

Castle Markets Project - Oral History

Interview Transcription

Interviewee Details

Name: Rita Fellows

ID Number: CM_064_Fellows

Place of Birth: Sheffield

Year / Date of Birth: 1942

Interview Details

Interviewer: Hannah Baxter

Date / Time:

Place: Castle Market

Transcription

Time		
	Hannah	If you could say your name and where you were born and when you were born?
	Rita	My name is Rita Fellows and I were born in Sheffield in 1942 which obviously was in the middle of the Second World War. As a little girl we used to come down to the markets at Sheffield, what we call the Rag and Tag and the Old Market Hall and in the Old Market Hall there were all the stalls that you find in the modern market hall which sadly they're pulling down. And one particular stall which was owned by Lockwoods was a florist and when it was my mother's birthday I used to go, I didn't have much money and the lady would carefully put me one red rose, tie it up with silver paper and put a little pin at the back, a safety pin at the back so my mother could wear it on her lapel as a little corsage.
00:58	Hannah	That's lovely, did you come in the markets with your mother when you were a child?
	Rita	Yes, yes I came in the markets, we came regularly because bear in mind a lot of Sheffield had been demolished. We lived out at, going towards Ecclesall and there weren't the shops that there are nowadays you know and everybody converged around the markets. You knew your market stall holders. You knew they'd be there next week and they wouldn't sell you a pair of tights with three legs and disappear

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		overnight which, you know things like that can happen. And yes, I've very fond memories of the market. I hope the new market takes off but it'll never ever have the, it will never have the atmosphere that the old markets have because its something that you've grown up with.
01:51	Hannah	So have you always kept coming throughout your life?
	Rita	No when I was working I lived at the west side of town and so when I was working I worked down the Moor so you tended to do your shopping there or on your way home and I didn't come down to the markets very often, Perhaps come once a fortnight something like that but since I've retired and just recently I've been coming down more often to see what's happening because over the last 5 years its supposed to be moving and its still here. And it nice to see, well I'm pleased to hear that some of the traders that are here can continue and go into the new market.
02:29	Hannah	What sort of things do you buy when you come?
	Rita	I used to buy quite a lot of haberdashery, you know your knitting wools, bits and bobs, other than that its my fruit and veg or my fish and a look round and like just now I've just had a nice coffee and a sandwich and that will save me time when I get home. And its always been like the market's a multi-purpose place. You can do more or less all that you want to do within a small area.
03:00	Hannah	So when you go for your cup of tea do you go to the same cafe every time?
	Rita	No because often I'm late, like today with buses so its a matter, they're all equally good cafes I think and its a matter of which one's still open or because they're popular sometimes you'll get there and find that they've sold out and they've only got pastries left, you know.
	Hannah	Thank you, that's lovely.
	Rita	Thank you very much. I enjoyed that.