

Castle Markets Project - Oral History

Interview Transcript

Interviewee Details

Name: Anne Crossland

ID Number: CM_050_Crossland,
CM_051_Crossland

Place of Birth: Unknown

Year / Date of Birth: Unknown

Interview Details

Interviewer: John Buston

Date / Time: 11/02/2013

Place: 143 Castle Market

Transcript

John: Hello I'm John Buston conducting a research survey at Castle Market's oral history. I'm speaking to?

Anne: Anne Crossland

John: Would you describe what the stall is and what it sells please?

Anne: It's a florist stall, we sell flowers. The main business is making to making floral tributes for funerals

John: Thank you

[Break in recording]

CM_051_Crossland

John: I'm sorry about that so Anne Crossland could you just re-speak again for the sake of this recording?

Anne: Yes

John: What the nature of the business is.

Anne: We're a florist shop dealing in fresh flowers. Our main source of business is tributes for funerals, floral tributes for funerals and weddings

0.24 *John:* How long has the stall been established in Castle market please?

Anne: Well the stall itself has been here since the Castle Market opened. But we took it over twenty-seven years ago.

John: And does the stall belong to yourself, your family or a company?

Anne: Myself and my husband.

John: You've taken it over for the past twenty-seven years?

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Anne: Yes

John: I suppose there have been quite a few changes in the running of the stall and the demands for products. Could you discuss that please?

Anne: Yeah well the products have all modernised. The way we used to make these before has totally changed now. They're done under a different principle altogether. The, the changes have been well basically the market's run down a lot. It's mainly older people that seem to be in these days, people who have always come here but because a lot of the terraced houses and things were knocked down we get much less trade now and young people don't tend to come in as much. We've also noticed that supermarkets and places like that are selling flowers cheaper than we can buy them for so the business has changed has changed, has changed a lot you know.

1.40 *John:* Thank you for that comment. So will you be moving to the new market?

Anne: No but we're, but we're retiring. We're over retirement age now so we're retiring.

John: Could you say a word to say what you've enjoyed about the work whilst you've been here?

Anne: Well I - the satisfaction. I mean I'm not a flower arranger or somebody who's mad on flowers but you get an intense satisfaction from making nice things, that you know people will appreciate for the funerals and also until recent years we've enjoyed the camaraderie with the other stalls you know. Unfortunately that seems to have gone now. We used to enjoy...

John: There's been a decline in the atmosphere has there?

Anne: Yes, most definitely, yes, yes.

John: So do you think the market's run down over the years?

Anne: Yeah, oh definitely yeah. Definitely. Not the same place at all. I mean we had a thriving business then; now we're struggling you know it's not good at all.

John: Well thank you for your comments.

Anne: It's quite all right