

# Castle Markets Project – Oral History

## Transcription

### Interviewee Details

**Name:** Janet Parkinson

**ID Number:** CM\_010\_Parkinson

**Place of Birth:** Sheffield

**Year / Date of Birth:** 28/06/1957

### Interview Details

**Interviewer:** Anna Parkinson

**Date / Time:** 12/12/12 13:10

**Place:** Castle Market

**Audio File Nos:** CM\_010\_Parkinson

### Summary

Time	Description
0.22	First time coming to the market aged 6, coming up Dixon Lane.
0.50	Smell of the fish and not liking it, not liking coming to the fish market.
1.13	Liked looking at jewellery and pretty things, not food section
1.40	Photographs on the wall, blood on the butcher's apron and the animals
2.13	First time back in the market for at least 30 years – not many changes
3.11	Mum probably bought things from the food section
3.26	Occasionally came in with mum by bus from Shiregreen
4.03	Coming to market was something her mum liked to do once in a while.
5.10	Bought first watch at one of the market stalls on Dixon Lane.
5.58	In early twenties buying brocade for a friend making her a nightie.
6.30	Market is still familiar although much quieter. It is a different world to her now.
7.18	Was only young when she came to the market
7.32	Talking about looking at the photographs – they are familiar pictures.

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## Transcript

*Anna:* Right so if you could tell me your name please and your date of birth.

*Janet:* Yes, Janet Parkinson, in the Castle Market. My date of birth is the twenty eighth of June 1957.

*Anna:* Are you ready?

*Janet:* Yep. Hello!

*Anna:* Hello! Can you remember the first time you came to the market?

*Janet:* I think I was very small, I would be about six, and I think we probably came from Dixon Lane 'cause that name is very familiar to me and there were stalls there and then you could enter the market there. Yeah, I can remember it, well, fairly clearly. I think more than anything in my memory is the smell, the smells that I smelt when I walked in, the fish market really. The very strong smell of fish. And going round the fish market, which I didn't like at all, I didn't really like coming, it wasn't my favourite place to come.

*Anna:* Were there any bits of the market that you did like?

*Janet:* I quite liked looking at the stalls with the clothes and the pretty things, jewellery that sort of thing, but not so much the food side of it. I wasn't really happy when we went down to the basement where the fish market, I think, used to be.

*Anna:* What was it about the food part that you didn't like?

*Janet:* Well the photographs that you've got up there are very familiar to me and the picture that you have of the fish market with the butcher standing there in his apron covered in blood and fish and animals hanging around – I really didn't like it so that's what sticks in my mind.

*Anna:* I can understand that I don't think I'd have liked it either. So, I think, was today the first time you'd been back to the market?

*Janet:* For a long time, for many years. I'd say, probably, I think after I got to the age of about twenty I didn't visit the market, so - and I'm now fifty five so in a way I should say it's at least thirty years, maybe thirty five years, since I've been back here. I have to say, apart from a lot of the, um, the holdings being closed, as you go down, it's very very similar and not a lot has changed in the last thirty years, to me.

*Anna:* When you came to the market with your mum, was there anything in particular that she bought? What did you come, or what did your mum come to the market to buy?

*Janet:* I suppose she might have bought some fish! As we went round the fish market she probably did buy something from the food section – really it was a social event I think. We didn't come that often because we'd be coming by bus from Ecclesfield area really, Shiregreen, so we didn't come that often, but really she would come to have a look round more than anything, just to have a look at things. I don't think to buy anything in particular but I don't – you know, maybe presents but I'm not sure really. It wasn't somewhere that we came on a regular basis, certainly not me anyway. Just occasionally.

*Anna:* You said it was a social event

*Janet:* Yeah I think it was for my mother

*Anna:* Did she meet people who she knew?

*Janet:* She probably did, um, she might well have come with a neighbour sometimes – I'm saying a social – not so much social but something that she liked to do once in a while, not necessarily meeting up but just something that was part of her life maybe, you know.

*Anna:* Are there any other memories that you have of the market or anything else that springs to mind now that you're back here? Any funny little memories or incidents, anything that you feel like sharing?

*Janet:* I can't think of anything, nothing really springs back to me, except I know that I bought my first watch, the first watch that I had, but I don't think it was actually in the market I think it would be on Dixon Lane, there's a – I think those stalls are separate to actually in the building aren't they, Dixon market, Dixon Lane.

*Anna:* Yeah well I'm not sure if that's even there.

*Janet:* It probably isn't, but they were outside, I think it might be adjoining the Castle Market somehow because you can get from Dixon Lane to the Haymarket. So, I remember my first little watch, buying that from - as I say it must have been on Dixon Lane, it wasn't in here, so - I can't actually remember buying anything so much in here. Actually, coming back, coming back to me is when I was about early twenties I did come in here to get some – brocade from a stand. A friend was making me a nightie and I needed the brocade and I came in here to buy some. So I can remember doing that so I'd be about twenty two. So that is probably the last time I ever came. So it's thirty three years ago. So, yeah, that's the last time I came here. But it is all quite familiar, except there's not as much here and it's obviously it's getting ready to be knocked down isn't it, so yeah, which is quite sad really it's been here a long time, but – yeah.

*Anna:* It must be funny being back.

*Janet:* It is really, yeah it is a little bit, yeah. It seems like another world to me now, it is another world to me. It's quite nice.

*Anna:* Well I think, I think that's probably enough.

*Janet:* OK.

*Anna:* Thank you.

*Janet:* You're very welcome. I don't know if it's very, 'cause you've got to remember I was only quite young really wasn't I, I suppose, when I first came. But yeah, I certainly enjoyed looking at all your photographs, and a lot of them were very familiar to me and it was how I remembered it.

*Anna:* Thank you.

*Janet:* That's ok.