



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

2011 ESRC FESTIVAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

TIMESCAPES

Family Lives Over Time

*Discovering Family Archives and
Recording Family Histories*

VISITOR MEMORY BOARD RESPONSES



- 1) Working in an office, getting married & having children.
at 35 Happily married sadly without children. a Bookkeeper
- 2) Family weddings and sadly funerals are occasions when families get together & swap stories. A Sunday school prize book belonging to my grandfather I was given when I was 50 which started my interest in Family history.
- 3) I had one sister who has sadly died. We had a lovely childhood she married and lived in Scotland she had four children and left me with lovely nieces & nephews
- 4) Being an Aunt & I can see my sister did a good job producing good helpful children.

(5)

I have 10 brothers & sisters, 4 full brothers and sisters and 6 half. It saddens me to say that I haven't formed strong bonds with any of them. It was very much a 'Everyone for themselves' mentality growing up as there were just so many of us.

I'm very different from my siblings which may account for our distant relationship - of course I love them all, but I prefer to do my own thing.

As children I was always the games master and created an unnumber of games to play, including the black ones. Having so many brothers and sisters in some ways was great as there was never a shortage of 'playmates'!

Although I have to say, I do prefer cats!

A significant event which shaped my belief system was being present at the death of my mother. It was a privilege which I'd been trying to avoid previously. However experiencing the deep sense of calm and peace following the release of the spirit from the body was life affirming. The physical body remained as a shell since the "being" of my mother was no longer present. The subsequent events of the day flowed gently from that moment. Her death left a space in my life but was a great gift.

Rugby League

(Watkins)

Harrogate under 14s v. Bradford under 14s
at TARAM HALL, HARIFAX (kids!)

I played a run-half. Foolishly, kicked
the ball, from a scrum, right into Fullback's
hands. Fullback? JIM SULLIVAN
of Wigan + S.B. - ever famous, ever-honoured.
Our Fullback: ERNEST WATTS, of Bradford (they)
I'm forward to follow up my kick. Jim
stood, holding the ball AND WENT DOWN TO
MY TACKLE! Wow. Crowd of 12,000 watching

captain - Miller prior to 63 Cup-tie.

In the late 50s when I was starting work, where your life would take you in 10 yrs wasn't really thought about. You were happy to have work and earn money.

Being a member of a church or chapel was the norm and it was from this connection that children derive a lot of their entertainment. Everyone was involved in a project because there was much more to chapel life than services on Sundays.

My brothers + Sisters fought like
cats and dogs but we also loved
each other and looked out for each
other at school. My memories of those
times and playing together especially
in the garden and the games we made
up using our imagination will always
be very very very special.

I was once present when my mother aged 83 yrs. was being interviewed by a person from the social security department. She was wheeled into the room in a wheelchair as she was ^{physically} frail at that stage of her life. There were 4 people present in the room. The interviewer was speaking rather kindly and her manner was patronising towards my mother. I was sitting at a distance and in a position where I could observe the procedure. Mother spoke clearly and calmly ignoring the manner and tone of the interviewer. From the position of observer I recognised that I knew very little of the dignified woman whom I had related to as 'my mother'. It opened up a world of mother as person in her own right I'd not experienced until that moment.

Becoming a grandparent
makes me feel grounded
and has sort of cemented
my position within our
family and its generations
as I experience what my mother
and father experienced with my child!

My family

tree by

Lily Pass X

not related



FIRST GENERAL ELECTION AFTER WW2

Winston Churchill (later, Sir) speaking
at election hustings at BML (then
Hullfax from an I. W. Holdsworth
flat-trailer platform: loud & clear
(into a mike). I was 15 yrs old, still
at grammar school. (Winston
lost the election to Gen Attlee.)

I'm an only child and have always wondered what having brothers and sisters would be like. I'm used to being on my own or with my mum as my parents divorced. At one point ~~when~~ when I was younger I wanted a younger sibling but ~~the~~ now I'm not sure, I think it would be nice to have someone in my family to talk to other than my mum and grandparents as my sibling would go through the same experiences with a very similar point of view to me.

Lily Pears

Age 12