

# Castle Markets Project - Oral History

## Interview Transcription

### Interviewee Details

Name: Mrs Lyn Parker

ID Number: CM\_055\_Parker

Place of Birth

Year / Date of Birth

### Interview Details

Interviewer: John Buston

Date / Time:

Place: Castle Market

### Transcription

Time		
	John	Hello, my name's John Buston, I'm conducting this interview on behalf of the Castle Markets Project for Oral History. I'd like to ask you your name to begin with please?
	Lyn	Mrs Lyn Parker.
	John	Thank you, can you describe what this stall is and what it sells please?
	Lyn	We sell footwear, ladies, gents and children's footwear.
00:22	John	And how long has the stall been established in Castle Market?
	Lyn	We started downstairs 30 year ago, we came up here last March, March of last year.
	John	Have you noticed there's been an improvement demand for your product since you've been upstairs
	Lyn	There certainly has, yes.
00:36	John	That's a positive move in that case. Does the store belong to yourself or did you say it belongs to your family as well?
	Lyn	Yes Mr [?????]

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	John	Is he a member of a company.
	Lyn	He has shops in Huddersfield [?Morley?] and Sheffield.
	John	Right, so you're employed by him, is that it?
	Lyn	Yes.
1:00	John	Thank you. Whilst you have been running the stall what changes have you noticed within the market. Have you noticed over the years the general change in terms of the atmosphere or the demand for products or how many people visit the market, that sort of aspect?
	Lyn	Its not as lively as it was. Thirty year ago when we first started you wouldn't see floor space the [????] was absolutely packed but as the years have gone on obviously you know supermarkets have started to sell products that we sell you know and the big retail parks have opened up, Meadowhall affected us but you know hopefully, the custom that we are generating up here today is picking up, its getting better on a weekly basis so hopefully that will take that down to the new market and it should be a success hopefully.
01:44	John	So you are looking forward to moving to the new market in that case and that should increase the demand for your products as well. It will be a more lively environment from what you've said.
	Lyn	Yes we are. I do feel sad that we're moving off this site because a lot of the older customers especially, they like this market they don't like change, been coming here since they were children. But change has to happen and I think once the moves made and people have got established, hopefully people will bring the goodwill and come with them because that's what we need. The market can't make itself its down to the customers to come with us and the stallholders to try and generate you know, a good sales environment.
02:26	John	So the customers become used to this stall being in this particular area where they live, is it the geography of where they live being this part of Sheffield. Do you think they'd be willing to travel to the Moor? Would that be a problem for them?
	Lyn	The biggest problem is the buses come here and they have tried to promote that, they've got the 'free bee' bus going round the city centre. I mean on the whole the custom is to come with us when I ask people "shall you come down to the new market in November" and the majority of people are saying 'yes' so you know, hopefully that will follow through.

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03:04	John	Good, so I think that would really more or less conclude the conversation as. So what do you like about your work here, is it interacting with other people and developing and understanding of their needs in terms of footwear and generally conversing with them?
	Lyn	Yes, I really enjoy coming in in the morning, getting my stall set out, making it look as good as it can look and working with the customers and you know making their day at the end of it.
	John	Thank you for your assistance. Cheers.