

Interviewees: Hannah Green (H) and Kalli Hunter (K)	Interviewer: Flora Burns
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This is Flora Burns 31<sup>st</sup> March (not April!)2014 and I am interviewing two girls from St Ninian's Primary School in Dumfries and their names are Kalli (K) and Hannah (H).

*(Interview was done in a small room just off the main corridor in the school and typical school noises can be heard in the background.)*

FB: Can I start off with you, Kalli, first of all? How old are you?

K: Eight.

FB: You're eight and which class are you in?

K: Primary 4/5.

FB: In Primary 4/5 and Hannah how old are you?

H: Eight.

FB: And which class are you in?

H: Primary 4/5

FB: Primary 4/5 as well. Right the first thing I thought we could talk about this morning is how you got to school. Ok. Did you walk to school?

H: No.

FB: No. How did you get to school then?

H: Well, I drove.

FB: You drove... you drive... you drove a car? *[I was strongly resisting the temptation to correct her here]*

H: My mum drove it.

FB: Your mum drove the car. And does your Mum take you to school every morning?

H: Sometimes my dad does.

FB: But you never walk to school?

H: Sometimes I do.

FB: Sometimes you do and if you were going to walk to school how long would it take you? Think about anytime you've walked.

H: *[Hesitating]* I think half an hour.

FB: Half an hour to walk.

H: I don't know.

FB: What about you Kalli? How do you get to school?

K: Hmm. My mum drives all the way here.

FB: Right. Ok and she takes you every morning? You never walk to school either?

K: No cos it is too far away. I live at the other side of the town.

FB: You live at the other side of town so you would have to get on a bus, would you, to come to school before you could get to school. Would that be right?

K: Hmhh.

FB: And do you think your mum will always drive you to school?

K: Yeah.

FB: Yes ok and does your Mum pick up anybody else?

K: Yes

FB: She does. And who else travels with when you come to school?

K: My little brother and my little sister.

FB: And they come to this school as well?

K: Hmhh. My little sister goes to the nursery and my little brother is in P2.

FB: P2 so it's quite a car load then when you set off in the morning. Yes? So whereabouts do you stay in Dumfries? What's the name of the street?

K: [REDACTED]

FB: Ok and where do you stay, Hannah?

H: [REDACTED]

FB: Right and that's quite far from the school as well?

H: A little.

FB: A little but you could walk it if you wanted to?

H: Yes.

FB: So this is a Monday morning, what have you done so far in class?

K: Hmm... [*Hesitating*] We've made Moat Brae pict..., eh posters.

FB: Today? Right and what was in your poster?

K: Well, I'm not quite finished it yet but for some information a put. Do you know how you called Moat Brae No1 Dumfries and about London, No 1 London. That's some of the information that I put in the poster.

FB: And can you remember why it was called No 1 in Dumfries?

K: Because it was one of the poshest houses?

FB: Well done. And what have you done this morning then?

H: Well, I've done a poster as well. And there's been information about ... [*some whispered conferring goes on between the girls*].

FB: Is it something about the house as well, Moat Brae house as well?

H: Yeah. A lot of information. I've finished mine.

FB: You have finished yours. Oh I am looking forward to seeing these posters then and what will you do later on today in class.?

K: Hmm... Gym.

FB: And what will you do in gym do you think?

K: Golf.

FB: Golf?

K: Yes cos we have already started it and so then we we do that for like for 5 weeks or somethin then go on to a different thing.

FB: That sounds interesting and do you play golf in ... near the school?

K and H: We play golf sometimes out in the playground or in the hall.

FB: Are you good at it?

K and H: [*enthusiastically*] Yes.

FB: [*Laughing with them*] And do you think you will do that all the time? Once you get older as well. Play on a proper golf course.

K and H: Yes. Maybe

### [5 mins]

FB: Kalli, what makes a good day at school?

K: Hmm...

FB: When do you think that's been good? Have a think?

K: Well it's been good for.... everything.

FB: It's good for everything. You like everything that happens in school do you?

K: Except from sometimes hard work.

FB: So what's hard work then? How would you describe hard work?

K: Ehmm... Maths. You get like divisions, takeaways and sometimes tables an that.

FB: And that's what you think is hard work in school? What makes you happy at school?

H: Ehmm .....well my favourite thing to do at school is art.

K: I'm the same cos I like making all different things. We get art on Wednesdays.

FB: Art is on Wednesdays and is it Miss Bodell who takes you for art?

K: Mrs Harris is our art teacher.

FB: So is Mrs Harris a visiting teacher?

H and K: Yes.

FB: She comes in and takes children for art for their art class. So what's been your best picture Kalli, do you think?

K: Hmmmm.... A quite liked when we done the snowdrops for spring.

FB: You like snowdrops. Why do you like snowdrops?

K: Because.....

FB: Do you think Hannah has got something to say about snowdrops?

H: Yeah I liked the way wiv been makin them, like we tried to draw them.

K: We never tried to draw them. We had these pieces of cards or something and there was green and white and black. Black was to stick your stuff on and we had to cut out all the different shapes.

H: And then we used it for the Mother's Days cards.

FB: That sounds nice.

K: We cut them out and then we put them on for the Mother's Day cards.

FB: That sounds nice. Lovely

H: My favourite one was the Midsteeple and the snowdrops.

K: I forgot about that one.

FB: And what happened then? What happened there?

K: Well, the Midsteeple... we had to get a ... there was this big copy on the board, we took a picture of it and we just tried to copy it an then we stuck it on a piece of paper and we put it in the displays in the hall. Hannah, I can't remember but see when we were doing the Midsteeple what was that for again?

H: It was for...

K: ... it was something to do with Robert Burns or something like that.

H: Yeah we done a Robert Burns, like big thing, like they're up on the wall as well.

FB: So were you finding out about famous people in Dumfries, maybe?

H and K: Yes. Like J M Barrie and everybody and Robert the Bruce.

FB: Robert the Bruce, Robert Burns and J M Barrie which leads me quite nicely on to the next kind o question I want to ask and this is about the day you came to visit Moat Brae. What did you think you learned at Moat Brae that day?

H: [*Hesitating*] I had it when I was thinking then I forgot.... I think I might still have it ..... is.... well I learned they had an, they had ehm ... oh

FB: Well let's leave that question. Let's go back and just ... what did you like or what did you not like?

H: I liked the way they had like,... there was a living room then they opened it up for a party room living room.

FB: So's it had a big room for, as you say, for a party or for entertaining people. What about you Kalli?

### [10mins]

K: Hmmhh. My favourite thing was..... hmm.... well definitely not upstairs cos I felt I was going to fall through the floor.

FB: Did you?

K: Uhuh.

H: So did I

FB: Why did you feel as if you were going to fall through the floor?

K: Cos it's a really old house

H: And it's got all break things it's... like it was going to fall apart and it is so far down.

FB: Yes once you were up on that floor and looking down.  
H: When you looked at the bannister it feels like you are just gonna flip over.  
FB: Oh no. *[All laughing]*. We wouldn't've wanted you to be flipping over. Would we? Not at all.  
H: I just wondered that.  
FB: Right so that bit made you feel a wee bit uncomfortable. Did it? Any other rooms you that you remember or places?  
H: I remembered the wine cellar.  
FB: Do you? Right.  
K: I remember the butler's pan... pantry. *[helped by H]*  
FB: That was a new word for you isn't it, pantry, the butler's pantry. Right let's stick with the wine cellar and then we will come back to the pantry.  
H: Well the wine cellar's quite dark and I thought it just went down but then it went to a corner. Quite scary because it was dark.  
FB: It was a bit scary was it? And you liked the butler's pantry. Why was that?  
K: *[Hesitating]* Because.....  
FB: Can you remember what was in the butler's pantry?  
K: A fire. Think a bed. I remember what he used to do.  
FB: What did he used to do?  
K: He used to answer the door.  
FB: What other important job did he have?  
K: Oh... I thought I remembered.  
FB: It doesn't matter. It's ok. Try and think of something else then that you remember seeing in the house that might have been a bit of a surprise, it might have been a bit scary.  
K: Ehmm... Oh the basement.  
FB: You didn't like the basement?  
K: It was quite scary a little but I thought it was ok but thought something would drop on top of us. *[All laughing]*  
H: I felt like something was going to jump out at us in the basement.  
K: Yes  
FB: And what do you think would have jumped out at you in the basement?  
K: A big spider  
H: A tiger?  
FB: A spider. It looked like a good place for spiders didn't it? Was it your gran that worked in the house?  
K: Yes.  
FB: What did she do in the house?  
K: She was the cook.  
FB: She was the cook. And what did she tell you, has she told you anything about working in the house?  
K: Hem... When we were planning this all out for like going to Moat Brae and everything an' 'at was quite a while ago.....  
FB: Can you remember how long she worked in the house?  
K: 16 or 20 years.  
FB: That was a long time then wasn't it, a very long time.  
K: It's cos she likes takin care of people and everything.  
FB: Does she? That's good. Is there anything else you'd like to tell me about that visit to the house?  
H: Hem... I didn't know they had a basement or an attic.  
FB: Does your house have a basement?  
K and H: No.  
H: Mine just has an attic.

FB: Just has an attic. You've got an attic. OK. *[Long pause]* Right just before we finish off and I will let you go back to class. Is there anything else you would like to tell me before you go?

K: Do you know when it was, when I came on Saturday?

FB: Yes, you came back for a second visit, with your Mum and your Dad

**[15 mins]**

K: Ma wee brother, ma wee sister, ma granny, ma auntie.

FB: And did you tell them to come?

K: No.

FB: No. They wanted to come themselves.

K: I think it was probably mi granny. She lets everybody know ... everything.

FB: Right because she worked in Moat Brae and she wanted to come back and see what it was like now.

K: I might go. I might come this week.

FB: Ok. Right. It would be nice to see you back again. So when your family came on Saturday was there something else you were going to tell me about that?

K: Yes, my little sister. I know what she did not like the most.

FB: What was that?

K: The basement because it was all dark.

FB: Yes, it is still pretty dark isn't it because we have still got boards on the window and until we get all that taken away it won't be properly lit up. Will you come and visit it in the future when it is opened?

H: Yes, definitely.

FB: You would definitely come back?

H: Well once when Kalli had a sleepover at mine we went to Moat Brae.

K: When it was all ruined and everything.

H: And we all saw this mirror and it pointed up and we saw the glass at the top.

K: It was a big steep thing.

H: And everything round it was like all dark and that.

FB: Right so you remember it when it was really just about falling down.

H: It was really scary. (It was a tip.)

FB: It was a tip!

H: I think I heard some noises. It scared me.

FB: Were you scared when you came back on the school visit?

H: A little bit but it was alright but when I was there the last time it just had dark things and I heard things.

K: It might have just been birds or something like that.

H: I hid behind my mum just in case. *[All laughing]*

FB: I think I would have done the same actually. Right that was very good. Thank you very much for giving me all that information and I'll hope to see you again soon.