian Olympic.**

ALK: *Fantastic. Well you did have a pair of skates then.*

GN: **Course you can go on them. Yeah. Yes, skating on the Broad, fishing. Summertime we'd swim.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Down the front dyke at the Pleasure Boat?**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Up the far end -----**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Down at the Dipping Place.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **.... the Tallowins. You know all about that?**

ALK: *Pauline Brooks used to swim there.*

GN: Yeah. Pauline, yeah. I don't know how Pauline is. I ain't seen her for a long while.

ALK: *She's moved.*

GN: Has she?

ALK: *Yeah. She's alright. She's done this with me. That's how I know.*

GN: Yeah.

ALK: *Yes. Lovely lady.*

GN: Yes, she is. Yeah.

We allus used to say, when we was playing the bells, when Pauline arrives we can start now. [BOTH LAUGH].

Yes, that was the time of life, is now I suppose.

ALK: *So, did you do courting?*

GN: Yeah, a little bit. Not much.

ALK: *Not much. Didn't come to anything?*

GN: No. I was in love with the wrong thing, football.

ALK: *Well, some people would say that was the right thing.*

GN: No.

ALK: *You don't think so?*

GN: I've got some good friends. If I never had them I wouldn't have anyone. You know old Huggy and Angie, do you?

ALK: *I know who they are. I don't know them.*

GN: They live near the chapel. Yeah. They're good friends.

ALK: *Well, that's what makes life good isn't it? Having some friends.*

GN: Yeah.

ALK: *That's necessary.*

GN: Yeah, next... not this Monday, the following Monday I've got to go to James Paget.

ALK: *Have you?*

GN: 'Cos I've got glaucoma. I've been going there for ten year mind and, er, Chris Nudd, up the road, he take me.

ALK: *That's good.*

GN: Yeah.

ALK: *So, that's another good thing, that people look after each other here.*

GN: Yeah.

ALK: *We're coming to the end, I don't want to tire you out. What are the big changes that you see in Hickling?*

GN: Biggest change is you don't hardly know anybody.

ALK: Yeah.

GN: You know, before Christmas I sat there thinking, you know, people going past here....

.... I went down, in the back of my mind is Billy Nudd's and I went round every house in Hickling

..... and there was only about two or three that I couldn't tell you who lived in them at the time, when I went to school.

ALK: Yes. Absolutely.

GN: It's all gone. The shops, all gone.

ALK: That's terrible isn't it?

GN: Yeah.

ALK: 'Cos you had a shop that you could just go and get your paper or something, just here.

GN: Well, I lived in the old cottage, next, up there.

ALK: Did you?

GN: You know where, not joined to the shop but the row of old cottages, moved up there after I come out of the council house.

ALK: OK.

GN: And I never used to keep anything indoors.

ALK: Yeah.

GN: If I wanted, when Jack Martin was in there, he looked after me. When he used to cut the ham off in bits he always kept them for me.

ALK: Aah. [BOTH LAUGH]

GN: I tell you something else, er, about his father and my father, fishing, fishermen and they ended up in debt so he never had no money.

ALK: Yeah.

GN: While I was in the shop and the old man Martin, used to call him Old Juno, said "I ain't had your Christmas order, Mrs Newman."

And she said "You won't get one." He give her one.

ALK: Aah.

GN: Yeah.

ALK: That's very nice. That's very nice.

GN: Old Jack was the same.

ALK: Yeah.

GN: He was an old bugger but he always looked after me. If I went in, if you done anything for him he paid you, no messing.

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **And just, just before he died, he, after he moved up on to Four Crossway(?) , that bungalow there, 'cos I used to go and see old boy Harold Salmons, "Just a minute, Geo" he say, he give me ten quid. I say "What's that for?" "Have a drink on me" he say "tonight", I said "I don't want that, Jack." "Yeah, you take it." he say. He died about a fortnight later.**

ALK: *Well there. Ticket to heaven. [LAUGHS]*

GN: **I don't know whether he went to heaven. [LAUGHS] Not gonna be able to ask him(?) Oh yeah.**

ALK: *Very good. There we are. Have I missed anything out? Was there anything you were hoping I was going to ask you that I haven't asked you?*

GN: **I don't know.**

ALK: *Anything else that you think it would be good to have recorded?*

GN: **I tell you the thing**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Something done mostly through the football club.**

ALK: *Yeah. Go on.*

GN: **'Cos the football club disbanded for a season and a half and the recreation ground was let grow up....**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Farmers were using it for silage and we re-formed the football club, reclaimed part of the recreation ground.**

Had a cutter, they had a cutter there then, three disks, you know, and, er, one of our boys was a fitter and he done it all up and we cut the grass with help from Blaxalls, tractors, Alfred Amis' tractor from the Pleasure Boat and we got the football field going again and I'd got a bit of time on my hands so I cleaned all round the conifers, went round that end of the field.

And I think Bishop was chairman then, they wanted to use the cutter but we had done up to cut the rest of the rec. He come to see me, Singles come to me. I said "No, you aren't having it." So I locked it in the shed, and Bishop come and he said "You can't commandeer that."

I said "George, I aren't commandeering it, I'm protecting it." I wouldn't let him have the key and do you know what he said to me?

He said "Too much voluntary work going on."

Anyway we re-formed and we reopened the snooker club, which is back of the old village hall, you know.

ALK: *Yeah. Have you been in there? Have you been in the Barn?*

GN: **No, I ain't. No."**

ALK: *Because where they've got that snooker table at the back. It's very good.*

GN: **Yes.**

ALK: *Is that the Phoenix Trust looking after that? Something called the Phoenix Trust I think that pays for it.*

GN: I dunno, I dunno.

ALK: *But you re-formed that when it was here, up here?*

GN: What the foot....., snooker? No, you know where the bowling green is?

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: Well that was the old Village Hall. They used to call it the hut.

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: And the snooker table and table tennis was at the back end.

ALK: *OK.*

GN: T-shaped. And we re-opened that up.

ALK: *Yes.*

GN: And one of the, all the members called down one night just keep the youngsters under control.

ALK: *Yes.*

GN: 'Cos that fell through and like Harvey and some of the older people started coming in.

ALK: *Harvey Gibbons?*

GN: Yeah. So we had a meeting of the football club, and say, er, you know this ain't what we should have done and so we asked them if they'd like to form a club and takeover and we said "We'll give you £100."

And we give them £100 and they took over and they took the whole main hall over and had teams in the Yarmouth league and everything..

ALK: *Mmm.*

GN: But we hadn't finished [LAUGHS]. We turned round and built two tennis courts on the recreation ground.

ALK: *Yeah. What happened to them then?*

GN: I'll tell you. I used to cut 'em and mark out and, end of the season, I always used to rake all the grass out and there was one chap on there, in the bungalow, used to come and help.

Well, he got too old and I kept asking the people on the club, 'cos there was one or two of the football club.

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: I done, I wanted some help to do that other green, other rink, the court.

Nobody come, I got a bit fed up with it so I said that's it. And, er, when I went down the Pleasure Boat there was four blokes on there reckoned ----- (?) but I didn't go back.

I wish I had done afterwards.

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **But then, of course, the football club turned. I packed up as Chairman**

ALK: *When was that? When did you stop being Chairman?*

GN: **Oh, I can't tell you now.**

But at any rate they re-formed, new people took over.

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **And they didn't want nothing to do with tennis courts, so they handed the cutter and all the gear to the Parish Council.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **I believe Mr Gibbons was Chairman at the time. I aren't sure but, er, they just give up.**

ALK: *Yeah. It would be nice to have some tennis courts, wouldn't it?*

GN: **Oh, it would be lovely. Courts, yeah.**

ALK: *Yeah. Good for you.*

GN: **Yeah. I played until I was 50.**

ALK: *Not bad.*

GN: **I didn't start until I was 45 [LAUGHS]. Oh, we used to play every Saturday, Sunday morning and Wednesday night.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Huggy and Angie and another bloke in the village.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **And, of course, Huggy and Angie played together and me and the other chap, we beat them.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **None of us had played before, hardly. So, Huggy, he's, er, er, what's his name, er, James Bartless. So, em, Angie and Mick came and played with me, and we beat 'em, didn't we? And we always played together after that, me and her.**

ALK: *Very nice.*

GN: **And she had a good right forehand down that line.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Yeah. And I used to get to the net and she used to, back of the court.**

ALK: *And you were a good team.*

GN: **Doubles, yeah.**

ALK: *Fantastic.*

GN: **Yeah. I enjoyed it.**

ALK: *I see that. You didn't have anything to do with the churches then, the Methodists or the?*

GN: **Churches? Not really, no.**

ALK: *See, that's another thing that's in Hickling, isn't it?*

GN: **No. I got sent to church.**

ALK: *What. Did your mum belong to one of them?*

GN: **When I was. No, she wouldn't go to church.**

She wouldn't go to the pub either. Only time she went to the pub was VE Day.

ALK: *Is that right?*

GN: **She did that night, yeah. She got a little bit tiddly, I believe.**

ALK: *I should think she was a bit relieved.*

GN: **No when we had a festival. We had a festival here.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **And they wanted, I think it was Mrs Tallwin, not the one now.**

The mother was organising mugs for the children and, er, they asked for a donation so I said "I'll ask the football club whether they'll give you £20. I can't guarantee it." And they, we did.

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **We supported everything in the village.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Still. Pom Pom dancers , they started up, the older people's club, um, what did they used to call....? Forget-me-not, yeah, we supported them.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Used to run, you know, we had a cup, we paid for a cup. We had a raffle.**

ALK: *Where did you get your money from?*

GN: **From raffles.**

GN: **Yeah. We had all sorts of money raising things.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Yeah.**

ALK: *Yeah. You didn't win it? You didn't win it when you were playing? They didn't give you money?*

GN: **No, well the Forget-me-not cup was a dart cup which the Hickling Home Guard won during the war. And they called it the Forget-me-not cup, but it's actually the Home Guard cup and I don't know whether that's still in the Greyhound.**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **Yeah, the Forget-me-not Cup its called.**

ALK: *Yeah, so my great great grandfather, he was Norman Herbert Smith, lived up there. He died, his wife re-married the vicar, Cross. They had a son, Vere, he was killed in the war.*

GN: **Who's that?**

ALK: *Vere Herbert Smith, he was killed in the war.*

GN: **What, local to here?**

ALK: *Yeah. From the, from the Hall, Hickling Hall.*

GN: **Oh. Was that the First World War?**

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **I was going to say Borritts were....**

ALK: *Yeah. Exactly. Borritts in there afterwards. Yeah, my mum, very fond of Jackie Borritt.*

GN: **Yeah.**

ALK: *She loved him. Yeah, my mum was really taken with him. He used to call her "eyes" 'cos she had big eyes.*

GN: **Yeah?**

ALK: *Yeah. Here comes eyes.*

GN: **Yeah. I got a photograph of Jack here somewhere.**

ALK: *He was a big man like you.*

GN: **Yeah.**

ALK: *Yeah. You must have been of a size.*

GN: **Yeah.**

ALK: *Make the others look a bit small. [BOTH LAUGH]*

GN: **Oh Jack, we load his sugar beet up, Christmas Eve morning. Me and Billy, and we see Jack came down with a jug. "Cor" he said "I hope he ain't got no coffee, I don't want that." He say.**

Course Jack stood there, poured it out, "That's lovely, that is." [BOTH LAUGH]. Course, he give Billy a pound and I thought that's ten bob apiece, and he turned round and give me a pound as well.

ALK: *Yeah.*

GN: **That was a good morning that.**

ALK: *That was a very good morning, apart from the coffee.*

GN: **The coffee was alright.**

ALK: *Well, I think we've probably done our hour, don't you?*

GN: **Yeah.**

ALK: *I think so. That's very good.*