

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM

Date of Interview	24 August 2024
Location of Interview	Private Address, Ilfracombe
Name of Interviewee	Ann Thomas
Name of Interviewer	Abi Obene
Length of Interview	00:43:42
File format, storage format	WAV

Tags:

Wales; Merchant Navy; Ilfracombe Town Football Club; Discrimination

Interviewee's wishes regarding interview use:

None

Interviewer's notes / any issues with recording:

None

Linked objects / photographs:

A variety of photographs provided

Key Themes and topics covered in interview:	Timestamp on recording
Her father's difficult childhood and youth in Wales, Going to sea to support mother	[00:00:20]
Her father is sent to borstal - an opportunity to learn about	[00:07:31]

Telling Our Stories Finding Our Roots

seafaring	
Her father's parents: Life with his mother after his father went back to the US, Her father started playing football in the streets as a child	[00:10:48]
Her father came to Ilfracombe after being asked to play for the football club, Met her mother at Christmas	[00:18:11]
Her parents marry, Causes a split in the family	[00:20:31]
Ann's childhood in Ilfracombe, Feeling different, Attitudes of local people	[00:23:20]
Her father joins Merchant Navy during the war, One of the only survivors when boat bombed	[00:25:57]
Her father worked on bringing electricity into the area	[00:30:54]
Her father's football career, Being well-liked and supportive of others, Facing discrimination and the impact on his career progression	[00:33:50]
Her father's stories about life at sea	[00:40:12]

Interview Highlights:

Football || Discrimination against parents marriage (in Ilfracombe) || Discrimination she faced as a child || Father joining the Merchant Navy in WWII [00:18:06 - 00:30:54]

Ann's father and how he got on with people || Being a good footballer [00:33:40 - 00:38:15]