

## KINGSLAND ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Interviewer: Jackie Markham

Interviewee: Marjorie Shatke

Age: 87

DOB: 5.01.1931

Date of interview: 11.11.18 and 2.2.19

### SUMMARY PARAGRAPH:

Marge was born on 5th January 1931 and first lived in Lugg Green Road. Since the age of three she has lived in Ryecroft, a house built on land belonging to The Corners Inn. Her mother, Bertha Mitchell with her husband owned The Corners Inn and ran the pub, slaughterhouse and butchers shop from the premises. Marge's father, Harry Williams came from the direction of New Radnor and worked at Kingsland Station. Mr and Mrs Mitchell's other children were Tom, who took over the butcher's shop, moving to Park House to live and run the business; Charlie who took over the pub but in time sold it to his sister Minnie and her husband Reg Lewis; and Gladys, Rose, Alice and Marjorie.

Marge's mother died at quite a young age and Marge then ran the home for her father as well as for her husband Werner Schatke, who was a German prisoner of war held at Presteigne. She married in 1953 and had two children, Helen and Robert. Marge left Kingsland School aged 13 and after helping with the school dinners went to work in the office at Kingsland Sawmills. Later she worked at Croftmead for Mrs. Nicholson and then for George and Margaret Nicholson and their daughter Holly.

The conversation includes memories of the Corners Inn, the butcher, buying groceries, Kingsland school, her house and carrying water from The Corners Inn, playing by the River Lugg, leaving school at 13 and later working at Kingsland Sawmills, the Kingsland Sawmills business, marriage to Werner and driving to East Germany to see his family and the cars they owned, laying a sewerage system in the village, fetes on the Glebe land, hop picking at Street Farm and the big fire at Croftmead.

### TIME CODED SUMMARY

TIME CODE	CONTENT
00.00	Where born and moving to Ryecroft at the age of 3. Description of moving and grandparents. Family and The Corners pub with butcher's shop description. Where groceries bought – Gladys and the milk; Black Hall and the Village Shop. Getting bananas for her birthday.
04.08	The path by the bakery and the warm wall. Going to Kingsland School. Evacuees at school and where they lived. One still living in Hereford
05.40	No water at Ryecroft; carrying it from The Corners. No bathroom and the outside toilet. House extension in the 1960s with bathroom and water.
06.55	Playing in the village; Pinsley river [Brook]; meeting her husband at the River Lugg at [The Day House]. Swimming like being at the seaside. Husband a prisoner of war at Presteigne. His employment at Bengry's Shirlheath; description of him living with Mrs Bengry at Shirlheath. [for 8 years]
09.16	Leaving Kingsland school at 13; helping at school with dinners then working at Kingsland sawmills as an office girl. Description of little education but doing taxes and paying money out by the end.
10.50	Kingsland Sawmills description; cutting trees; making coffin boards; the crane breaking. Kingsland railway and her father working there as signalman. Description of taking him his lunch. Buying chocolate for 1 penny
12.30	Buying sweets from Mrs Kelly. Her place became a hairdressers. Description of staring through the Post Office window.
14.42	Getting married in Kingsland Church and description of driving to Germany through Belgium and getting stopped on the way because Just Married on back of the car.

16.03	Travelling extensively with her husband. Son in Australia so frequent visits; travelling around Europe in their car. Still goes to Wales/Llandudno.
18.11	Talking about now and then; description of their cars. First red car and then Morris with a hood. Description of travelling with it. Taking children to Germany in a VW. Description of going to East Germany with their children and getting through the border. How poor it was,
20.15	Visiting her husband's relations in East Germany. Her husband working for Bengry's for 21 years then Cadbury's.
21.37	Ordering groceries from the Village shop and Grocery order books. Description of doing an order. Mother dying at 49; father living with them when married.
23.15	Laying the sewer in the village. Description of her cousin's son falling into the old open drain on a walk to Nan Roland Jones at Poplar Cottage. Description of photographs she has of friends and relations in Germany.
26.03	Where events happened before the Coronation Hall had land. Description of the fete on Glebe land. People dressing up. Going up the alley by Gaynor's to get onto the land. Description of John having cattle on the greens and them going through the village.
28.21	Interview Part 2 - Hop picking at Mr Pudge's Street Farm. Going on Mr Markham's bus. Picking hops to earn money to buy winter coats. She and her sister buying their coats in Leominster.
29.41	The fire at Croftmead. The tennis courts and club house being on Mrs Nicholson's land at Croftmead. Description of Mrs Nicholson and going out to lunch. Description of Mr Markham taking them in his car.
30.58	Marge working for Mrs Nicholson then looking after Croftmead for many years after the death of Mrs Nicholson.
END	