

Winslow Oral History Project

Interview Summary.

Interviewee	Diana Kemp	Sex	Female
DOB	Oct 1935	Place of Birth	Winslow
Father's name		Mother's name	Doris Fulks
Father's dob		Mother's dob	1899
Father's occupation		Mother's occupation	
Interviewer	Sue Stainthorpe		
No of files (tracks)	5	Copyright clearance	Y
Abstract	<p>Diana talks about her parents' families and their grocery and drapery businesses. Describes her memories of growing up during WW2, schools, early working life. Recalls memories of attending Congregational Church. Talks about current activities – WI, Winslow Croquet Club, Winslow Ramblers.</p> <p>Diana describes attending Congregational Church and the different activities and pageants they held. Talks about local celebrations and leisure activities. Describes her connection to farming from childhood through to her farming days in Granborough with her husband Tom. Describes in detail aspects of farming and reasons for giving up farming eventually.</p>		
Keywords	<p>Congregational Church, Station Road, WI, Winslow Croquet Club, Winslow Ramblers, Winslow Church Pageant, Sunday school, Winslow Show, Allways Garage, The Angel, The Royal Oak, Redfield, Winslow Hall, Box Cottage, Winslow Motor Works, Allways Garage, Magpie Farm, Rookery Farm,</p>		
Key names	<p>Dr Leapingwell, Illing, Fulks, Dr Kennish, Mr Gee, Mr Woodman, Phillips, Woodman, Turnham, Tom Kemp, Mr Turney, Molly Bean, Salden, Granborough, Roddimore</p>		
File number and play point			
009 17 May 2011	<p>Born in Winslow, 33 Station Road. Lived in Winslow 24 years. Moved to Granborough on marriage. Parents also born Winslow.</p>		
	<p>Maiden name was Illing. Grandfather, Alfred Ebenezer, had four sons, who each had 2 children, cousins grew up in Winslow together.</p>		
	<p>Mother was member of Fulks family. Diana's great-grandfather Fulks started a drapery shop on corner of High St where Cappel's is nowadays. He began with boots and bicycles, then bought The Angel, which became ladies' shop, and then Royal Oak, which became furniture shop. Diana remembers her mother saying that when she was a child they employed 9 milliners in the shop.</p>		
01.30	<p>Both shops offered a delivery service and employed men to deliver to outlying farms and villages. Orders were packed and delivered on Thursdays and Fridays.</p>		
02.06	<p>Illings Grocery business had a storehouse opposite shop, and, when young, Diana's father's job was to turn the cheese to ripen it. Shop sold block butter and Diana remembers the bins behind counter where her grandfather used to weigh out loose tea, dried fruit etc into blue bags tied up with string.</p>		

02.52	Both families attended Congregational Church, and each family had their own pew. Diana describes how cold it was in the winter. During the war the congregation was swelled by RAF personnel stationed at Winslow Hall and at Redfield and also Land Army hostel near Chapel at Dr Kennish's.
010 17 May 2011	Describes childhood during WW2 when the family lived in Station Road. She remembers soldiers driving tanks along to load onto railway. Mother gave soldiers a meal and always managed to stretch the food ration.
00.52	Also remembers personnel who worked at Bletchley Park lodging in Winslow. They were known as the "boffins", but no-one knew what sort of work they did there.
01.21	Recalls Mr Gee's house near Roddimore being demolished and an aerodrome being built. Describes how when planes took off they flew straight along Station Road and shook windows in the house.
01.55	Started school at Miss Collier's in Station Road. When this closed she went to Winslow School for a year, then to Brackley for a short time, and eventually to St Christopher's School in Aylesbury where she was very happy.
02.30	On leaving school, worked for a firm of accountants, then for four years in the Council Offices, where she worked in the Treasury. However, her uncle, who was a bachelor, had a stroke and Diana was asked to join the family drapery business. She met her husband here when he came in to buy his working clothes
011 17 May 2011	Talks about Mr Alder? who was traveller and had samples of material. Drapery shop usually bought half rolls of material so Winslow residents wouldn't be wearing same thing!
	Diana's uncle's best friend was Mr Bernard Woodman, who also had drapery shop. They were great friends and not long after Diana's uncle died so did Mr Woodman.
	Mr Woodman's shop was situated where the Co-op is today. Diana's uncle's business was larger as he sold furniture as well, and would also lay linoleum.
012 17 May 2011	Talks about the WI, its origins and how it continues to the present day.
02.20	Diana talks about sporting activities in Winslow. The tennis club was originally in Tennis Lane, laid by the McCorquodale family, and Diana's mother played here. Diana also played until the 1970s.
03.17	Started Winslow Croquet Club in 1988 and has been playing ever since. Small club which is part of the Southern League. Uncle played for cricket club and football club when young.
04.00	Active member of Winslow Ramblers since it began in 1972. Many footpaths had fallen into disuse after war. Talks about Mr Lowery as founder member. Many footbridges washed away in thaw after bad winter of 1947 and recalls an incident where they were trying to put back the footbridge between Winslow and Granborough which was filmed by local TV.
013 17 May 2011	Talks about her father being a despatch rider in France in WW1. After war he went into partnership with brother on farm in Salden? for 10 years before moving back to Winslow. He then bought Winslow Motor Works at top of Station Road with Mr Cox as his partner. He ran this

	garage, which he called "Allways" during WW2. Diana recalls him telling her an anecdote about Dr Leapingwell. Her father retired through ill health, but became a Special Constable during the war. He was also able to turn metal and made various spare parts for farm machinery which could not be bought during the war.
014 31 May 2011	Talks about attending Congregational Church until it closed in 1972 when the United Reformed Church formed. Remembers Revs Quarterman, Cook or Ellis Gifford? Both sides of family went to this church and had their own seats - Phillips, Woodman, Illing, Turnham and Fulks. Taught at Sunday School until 1972 and remembers different activities. One such activity was a production of the pilgrims going out on the Mayflower. This was held in Box Cottage garden (Diana's mother's childhood home) Diana has photographs of this. During the war the schoolroom was turned into a canteen for the airmen based at Winslow Hall and at Redfield and Diana remembers her mother serving there once a week.
015 31 May 2011	Recollects Winslow Church Pageant of the Prayer Book held in c1970 and describes how this was acted out by large cast of children. Son took part in this pageant.
016 31 May 2011	Describes how cold the church was in the winter, and the games she and her brother and cousins played to amuse themselves. The children went out to Sunday School before the sermon.
017 31 May 2011	When she was a small child she says the fire engine was kept to the left of Illing's shop. This building became Winslow Library after a new fire station was built in the High Street.
018 31 May 2011	Talks about local celebrations, e.g. Flower Show Day, which grew into Bank Holiday Winslow Show. Describes present day Granborough Show, and remembers her father talking about enjoying the show when he was young. Describes games they played. Other activities were Brownies and Guides. The family didn't have a car during the war, but used to be taken on the train to Oxford to Boxing Day pantomime, also occasionally to Bletchley for shopping. Describes how it was an event to go to Aylesbury on bus. When she started work bus fare was 1/1d return.
019 31 May 2011	Talks about her connection to farming. Father spent 10 years farming at Salden, then moved back to Winslow and went into business with Alfred Cox at Winslow Motor Works, later Allways Garage. Uncle had Magpie Farm and sold milk in Winslow. Describes Gerald, the cowman with horse and cart bringing bucket to door with half pint and pint measures. Gerald was later killed by her uncle's bull. Describes changes after advent of pasteurisation. Diana married her husband Tom Kemp in 1960 and became farmer's wife. Tom and his father and brother had Rookery Farm, Granborough. Describes rotation of crops on mixed farm. Also kept pigs, chickens and sheep. 70-80 acres arable. 40 milking cows plus calves from previous year. Sold 6-12 sheep per week at Tring market. Initially milk sent in churns collected by Mr Turney. Later tanker collections. Describes changes after pasteurisation, i.e. sterilisation and refrigerated tanks. Tankers got bigger. Could not compete with Tesco supermarket and in 1999 they were put out of business. Describes their emotions when the last tanker left the farm. Gave up keeping sheep as wool was worth very little. Husband died and nephew took over farm with Diana's son as

	sleeping partner. Now mainly arable, he rears about 12 steers, and does some landscape gardening.
020	Describes going to Mr Turnham's sweet shop when she was young
021	Describes Mr Turnham as a "bit of a character" who used to attend Congregational Church where he had front seat and used to beat time to hymns. Relation of Molly Bean? Wrote book of poems on Winslow