

**MANX HERITAGE FOUNDATION ORAL HISTORY PROJECT
ORAL HISTORY TRANSCRIPT**

‘TIME TO REMEMBER’

Interviewee(s): Mrs Mildred [Betty] Magee

Date of birth: 2nd May 1922

Place of birth: Douglas, Isle of Man

Interviewer(s): Elizabeth Ardern-Corris

Recorded by: Elizabeth Ardern-Corris

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Topic(s): Parents and grandparents
Early schooldays and teachers
Learning to play the piano
Taking part in *The Guild*
Working for mother in boarding house
WWII and rationing
Local butchers and bakers
Holidays in the winter months
Hair styles and fashions
Prisoner of war camps
Entertainment and cinemas
Working at the Town Hall
Courting and getting married

Betty Magee - Mrs M
Elizabeth Ardern-Corris - EA-C

EA-C I'm Elizabeth Ardern-Corris, it's the 18th July 2012 and I'm at the home of Mrs Betty Magee in Douglas. Mrs Magee, can you tell me your full name please?

Mrs M Mrs Mildred Magee. I was born in Douglas in the Isle of Man on the 2nd of May 1922. My auntie, my mum's eldest sister, as soon as she saw me, she said, 'She's a real Mildred!' so of course I was christened Mildred but I've never been called it. (*laughter*) Somebody else thought I looked a 'Betty,' so Betty stuck ... hmm.

EA-C Can you tell me something about your parents – what were their names?

Mrs M My mother was Cissy – short of Cecelia (*laughter*) and my father was Tom – Thomas, but he always went by 'Tom.' He was a plasterer – he was in business with two of his brothers, Charlie and Caesar.

EA-C What was the name of their business?

Mrs M Faragher Brothers, yes – Tynwald Street, Douglas ... hmm.

EA-C Did you have any brothers and sisters?

Mrs M I've got one brother, Jack, well he was called John – John Eardley, now that was my grandmother's, on my dad's side, his mum was called Eardley before she married; so that was a family name, so he was called John Eardley Faragher – eighteen months between us.

EA-C Did you have a good relationship with your brother?

Mrs M We had times when we had a fight, but who doesn't? (*laughter*) But on the whole, as we grew older, we got more ... you know, more friendly. (*laughter*)

EA-C Do you have any memories about your grandparents?

Mrs M I can remember my grandmother very well, because she lived on the promenade, she had the boarding house called *The Marina*, right opposite the boating pool; and she had four daughters so she didn't see why she should work; so she sat on a stool all day long all summer and let them get on with running the boarding house, (*laughter*) yes.

EA-C What was her name?

Mrs M Her name was ... it was Kitty, but I don't know what that would be short for. 'Course we weren't allowed to ... we weren't really supposed to know what first names were in those days. We had to call her Granny, yes, but she sat there all day in the summer, every day, rain, summer sunshine, anything – she was there, (*laughter*) yes.

EA-C What are your earliest childhood memories? How far back can you go?

Mrs M I can remember when I was five, and a vague memory before that ... we lived in Primrose Avenue and at the back was all fields in those days – it's all built up now of course – and we used to play out there. We had a wonderful time ... hmm.

EA-C Where would you have gone to school?

Mrs M I went to Murray's Road School. When I was five they moved to the bigger house in Demesne Road, so I went to Murray's Road School, and first day they had us all lined up to go into the classroom and I didn't want to go in, so in the end somebody had to get behind me and give me a big push (*laughter*) – I was alright after that ... yes.

EA-C Do you have happy memories of school days?

Mrs M I do, yes, yes ... and then when I was nine, of course, I went to the High School, the Girls' High School, and that was it – I didn't go any further after I'd left school ... hmm.

EA-C Can you remember the names of any of your teachers?

Mrs M Well, our gym mistress was Miss Little, and our French mistress was Miss Wandsworth; now ... our geography mistress ... we were very interested in her because somebody discovered she had a green eye and a brown one (*laughter*) so of course, whenever we got the chance to speak to her, you know, we'd have a good look! (*laughter*) It's awful the things you remember, isn't it? But that's childlike, isn't it? On the whole it were quite happy days.

- EA-C** Did you have any favourite subjects at school?
- Mrs M** Yes – music was one, because I was learning to play the piano at the same time, so I really enjoyed that, yes.
- EA-C** Did you show an aptitude for music early on?
- Mrs M** I think I must have done, yes, because I had lessons of two, when I was sixteen I was actually going to go away to college in London, but the war started, and that put ‘top-hat’ to that. I was going to go to music college ... hmm ... but I don’t ... there was some reason ... I can’t imagine them closing down, but there was some reason why I couldn’t go, anyway, so that was the end of that, hmm ... but I still played the piano and I used to enjoy accompanying better than anything – you know, people singing and I’d accompany them, and I loved that, yes, ‘cos I had the idea that people didn’t take any notice of you, you know, they were listening to the singer, but that was wrong altogether, they took a lot of notice of the accompanist, so ...
- EA-C** Did you ever take part in *The Guild*?
- Mrs M** Yes, yes ... I went in – used to go in solo, and in the duet with my friend on the piano, yes. I didn’t sing – never sung or anything like that. (*laughter*)
- EA-C** Did you ever win?
- Mrs M** We were always ... we always just missed somehow. We were either second or third, but we didn’t really worry as long as we’d done okay, hmm well, we did once win a trophy which was in third form, and that was the gymnastic trophy, and we were very proud of that. (*laughter*)
- EA-C** What age were you when you left school, Mrs Magee?
- Mrs M** I was just short of sixteen, yes – ‘cos my birthday was in the May, so I left that summer, hmm.
- EA-C** Did you have a job to go to?
- Mrs M** Oh, in the boarding house, yes, mum took visitors in you see, yes. But my dad

didn't like it, didn't like these strangers in the house. (*laughter*)

EA-C Can you remember how many guests you would have taken in?

Mrs M Oh, it was only about ten at the most. But then, after my dad died, mum was left with my brother and I, he was only sixteen and I was not ... well, he must have been seventeen then, and I was coming up to sixteen, so she had to do something to keep us, you see, my brother followed my dad into the plastering business and he did that – he's done a lot of jobs for us and neighbours and friends, (*laughter*) yes. And then of course, later on, when my brother was married, he'd left home so mum went and moved into a bigger house up on the hill from where we lived, and she was able to take a lot more visitors then. So of course that is what I did – helped to look after them! It was Empire Terrace – it was number 14 Empire Terrace. And then the next house was Palace Road (*laughter*) but that was ... there was only one house-space between the two – Empire Terrace here and then Palace Road, which was rather strange.

EA-C Do you have any funny stories about some of the guests who used to come?

Mrs M We used to have some very funny people, but I think we looked after them alright because they used to come back year after year a lot of them, yes ... I enjoyed it, yes.

EA-C Can you tell me what kind of work you had to do to help your mum?

Mrs M Well, my mum always did the cooking. Of course, I used to help waiting-on and then clearing away after each meal and helping with the dishes; and we had somebody upstairs doing the bedrooms and if I had any spare time I used to go up and help them as well. There was a lot of work, 'cos we had fourteen rooms – fourteen bedrooms, so you can imagine, when we were full, and in those days you were full up for at least six weeks in the middle of the summer. Yes, you didn't have any rooms to spare, so we were kept going – we were very busy for those few weeks, but I loved it. We ... as long as we were nice to the people, they were nice with us.

EA-C What was life like growing up around Douglas when you were young?

Mrs M It was okay, yes, it was ... there was plenty of us ... there was plenty for us to do.

And of course I'd taken up music at that time from when I was nine, so I was kept busy with that. And I used to go in *The Guild* playing and one of my friends had learnt and we used to play duets together on the piano and in the winter there wasn't a week went by but we didn't have to go somewhere in the country to play at a concert, hmm... so we really enjoyed that. The word got round, you know, 'Oh, so and so's a nice player – they'll go and play piano for you.' So we were very busy in the winter really – there was never a week went by where we hadn't to go somewhere, yes ... so it was very enjoyable, really.

EA-C How would you have got there? What kind of transport did you have?

Mrs M I think they must have sent a car for us, because we wouldn't be able to go on the bus to those places ... hmm. We didn't have one for a long time. And I remember one Easter Monday, I spent nearly the whole day looking out of the window and seeing people going past in a car (*laughter*) and wishing we had one ... hmm.

EA-C Did you have a bicycle when you were young?

Mrs M Oh yes, yes – and mine was a red one! Oh I must tell you this: I was going with my friend, we'd come to Bray Hill and we had to walk up and both our bikes were red, and all of a sudden we were trudging up and we saw these cows coming down. So you can imagine what we did – turned our bikes round and got on them and went tearing off back down the way we'd come! (*laughter*) I don't know what would have happened – I don't suppose they'd have done anything, would they, no, but we thought, 'Oh, you'd better get out of the way!' (*laughter*)

EA-C Why was there cows on the road – can you imagine why they might be there?

Mrs M Oh yes, they ... well, a lot of the farms were only on the outskirts of Douglas, you see, and they would ... I don't know really, I never thought about that, why would they be there, but ...

EA-C Did you have plenty of food in the hotel, or was there a shortage during the war?

Mrs M Well, when the war was on, of course, we were rationed, but the grocer and the

butcher – they were very good, you know. If they knew we had visitors we used to have an allowance for them, but it wasn't enough, but they always had a bit extra, you know, to help us out. They never went hungry. *(laughter)*

EA-C Can you remember the names of the butchers and the bakers and the people who supplied you with goods?

Mrs M The butcher was Tommy Tinker; and the bakers were Quirks – we had their bread and cakes and my mum used to bake a lot of the cakes for the visitors of course – make big cakes, you know, hmm ... yes.

EA-C And were all the groceries delivered or would you have to go and get them?

Mrs M Oh yes, no, they were delivered then, yes, 'cos the boys, once they were sixteen, they loved to have a job, and they get a bike with a basket on the front you see, and go and deliver people's orders with that, hmm.

EA-C Did you get paid for working in the boarding house?

Mrs M No *(laughter)* oh no. I ... well, I don't actually get paid – I was looked well, I mean, my mum bought me nice clothes and I didn't go short of anything. But you couldn't really say, 'Well here's your wages for helping.,' you know. No ... no, I didn't go short.

EA-C What did you do in the winter months?

Mrs M During the winter, of course, we used to make sure we had a holiday first, because if the summer was busy we were tired when the end of the summer came, so if we had made enough we could go away and have a holiday – just perhaps have a holiday in Douglas, but usually we went away, 'cos I had quite a few relations across ... across the water – we just called ... say 'across,' you know, and we'd always have a holiday first. And then, when we came back, we waited 'til after Christmas, and then we'd start decorating and spring-cleaning and all that until Easter really, when the visitors started ... hmm.

EA-C When you were a teenager, Mrs Magee, what were the fashions like, and the hair styles?

Mrs M Well, those who had permanent curls and waves, they were alright, but to have a permanent wave could cost quite a lot – a fortune, really. Well I always had a fringe and I didn't like it so I went to the hairdresser one day and I said, 'Oh, I wish I had waves in my hair!' 'Well,' she said, 'I can iron-wave it for you.' You know – a pair of tongs. And she put these waves and curls in and I thought it was lovely! My mum did, too, she quite liked it; but when my dad came in – oh, my goodness! 'What on earth have you had done to your hair?!' I said, 'I've just had it curled.' 'Well,' he said, 'I think you'd better go back where you had it done and get it undone.' I said, 'Oh, they can't do that, Daddy. I might be able to wash it out.' But it didn't come out for a while and he got used to it I think. I mean, I was fourteen by that time, you know, and I thought I should be able to please myself! (*laughter*) Hmm.

EA-C What were the clothes like – would you be able to go out and buy your own clothes or would your Mum always have picked your clothes?

Mrs M Oh, she always came with me ...

EA-C Hmm, hmm.

Mrs M ... until I was about sixteen, really, mostly because she was paying for them! (*laughter*) And she wanted to see what I got, yes, but ... it was always Tossy Cowin's, hmm ... it was in Strand Street, near Castle Street, it was a big corner shop and they had this thing to put the money in and it went up to the ceiling and along ... it went along the ceiling to the cashier who was sitting ... don't know whether they were upstairs or in a very high seat, but the money would go along the ceiling to her and she would put the change in and it would come back and down to the customer (*laughter*) – 'course we thought that was great, hmm ... yes ... so that was Tossy Cowin's. But they eventually had the whole corner there – it was a very big shop. But it was the one I was always taken to. Oh, R C Cain's was a lovely shop. They sold furniture and all that sort of thing as well, but they also had a clothes shop, so theirs was very nice stuff as well, so we had that and Tossy Cowin's as we called it – that was his name – Tossy. (*laughter*) Tossy Cowin's we had too, yes.

EA-C What about sweets? Did you ever get sweets when you were a child?

Mrs M On a Saturday, yes, we got sixpence to go and get some sweets ... hmm. 'But

don't come back with any chewing-gum!' (*laughter*)

EA-C Why was that?

Mrs M I don't know really. (*laughter*) I suppose they didn't want us to be [chewing sound] all the time. (*laughter*)

EA-C And what were your favourite sweets, Mrs Magee?

Mrs M *Liquorice Allsorts*, hmm. And they were my mum's, too. We both enjoyed those, hmm ... yea, yea.

EA-C Do you remember any of the boarding houses being used for prisoners of war?

Mrs M Yes I do, yes. They were on the promenade, where we lived in Empire Terrace, well, there were two blocks, just in front of us that were taken over, and all these prisoners were put in there, and they'd have the windows open wide and we'd see them shaking the rugs out, out of the window, and sheets and that, you know, making their own beds up, yes. But the people who the houses belonged to, they were just told – you've got so many days to move out. And they didn't have any choice – they had to go. And we had some good friends just opposite to us on the corner, and when she knew she had to get out, she was fortunate, they had a little house in Onchan, so they did have somewhere to go to, but she spent nearly a whole day running over to our house with baskets of this, that and the other, up to our attic, (*laughter*) and it was full, you know, by the time she'd finished. And then of course they came and when we were going ... they had ... they were ... they were wired-off, you know, and there were guards and they were parading up and down all day long. But when we were coming at night, we had to walk in between these wires, so the guard would stop when he ... as soon as he heard your footsteps – 'Halt – who goes there?!' (*laughter*) I used to say, 'It's me!' 'Who's me? Friend or foe?!' (*laughter*) It was a bit frightening, but we did get used to it, but it gave you a bit of a shock at first ... hmm ...'cos they were just across the road and they were ... they could see everything we were doing ... hmm – we felt sorry for them, hmm. There was a girl who lived in Onchan and she was caught, she was ... she used to come down ... oh, the hill – Summerhill, she lived up there, and she'd come along and she'd be giving them food, and then she was caught one day and she was in a lot of trouble, hmm. No, we didn't attempt to ... we didn't attempt to feed them

or anything. But after a while they were all moved away and we had the RAF there ... hmm – that was nice! Yes, ‘cos I was about sixteen then, you see, all these RAF boys! (*laughter*) I remember opening the door one morning and there were three rows of them lined in front, and they were standing at attention – supposed to be – and they’d just ... I saw one grinning, and when I looked at him, it was one of the fellows who used to come and stay with us in the summer. (*laughter*) And of course I’d – ‘Oh, hello!’ And I got such a look, you know, (*laughter*) and he was standing there grinning, yea.

EA-C Where did you go out for entertainment when you were about sixteen or seventeen?

Mrs M Where did we go?

EA-C Where did you go for entertainment?

Mrs M Oh, the pictures, hmm ... yes. Oh yes, they were on all the time – *The Royalty*, the one in Victoria Street – what was that called – *The Regal*, wasn’t it – the bottom of Victoria Street, where the baths [swimming] ... oh, the baths aren’t there now either, are they? Yes, there was a cinema there, and there was the picture house in Strand Street, and next door to *The Strand* – they were all open. And then there was *The Crescent* on the promenade, not far away from where we were living, that was open as well, showing pictures, hmm.

EA-C What about Douglas Head and Onchan Head? Was there entertainment going on there?

Mrs M Well, the locals used those, yes, more than anything I think ... hmm ... and quite a lot of visitors still came over – not as many as we would normally have, because a lot of people couldn’t take them in because they were full up with these other people. But ... no, it didn’t bother us really. I was working in the Town Hall at the time, and ... so of course I was going past them every day ... morning, back at dinner-time, out again and then back again at tea-time. (*laughter*) So they got used to my footsteps you see – when it was dark – but they still say, ‘Halt, who goes there?’ (*laughter*) Yes.

EA-C What were you doing at the Town Hall?

Mrs M I was in the Treasurer's Department, yes ... hmm. I was there for six years while the war was on. I had a few ... I went after this job and I was about six days away from my eighteenth birthday, so they said, 'Well, the job is yours, but we can't ... you can't start 'til you're eighteen.' (*laughter*) So I had a few days to put in first, hmm. But I was there for six years, yes, in the Treasurer's Department – I loved it, hmm. And one of the jobs we had to do was burying people – well, not actually burying them, but the ... what-do-you-call-it used to come in with all the particulars and you had to look up ... go down in the cellar, it might be a grave belonging to them in the cemetery and if so they had a form, you know, and you had to go down and look it up and see how many had been buried – well, they couldn't take more than three. Sometime, you know, it was full! (*laughter*) Wasn't very pleasant, but we got used to it. And I loved it! Yes, I didn't want to leave at the end, but of course the visitors just came, they didn't care how they came or ... how they got here, as long as they got there for a holiday after the war, hmm. Yes, we had very busy seasons for a while.

EA-C And is that why you had to leave your job at the Town Hall?

Mrs M I did, I did leave, yes, yes. I actually left that time, but then, later on, quite a few years later on I went back again, hmm. I saw this job in the paper and I rang up about it and the Borough Treasurer said, 'How did you know I was going to ring you today to see if you wanted a job?' (*laughter*) I said, 'Well, I beat you to it, but will I have one?' So he said, 'Yes, the job's yours if you want it.' (*laughter*)

EA-C When you were working at the Town Hall, who would have been in charge?

Mrs M The Borough Treasurer, yes. His name was Mr Costain, and he was very nice, yes, didn't have any trouble with him (*laughter*) hmm. There was Mr Watterson, who was the rent collector for all the houses the Corporation had – he used to go out a couple of days a week round the houses collecting the rent; Umm ... oh, golly – there was another girl, but she had her office ... it was attached to the inside of the other one, but she was sort of on her own, she was the typist, so we didn't see a lot of her. But the Borough Treasurer, his office had windows in, so wherever you were he had his eye on you, whatever you were doing. But all the undertakers had to come there if they were ... somebody had died, and they perhaps had a grave in the cemetery, so he would bring the paper, so you had to go down in the cellar and look it up and on the piece that's left, whoever's been buried in that grave – and they couldn't take more than

three – so if there were three people already in, well, they'd have to choose another grave, so you'd have to get the plans out then, and then, the plan for that, you'd have to write all the particulars out and then that would go to the Town Clerk and he would have to sign all that, and then they'd be issued with the grant for the grave. All that sort of thing – it was very interesting really, there was lots to do, hmm. And people were coming in to pay their rates and ... all the time. Some were a shilling a week – you might not believe it now, but a shilling a week they used to pay, and that was quite a lot ... hmm.

EA-C Were there any difficulties with people paying their rent or rates – what would happen?

Mrs M I wasn't taking money all the time, but all I took was to see to the cemetery, you know, but if it was very busy like when the end of the rate pay came, and you only had so many days for your discount, I used to have to take them there as well. But other than that I was mostly working on the deaths if you like. *(laughter)* But ... and my mum, she got ... she was so interested, 'Well who's died today?' You know, and, 'Oh, I don't remember them.' And then I couldn't get home quick enough if somebody she knew had died, you know. *(laughter)* It was very interesting, hmm, and I was only eighteen, so I didn't get upset about things really.

EA-C Can you remember how much you got paid – what was your first pay-packet?

Mrs M We got a cheque at the end of the month. I think it were about five pounds a week or something like that – do you know, I can't remember – it wasn't much, I know, but it was a lot to me, you know, my first wage, *(laughter)* hmm.

EA-C Were you courting at all during this time?

Mrs M I had a boyfriend, yes, yes ... I had him for quite a while, but then ... the end to that came, too. Do you know why? I didn't like his table manners – used to put his knife in his mouth. And I said to my mum one day, I said, 'Have you ever noticed Sidney when he's talking, what he does with his knife?' And she said, 'Well, I'm usually too busy eating my meal.' I said, 'Well, I don't like it, he puts his knife in his mouth – I wouldn't like to be married to him.' And I was engaged to him, so that was broken off, hmm. *(laughter)*

- EA-C** Where about would you have met boys? Did you go out dancing?
- Mrs M** No, no. I played badminton, and used to go to the church, of course, and there were boys there, yes. I was quite happy.
- EA-C** What church did you attend?
- Mrs M** Congregational – it's not there anymore, no, it was knocked down. Finch Hill – do you know where Buck's Road is? Well, it was next door to that, hmm. Oh, we used to go there a lot, there was always something on, hmm ... yes.
- EA-C** Where did you meet your future husband, Mrs Magee?
- Mrs M** Well, he ... in the summer, he used to come in every day. He was driving for a firm and they were taking ... he was put onto this coach to take visitors round, and he knew the Island well, so he got that job. So of course every day he had to come in, in the different houses to see 'Anybody like to go round the Island today?' and to get, you know, if any of them said, 'Oh yes, I'd like to go.' And then he'd go off somewhere else, and they'd pick them up in a coach later on, yes. So that was how I got to know him. He was a bit of a lad, you know, but I fell for him right away, and I think it was more or less the two of us – never had anybody else, no.
- EA-C** Did he have good table manners?
- Mrs M** Yes, oh yes, hmm – that goes a long way, doesn't it? Hmm ... yes. (*laughter*)
- EA-C** And what was his name?
- Mrs M** Jimmy Magee, hmm ... yes.
- EA-C** Was it usual to have long courting periods?
- Mrs M** Well, some had. Some had to get married in a hurry of course (*laughter*) – you know why! But I wasn't one of those, fortunately – I had more sense, but ... I don't know, really.
- EA-C** Tell me about your wedding day.

Mrs M It's so long ago now. I can remember it was a nice day. Yes, I had a blue dress – fancy ... coloured – different colours, hmm. 'Cos we still had coupons for our clothes in those days – you know, you only had ... you got about twenty, and if you wanted to get a coat, it would take about fifteen of them, hmm. So you know, even to buy a pair of knickers you had to give a coupon! (*laughter*)

EA-C Did you buy your wedding dress or was it made for you?

Mrs M I think it was bought. It was very nice though, it was nice, yes, hmm.

EA-C Were times very hard when you were young? Was there a lot of poverty about?

Mrs M There was, but I was ... I was one of the lucky ones I think, because my dad was in business with two of his brothers and they ... one was a joiner and two were plasterers, so they ... it was a good ... it was a good ... you know, they had plenty of work, yes. So I don't think I ... I don't think we wanted for much really, hmm. My mum never married again. I don't think ... I don't think I'd have been happy if she had. I know it sounds selfish, but I didn't want anybody in my dad's place ... hmmm.

EA-C Do you think you were more like your mother or your father in personality?

Mrs M I think my mum, yes. Well, everybody says how like her I am – or I was, anyway, I've probably changed now I'm getting old, but they used to say, 'Oh, you are like Cissy!' Cissy was me mum – her name was Cissy Mona. (*laughter*) Yes, but she was a jolly sort, hmm, yes.

EA-C How do you feel about getting older?

Mrs M It doesn't worry me really. Well, you've got to take what comes, haven't you? Hmm. I hope I don't ... I don't know, really ... I'm alright as I am at the moment, you know, but we don't know what's ahead of us, do we? No.

EA-C Did you and your husband, Jimmy, have any children?

Mrs M Not for a while. But we've got Colin and Graham ... hmm. Gosh, Colin's well in his sixties now! (*laughter*) He's not a baby anymore, hmm.

EA-C Have you got any grandchildren?

Mrs M Yes – got great grandchildren – well, I heard yesterday that there’s a great grandchild on the way, but don’t tell anybody yet, ‘cos it’s not until March. *(laughter)* We’ve got so many birthdays in March, too – it must be the time of the year, really. June, isn’t it, yes ... must be the sunshine that ... I don’t know. *(laughter)*

EA-C Do you think you’ve had a good life, Mrs Magee?

Mrs M Yes, it hasn’t been too bad. I could have wanted my parents to last until they were older – see my dad was only forty, and he was a wonderful dad, and he was a lovely fellow, and oh, I have missed him, hmmm. Yes, ‘cos me mum never got married again, hmm. But there we are.

EA-C What do you think has helped you through life? Do you have any particular faith, or do you have a particular philosophy in life that has helped you?

Mrs M Well, you’ve got to take what comes, haven’t you? And I try not to complain, or grumble – sometimes I have a little grumble, but ... I think I’m pretty lucky really, compared to some people. I’ve got my grandchildren and great grandchildren – not that I see much of them, but ... you see, in the days when I was brought up, everybody lived close, hmm. You know, you could see them any old time you wanted to, but not now, they’re spread all over the place, aren’t they? Hmm... but I’m only one of millions, aren’t I? Hmm, yes.

EA-C Thank you very much Mrs Magee for sharing your memories with me today.

Mrs M That’s alright, it’s nice to share them ... it’s nice to think back, yes, hmm.

END OF INTERVIEW