

Castle Markets Project - Oral History

Transcription

Interviewee Details

Name: Ron Gutteridge

ID Number: CM_014_Gutteridge

Place of Birth: Darnall, Sheffield.

Year / Date of Birth: 1940

Interview Details

Interviewer: Hannah Baxter

Date / Time: 14/12/2012 11.23

Place: Castle Market

Audio File Nos: CM_014_Gutteridge

Summary

Time	Description
0.19	Visiting markets in 40s and 50s with Mother
0.51	First time eating out
1.14	Being weighed at market in scales
1.43	Smells and sounds
2.30	Friendliness of people at market
2.54	First time eating out – as favourite memory
3.26	Visiting stalls regularly
3.57	Sadness at seeing market closing down
4.20	Feelings on market moving to the Moor. Hopefulness for new market
4.58	Visiting market with Mother and occasionally aunts and cousins.
5.23	Growing out of going shopping with Mother

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Hannah: Please could you state your name? Where you were born and the year you were born?

Ron: Okay. My name is Ron Gutteridge. I was born in Darnall, Sheffield in 1940.

Hannah: Please could you tell me some of your memories of the market as a child?

Ron: The memories I have as a child of Castle Market probably started in the mid-late 40s and continue through to the early 50s. Being brought here by my mother, walking round both Norfolk and the Castle and the Fish Market and the Rag and Tag. Shopping here, probably my Mum buying fish specifically and also meat. One thing that sticks in my mind is that it was probably the first place that we ever ate out, that is, not eating in house, buying a sandwich and actually sitting in a café, which I think there were quite a few in the Castle and Norfolk market. Rag and Tag – one thing I remember is being weighed on a, on some sort of contraption where somebody sat you in a seat, a small boy, and had individual weights so there was a counterbalance and eventually came up with the weight of the small boy or a small girl.

Hannah: Do you remember anything about smell or sound?

Ron: Smells and sounds. I think the first smell that comes to mind is the fish market. Walking around the fish market with fresh fish and lots of different fish sellers - not just a few but many. And probably the sounds were of people or stall holders, shouting out their wares, what bargains they have for that particular day, flower sellers, meat markets and I guess walking past meat markets, yes, you've got the smell of raw meat, of course.

Hannah: Do you have a favourite memory?

Ron: Favourite memory? I think probably favourite memories...always a lot of people there. People being friendly I guess, no pushing and shoving but if there was any there was always a sorry or an excuse me. And probably sitting down and eating a sandwich and having a mug of tea, something that I had never done before outside the house, it was something that was a new experience for me and so yeah that's something that sticks in my mind.

Hannah: Do you remember which café you went to?

Ron: I can't, no, I can't. There were two or three but I can't specifically remember any name.

Hannah: Are there any particular traders that you remember?

Ron: Not by name, no. As I said, I think we would tend to go to the same fish stall and the meat stall, I guess like anybody you have a favourite, because you know what you bought in the past has been a good quality, good price or you stick to somebody that you know.

Hannah: Coming into the market today, how do you feel about it?

Ron: Bit sad really. Because I can see that there are a lot of stalls that's now closing down and I know that traders are going to be moved to the so-called New Market at the bottom of the Moor and I am sure a lot of people like me will be sad to see it go.

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Hannah: What do you think about it moving to the Moor?

Ron: I don't shop here anymore so for me it's not a personal thing. It's always sad to see places closed down but, hopefully looking at it forward, and looking at it from a positive side, let's hope that people – the traders – will move, and become another home for them and hopefully a successful one businesswise.

Hannah: When you came, did you come on a particular day of the week? And did you come with just your Mum? Or was it your Mum and your Dad?

Ron: Never my Dad and it was market days. I can't recall which particular days were market day but we would only come on those days. Other days I think the market was closed anyway. But nobody else, just my mum, maybe a sister came, one of my aunts and maybe a cousin but primarily I just remember coming with my mother.

Hannah: Did you come as a teenager?

Ron: No, I can't recall coming as a teenager. I think maybe after 13 years old you didn't want to come out with your mum. So it was primarily, I guess, a young boy, maybe 4, 5, 6 years old through to early 50s which to me would have been about 11 years old.

Hannah: Thank you very much!

Ron: Okay, you're welcome.