

Interviewee(s): Sheila Young (SY)	Interviewer(s): Irene Bailey (IB)
Date of Interview: 20 February 2019	Ref: EL13-1-1-3-T
REGION	East Lothian
TOWN/VILLAGE	East Linton

TITLE	<i>Irene Bailey interviews Sheila Young about her family.</i>
REGION	<i>Lothian</i>
SUBJECTS/KEYWORDS	<i>Rural life, family, grandparents, local business, the West Barns Inn.</i>
COUNTY	<i>East Lothian</i>
TOWN	<i>East Linton</i>
DATE OF INTERVIEW	<i>20/02/19</i>
INTERVIEWER	<i>Irene Bailey</i>
YEAR RANGE	<i>2019</i>
SUMMARY	<i>Irene Bailey interviews Sheila Young about her parents and her grandparents. They discuss her father, who collected insurance money, and sometimes took her round the farms with him. Sheila talks about her grandparents, who used to have the West Barns in when she was growing up. Her grandparents had the inn during the wartime, until the sixties. Sheila recalls playing in the inn on Sunday mornings when her family would visit her grandparents. She talks about finding kittens in a cupboard there and watching TV with employees from the inn. She also talks about her parents helping out at the inn and local people who used to frequent the West Barns Inn while her grandparents ran it.</i>

Sheila Young – SY; Irene Bailey – IB.

Keywords: Insurance Work; Father; Special Constable; West Barns Inn.

Insurance Work/ Father – 0h 00m 00s

IB: Got to press this, yes, right... This is Wednesday, the 20th of February and it's Irene Bailey and I'm in East Linton interviewing Sheila Young. Uh, last time Sheila spoke about growing up and primary school days in East Linton and she talked about her dad working for the Prudential Insurance and going round the farms with him sometimes. So we're going to talk a bit more about that today. So, Sheila, did you go often with your dad?

SY: No, I think it was more a special treat on the holidays. School holidays.

IB: Mmhm?

SY: Em... He went out of the village most days, he only had a 'village day' one day a week, when he stayed in the village.

IB: Right, right.

SY: Most of the days he was out, cause it was a vast area, it was away up the Lammermuirs and all round the farms here, as well. I liked it basically because I got lots to eat. When we stopped everybody said 'oh, come in for a cup o tea and baking' and ye get a bit of cake or a scone, and this went on at every place that we stopped, which amused me greatly. And of course, any animals I came upon, I liked that.

IB: So how many farms would ye say he covered in the area?

SY: I don't know. He was away up to Gifford as well, he used to go to see somebody at Gifford.

IB: As far as Gifford?

SY: And Garvald, mmhm.

IB: Uhuh. And of course, there are a lot of farms around East Linton.

SY: Mmhm.

IB: So he did those. So he had a car, obviously, to get to there. Were there many cars in the village at that time?

SY: No, apparently, in the McCall Gardens where now it's a big problem parking, his was the first car.

IB: Right.

SY: Em, somebody told me they'd a photo of McCall Gardens and his car was the only car there.

0h 02m 03s

IB: Right.

SY: So it was only him. He got an allowance for his petrol.

IB: Right.

SY: It was his own car.

IB: He had- it was his own car?

SY: Mmhm.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: Yeah.

IB: But he did get...?

SY: He did get a petrol allowance for looking round all these places.

IB: Right, so, when you went out with him can you remember any of the farms that you went to?

SY: Em, I remember going to Beanston. I think it was the Robertsons.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: And I was at school wi one of the daughters, so that was alright. That was nice, knew them. Em, Gail Robertson. I remember going up to... It was something to do with a reservoir at Garvald.

IB: That would be the Hopes Reservoir.

SY: There were two girls there.

IB: Mmhm?

SY: And the Labrador, Jimmy. Jimmy jumped on me; I didn't like that. Em... It was- I liked the countryside.

IB: Yes.

SY: And even in those days I liked to run about in the [car?].

IB: Yes, yeah. So how many farms do ye reckon he would visit in the day?

SY: Well, they're... In the day, mebbe about six?

IB: Right. If you were getting a cup of tea in each one-

SY: Aye, in every one. I don't know how he spun that out for four days, cause he was in the village one day, so it must've been four days-

IB: He was out.

SY: -that he was out the village.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: But he definitely had his places to stop.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: He'd visit up at Whittingehame and East Fortune, all over the place.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: He was careful where he said he'd have a cup of tea, though.

IB: Right. Why?

SY: If he thought the house was clean.

IB: Right.

SY: That was alright.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: One lady rinsed- she said, 'oh, wait a minute, I'll just rinse this cup for ye' and she was doing handwashing in the sink, she dipped the cup in wi the clothes washing and he said 'naw, I'm really busy, I'll need to go, sorry' and he was out the door. He told me that story.

IB: So, did your mother ever go?

SY: Nope.

IB: No?

0h 04m 00s

SY: No, she was too busy cooking these amazing lunches. Three course lunches and afternoon teas and high tea at teatime. No, she never went.

IB: No. So, what was your favourite bit of the countryside, do ye think or-?

SY: I liked going up to Garvald.

IB: Right... Up the hills?

SY: Yeah. Yeah, I liked that.

IB: Into the hills.

SY: His area wasn't to the sea.

IB: Right.

SY: That would be Jim Shanley's area, because I made friends wi his daughter and he worked the same- her dad worked the same as my dad.

IB: Mmhm?

SY: He would do the sea area.

IB: And obviously, you know, he was going round, you know, collecting insurance money?

SY: Yeah, they gave him the cash.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: He had a little leather bag for his change.

IB: So, what did he then do with that?

SY: We banked it here.

IB: Uhuh?

SY: In the village, when we had a bank.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: Aye... I think he did that first thing every morning.

IB: Right.

SY: Think so.

IB: And did he have books to fill in?

SY: Oh, yes, a lot of paper- well, not as much paperwork as people have now, but he did have a book that he wrote in when they paid him. And then every Thursday afternoon, he went to Dunbar to the office where he took his books in.

IB: Mmhm.

SY: Don't know what happened then. I sometimes went wi him there as well.

IB: So, local office was in Dunbar?

SY: It was in Dunbar.

IB: Whereabouts in Dunbar?

SY: Em, up near the Macintosh hotel, it's now the Chinese takeaway.

IB: Oh right.

SY: I liked the girl that worked in it. I can't remember her name.

IB: Was it big- was it a big office?

SY: Mmhm. It's quite big. I can't remember her name.

IB: No?

SY: No.

IB: How many people do you-?

SY: I think it was only her in it.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: So it couldnae've been that big, could it?

0h 06m 04s

IB: No.

SY: They closed that and then it was in Musselburgh.

IB: Mmhm.

SY: But I think in my dad's day it was always at Dunbar.

IB: Mm, right. But he did the village as well, one day a week?

SY: Yep. And people came to the house if somebody had died. My mother liked that, cause she got the best gossip.

IB: Aw, right.

SY: Cause she knew who'd died.

IB: Why did they come to the house?

SY: They wanted the money for the funeral.

IB: Ah.

SY: They wanted it paid out soon as it could be.

IB: Right. They obviously maybe needed it?

SY: Mmhm.

IB: Mmhm.

SY: Mmhm.

IB: Right. But then- [coughs] did your dad- was he able to sort of organise that with the office in Dunbar?

SY: Must have done. I mean, I was too wee, I always had to get out the living room.

IB: Oh right.

SY: If somebody came in to speak about business.

IB: Right.

SY: My mother and I sat in the kitchen many's a time, while he talked to people in the living room. And that desk, [it] was always at that desk.

IB: Oh right.

SY: He just put all his stuff in the desk. But I don't know when it was paid out, or whatever.

IB: Right, right.

SY: I've no idea what happened.

IB: Mmhm.

SY: I was too young, I was primary age.

IB: But your dad was also a special constable. How did he get into that?

SY: I think he was always friendly with a village policeman. I remember a Willy White, was his name, White. Very friendly with any policeman that came to East Linton and I think he must've talked him into trying this.

IB: Right.

SY: And of course he'd been a military policeman in the air force-

IB: Right.

SY: -and he loved his uniform, got his uniform, kept it in the house and this would appear out on a Sunday, it was only a Sunday they seemed to call him out to deal wi the traffic in Gullane wi all these tourists coming down to Gullane for the day. He used to be on traffic duty. I think he liked the power of it.

Special Constable – 0h 08m 08s

IB: Controlling the traffic in Gullane?

SY: Yes, yes.

IB: And did he have to do any training?

SY: I've no idea.

IB: No?

SY: You would think so.

IB: You would hope.

SY: I know, you would hope so but I never knew about that.

IB: Uhuh?

SY: I just knew about the uniform.

IB: Right.

SY: And it would be immaculate, and a girl two doors along used to come and cut his hair every time he was going on duty. It had to be tidied up.

IB: Right.

SY: But his hat didn't.

IB: So where did he keep his uniform?

SY: Oh, in his own wardrobe.

IB: Right, uhuh.

SY: It was here.

IB: Was there a lot of it or was there just- just the jacket and the trousers or-?

SY: No, and the hat.

IB: Mm.

SY: Just like- just like a normal policeman.

IB: Mmhm.

SY: Except for some things on it. It was like the old fashioned police uniform.

IB: Yes.

SY: Not like the one now.

IB: Yeah.

SY: Aye, but he was very proud of that, he really liked that.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: Until...

IB: So how many years was he in... Was he a special constable?

SY: Probably about six.

IB: Right. How old would he be then?

SY: Mm, em... In his fifties, late fifties.

IB: Right.

SY: Early sixties. No, late fifties.

IB: Late fifties.

SY: We'll go for that.

IB: Right.

SY: Yeah. But he enjoyed it.

IB: Yes.

SY: Or he wouldn't have done it. Why would he want to do it? Stand there on your feet after working a week's work.

IB: But then it was... Different, wasn't it? Something different.

SY: Something different.

IB: And all the tourists coming to Gullane, where were they going?

SY: Going to the beach. There was one particular crossroads, I think, that used to get quite jammed up.

0h 10m 00s

IB: Mmhm.

SY: Cause he was always there. He was... I'll tell you where he did go. He went to the opening of the Forth Road Bridge.

IB: Did he?

SY: Yes. I remember that. That was a big day, they had to drive all the special constables for that.

IB: Right, and do you know where he was positioned or-?

SY: No, I don't know.

IB: No?

SY: Don't know that.

IB: And was he out at any other special occasions?

SY: Don't remember hearing about anything else.

IB: What about like gala days or fetes or...

SY: No, not near here.

IB: No?

SY: I don't think he would have done it in his own village.

IB: Right, but even in Dunbar...?

SY: No.

IB: No?

SY: It was always Gullane.

IB: Right, right.

SY: And that one day I do remember the Forth Road Bridge opening.

IB: Right.

SY: I think that was in primary seven. Think that would be in about '64.

IB: That's right, mmhm.

SY: I think that'd be 1964.

IB: Yeah.

SY: I was very jealous that he was getting to that.

IB: Ah, right.

SY: Mm. But, however, our primary seven trip was to walk over it.

IB: Uhuh?

SY: Mr Roy took us over it.

IB: Right.

SY: Our primary seven trip.

IB: Right. So he was in the- he was a special constable for about six years you think?

SY: I think so.

IB: Right, ok. And so, why did he give up?

SY: Well, it's quite a long story. When he was on this traffic duty, he stopped the chief constable for speeding. [REDACTED].

IB: This was in Gullane?

SY: In Gullane, and got the book out and said he was proceeding with this as a charge.

IB: Mmhm.

SY: And [REDACTED] said to him 'no, no, I'm the chief constable you don't bother with me. I can do what I like basically'. And ma dad says 'no, no, one rule for everybody' and of course he reported it. And it was just wiped off.

IB: Uhuh?

SY: This was, no further action, so ma dad thought that wasn't fair and he stopped going, stopped being a special constable.

0h 12m 02s

IB: That was it?

SY: That was it.

IB: And did he hand his uniform back and everything?

SY: Yeah, everything went back.

IB: Oh my goodness.

SY: A man of principle.

IB: Well, yes, indeed.

SY: But he dined out on that story for quite a while.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: It was one of his favourites.

IB: What kind of car did your dad have?

SY: A Morris- I think, no it wasn't a Morris Minor, it was a Morris Cowley, because there was Morris Oxfords-

IB: That's right.

SY: And his was a Morris Cowley at that time.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: I remember. He had lots of different cars. I loved his cars. Yeah, that was when I was a wee girl, he had that.

IB: Yeah. And did he- did ye go in the car, ye know, like shopping to Dunbar or anything?

SY: We didn't go shopping. We went to see ma granny in it.

IB: Mmhm?

SY: Or we went for a day- an outing- a day away in it. No, my mother carried the shopping up from the shops in the village, as far as I... Or a van came up to the door. She went to some of the vans – fruit van, cause the potatoes were heavy. Course, he brought home a lot of potatoes and vegetables from the farms when he was going round.

IB: Of course people would-

SY: Gave him them, just gave him whatever was going about. Brussels, em, apples... He always seemed to have apples in his coat.

IB: Right, where do ye think he got those?

SY: Well, either he picked them or they fell off trees that he saw or people just gave him them.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: They just gave him stuff. Yep.

IB: So the car was only for special outings?

SY: For us? Yeah, for my mum and I.

IB: So when ye went- where did your granny stay?

SY: Well, 'til I was seven, she was in- stayed in West Barns Inn and then ma granddad and her came out of there in 1960 and we went to- they went to live in 5 Gala Green in Dunbar.

West Barns Inn – 0h 14m 14s

IB: Right, so they had the West Barns Inn?

SY: They did.

IB: Right, and you were obviously-

SY: From the wartime.

IB: Uhuh?

SY: They were in it in the war, right through to 1960.

IB: So, was that how your mum kinda grew up?

SY: Yes, well she grew up in the council houses Springfield, before they were in there.

IB: Right.

SY: And she cycled to her work in Dunbar.

IB: Where did she work in Dunbar?

SY: She worked in the bus office. And that's how she got to and from her work, she cycled.

IB: Right, and how did she meet your dad?

SY: She met him at a dance in Belhaven. There is no hall there now, but apparently there was a dance hall in Belhaven, it's so tiny, and she met him there.

IB: Right, and can you remember the West Barns Inn-

SY: Oh yes.

IB: -when your granny and grandpa were there?

SY: Mmhm, vividly.

IB: Uhuh?

SY: Em, I used to go along on a Sunday morning. I think ma dad would help ma granddad and ma mum would be up the stairs talking to ma granny and I would just be wandering about. And one of the other men, one day, said to me 'I've got something I could show you in this cupboard', course a went with him, and it was kittens.

IB: Aw.

SY: Oh, I was very thraught. Lovely kittens. The cat had gone into the cupboard to have her kittens.

IB: Aww, in the pub?

SY: Mmhm.

IB: Right.

SY: Yeah. I like going intae it from time to time now and I can place everything.

IB: Right.

SY: And from- 'til very recently, they had the original toilets with the cistern high up.

IB: Aw, right, uhuh. That- on the wall?

SY: Yeah. You pulled the chain.

IB: Oh, you pulled...

SY: They still had them-

IB: Did they?

SY: -'til about six months ago.

IB: Really?

SY: The people who are in it now gathered enough money to replace them.

0h 16m 00s

IB: Right.

SY: They replaced everything else-

IB: Right.

SY: -and that was the last thing they did. They didn't replace the bar.

IB: No.

SY: The bar's still in the same place.

IB: Is it?

SY: Mmhm.

IB: Right, and can you- were you in the bar when you were a wee girl?

SY: Yes, when it was shut.

IB: On a Sunday morning, uhuh?

SY: Yeah, yeah.

IB: Yeah.

SY: Ma granny used to let me make cocktails, she said it was 'cocktails' putting different juices together.

IB: Oh right.

SY: She was into cocktails. She had a book about them.

IB: Ah, so you got to go behind the bar?

SY: I did.

IB: Mmhm.

SY: I did. It was all good fun to me. And of course anybody that did come to see them made a fuss of me.

IB: Mmhm. So you- were you in at any other time, other than a Sunday?

SY: If I went to see my granny through the week, I would be up the stairs.

IB: Right.

SY: But she- they opened again about half five and she got all dressed up about then and her jewellery on to go down into the bar. She'd her bar and he'd his bar. It was the same, it was like a circle.

IB: Yes.

SY: It was like halfed.

IB: Yes.

SY: One half would be his and one would be hers.

IB: Mmhm, but was there a separate bit? Ye know, like for the men in the bar and...

SY: Uhuh, the men-

IB: The lounge?

SY: That's right. The men played darts. There's now a snooker table in it. I think it was just darts then, and there was a jug bar where people could come down with a jug and get beer in it.

IB: Oh right.

SY: But the kids got soft drinks and crisps, or, em, what did they have then? Nuts and raisins in little bags.

IB: So, where was the jug bar then?

SY: It was right at the front of the building, not there now, it's built up.

IB: Right.

SY: Eh, aye. And of course they got money for all the lemonade bottles they brought back.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: Aye, but it was called a jug bar, cause it was originally for the jugs of beer.

IB: Right, uhuh, ok. And obviously the men went and, as you said, they played darts and things-

0h 18m 05s

SY: Dominoes.

IB: -and were they busy, sort of during the week or-?

SY: Oh yes, because men went in there from their work before they went home.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: Especially when they got their pay.

IB: Right. But that would be at the end of the week possibly?

SY: Mmhm. Don't know how busy they were at the beginning of the week and there was no food served.

IB: No.

SY: In those days ye didn't have a meal in a pub, like they do now.

IB: So what about the lounge side?

SY: Well, there was badminton clubs and all sorts in the village hall and the people came over. So my granny got to know quite a lot of people in Dunbar through that.

IB: Mmhm. And was that- was that during the week or at weekends?

SY: Think it was during the week.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: Mmhm.

IB: And were the men and women always separate?

SY: Oh yes.

IB: Separated?

SY: Yep. Unless a couple came in. They would go to the ladies' to sit and have a quiet drink. Cause it'd be quite noisy, I think, with the men.

IB: Uhuh, well, yeah, cause there was smoking and...

SY: Uhuh, smoke [*gasp*]. Yeah, the walls were absolutely filthy with smoke... Oh yeah.

IB: Yeah. My goodness. Em, so then they left West Barns Inn and moved to...?

SY: Into Dunbar.

IB: Into Dunbar. So they kind of retired?

SY: They retired there. They were quite late in retiring – my granddad was well over seventy and my granny was nearly seventy.

IB: Right.

SY: And they had to retire because, eh, her walking, she'd had arthritis-

IB: Right.

SY: -and it wasn't good enough. There were stairs up to the house where they stayed above the pub.

IB: Oh right.

SY: And there was open stairs at the back, to get into it and it's still the same today.

IB: Right.

SY: Wooden stairs.

IB: Outside?

SY: Yes, outside. That's where they entered the- and the stairs were getting too much for her.

0h 20m 02s

IB: And was there a cellar under the pub?

SY: Yes, I don't remember ever being in it, but I know there was.

IB: Mmhm.

SY: For the barrels.

IB: And the deliveries- did ye ever see the deliveries being made?

SY: Yep, I saw the deliveries being made, just the barrels rolling down.

IB: Then they would go into the cellar?

SY: Yep, course ma granny and granddad knew a lot of people then. They got to know the people who worked in the brewery.

IB: Right.

SY: Cause it was all Belhaven beer they sold.

IB: Was it?

SY: Yep. Yep.

IB: And Belhaven was quite a small brewery then.

SY: It was then, absolutely was then. Em, but it's certainly grown.

IB: Mm.

SY: It was a family owned business.

IB: Uhuh?

SY: The brewery. I'm trying to think of the man's name who owned it. Sandy and Pat, and I can't remember their last name. It may come to me later. It may not.

IB: So, em, are there any other memories about the pub?

SY: No, not really. That was- that's it, that's my favourite one is finding the kittens. That was fabulous for a wee girl. I'd be about five at the time. Eh, oh yes and they didn't have a television. And if I wanted to see- one of my favourite programmes was on a Sunday afternoon, some children's programme, *Pinky and Perky*, I went wi this man who worked for them. I went to his house and he took me, and his wife and him sat with me and we watched this children's programme cause my granny and papa didn't have a television.

0h 22m 04s

IB: So, where did he live then?

SY: Just across the road.

IB: Across the road from...

SY: From West Barns. The pub.

IB: From the pub?

SY: Mmhm, and you went, you were told that was a nice person and ye went. Same wi he was going to show me something in a cupboard and it was completely innocent.

IB: Mmhm, you wouldn't [*laughter*]...

SY: You wouldn't do that now!

IB: Oh no.

SY: But it was all innocent fun.

IB: And ye watched *Pinky and Perky*?

SY: I did, and then he brought me back. Mum and dad must have been helping.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: So granny and granddad were definitely- it was getting too much for them-

IB: Yeah.

SY: -towards the end.

IB: So what kind of things would they be doing in the pub on a Sunday?

SY: Eh, cleaning, bottling up as they call it... Eh... Ma granny did have a cleaner. I don't know whether she cleaned the pub or her house. Probably both, knowing ma granny.

IB: Mmhm.

SY: Aye.

IB: So it was just sort of stocking up the bar and...

SY: Yeah. Yeah.

IB: And sort of general helping out.

SY: Mmhm.

IB: Did your mum ever work in the pub? When she was younger?

SY: Before a was born, but not after a was born.

IB: Right.

SY: I'll tell you what a do remember, across the road from the pub's – the building's not there now – was the Maltings.

IB: Uhuh?

SY: And of course, they knew everybody working in there and they used to get these great jars of malt. Foul black stuff. And I would be offered a spoonful of this and I hated it, I wouldn't take it, and everybody else got it in the village, in West Barns, but I wouldn't take it.

IB: Oh, and that came from the Maltings?

SY: It did, mmhm.

0h 24m 00s

IB: And was that Maltings associated with Belhaven, with the brewery? Do ye think?

SY: It must've been but a don't know. It must've been. It was knocked down, oh, when I was quite wee.

IB: So, a lot of the men that came into the pub, do ye think they worked...?

SY: Yes, and in the stables along the road at, eh, Boyd's Stables.

IB: The... It's a racing stables, isn't it?

SY: It was. It's recently shut. Yeah, the Boyd family – there's a girl left now but she's nothing to do with it. Eh, aye. So the jockeys came in.

IB: Oh, did they?

SY: They did and ma granddad was always very eager to get some tips, and would indeed bet.

IB: Did he get some good tips?

SY: I think so. He got plenty tips anyway. Aye. I remember a little man in the village who obviously stayed on at West Barns when he was too old to ride the horses and his nickname was 'Shrimp'. And he was a tiny little man.

IB: And were there many, em, like jockeys stayed there?

SY: Yes, stayed there, mmhm.

IB: They stayed at the stables?

SY: Mmhm.

IB: My goodness.

SY: Mmhm.

IB: And of course it was just-

SY: It was wonderful to see the horses. You used to see them every morning. I could see them from the school bus being ridden down to the beach and then when they galloped along the sand, it was fabulous.

IB: [*gasp*] Oh my goodness.

SY: Yeah. The traffic stopped for them to get across-

IB: Across.

SY: -from the stables down to the track road to the beach.

IB: And that was down at the beach at...?

SY: West Barns.

IB: At West Barns.

SY: Mmhm. No surfing in those days but it was where the surfers go now.

0h 26m 02s

IB: Right.

SY: The horses went down and exercised – very good for their legs, apparently.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: Running on sand. They'd a lot of big wins in that stable.

IB: Did they?

SY: Mmhm.

IB: Can you remember any of them?

SY: No.

IB: No [*laughter*].

SY: No. And strangely enough, when they moved to Gala Green two houses along was Norman Stirk. Him and his brother had come up from Thurston, Yorkshire to be jockeys here.

IB: Really?

SY: Mmhm, and Norman won a lot of money in India. He rode horses in India.

IB: My goodness.

SY: That's where he made his money to buy his house and then they bought a little shop when he was too old and his other brother never had as good rides as him.

IB: Right.

SY: So he left earlier and he bought a shop as well.

IB: So what kind of shop did he buy?

SY: He bought a little shop near the big school, the secondary school.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: A sort of general grocer's. And the shop where the children went in for their sweets and so on.

IB: Right, so...

SY: That was his business.

IB: He would do quite well?

SY: I think he did, aye, and Diane was his wife. She was a local girl. And they had three girls.

IB: Right.

SY: And his brother, Peter, opened a little, em... Well, grocer's in Dunbar, not a very traditional... Not like with the ham that you slice. Not a very traditional grocer's but it was a wee shop, and he married a local girl as well but they'd no children.

IB: Mm. So what do ye think made your granny and grandpa take the pub?

SY: I think they were just asked to do it.

IB: Right.

SY: And they thought it would be a good opportunity.

IB: Uhuh. And were they there a long time?

SY: Well, they were there from- through the war, until 1960s.

IB: Sixties.

SY: So they were there a long time.

IB: Long time.

SY: They missed it a lot when they retired.

IB: They did?

SY: Apparently they missed the company.

IB: Did your mum miss it?

SY: No, I don't think so.

IB: No. Right.

0h 28m 02s

SY: I think she only worked in it sometimes.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: I don't think she was regularly in it. My dad... Didn't like it, especially at New Year.

IB: Right.

SY: Because he said ye got in in the dark and came out in the dark and ye just worked hard all day, cause in those days the pubs were open on New Years day.

IB: Ah.

SY: On Christmas Day.

IB: Right, so he helped out?

SY: He did. I think that all stopped when a was born.

IB: Mmhm.

SY: Much more interesting to watch me. But he did help out.

IB: Good, mmhm.

SY: He enjoyed- he would enjoy talking to everybody.

IB: Yes.

SY: And keeping an eye on my granddad, who was inclined to have a little drink.

IB: Oh right.

SY: When he was working.

IB: *[laughter]* Well, it was there, wasn't it?

SY: It was there but ma granny didn't like that at all.

IB: Right.

SY: He shouldn't have been doing it.

IB: Right. But the war years must have been quite sort of hard for them, too, in the pub?

SY: Don't know much about that.

IB: I know, mm. It's interesting that it's still there and...

SY: Aye.

IB: The- it's not changed that much.

SY: It hasn't. It hasn't. It's all food now.

IB: Uhuh.

SY: Em, we always wonder how it is still going, I feel like, cause it is... There's a lot of new places opened in Dunbar, but there is a caravan site fairly near.

IB: Mmhm.

SY: So they mebbe get some trade from that.

IB: Holiday makers. Where's the caravan site?

SY: Belhaven.

IB: Towards the beach?

SY: Yeah.

IB: Right.

SY: Ye can't see it from the main road, they've planted a hedge, a great big hedge thing. Ye can't see it and there's a pond down there.

IB: Oh.

0h 30m 00s

SY: Just as ye come out of, eh...

IB: Yes.

SY: West Barns. Between West Barns and Belhaven.

IB: Mmhm, mmhm.

SY: Within walking distance of the beach, so it's popular with families.

IB: Yeah.

SY: Ma friend got a caravan there a couple of years ago. They loved it.

IB: Mmhm.

SY: For their grandchildren, cause it was near the beach.

IB: And it's quite handy for Dunbar, as well.

SY: Yeah.

IB: Mmhm, yeah. Ok, right.