

## ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM

<b>Date of Interview</b>	3 June 2024
<b>Location of Interview</b>	The Ilfracombe Centre, Ilfracombe, Devon
<b>Name of Interviewee</b>	Shajeev Wanigasekara
<b>Name of Interviewer</b>	Sharyn Hedge, Mark Langworthy, Abi Obene
<b>Length of Interview</b>	01:11:28
<b>File format, storage format</b>	WAV 44.1/16 XY STEREO

**Tags:**

Sri Lanka; St Thomas' College Colombo; Cricket; Colonial hangover; Identity; King's College London; Law; HSBC; Hong Kong; Belonging; Ilfracombe; Magistrate; Corporate trainer

**Interviewee's wishes regarding interview use:**

Transcript to be approved by the Judicial Office.

Note: a number of redactions have been made to the original recording at the request of the interviewee. The timestamps in the *Key Themes and Highlights* sections of this Form and on the full transcript may vary slightly to those on the redacted recording.

**Interviewer's notes / any issues with recording:**

Slight noises/echo at start due to door being open, Closed at around 00:01:05.  
Handful of instances of noises from the corridor throughout the interview (eg 00:37:25 - 00:37:33, 01:08:00 - 01:08:360. Some minor feedback, coughing, paper shuffling and periodic scratching - note taking - sounds in the background of the interview.

**Linked objects / photographs:**

No objects in particular - deliberately wore his flip flops and shorts to the interview however! "A very Sri Lanka style of dress", as he said.

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## Key Themes and topics covered in interview

Theme / topic		Timecode on recording	
Start: Schooling and Childhood. British and Colonial Influence. (One of / the longest running consecutive annual cricket match in the world).		00:01:05	
University Life.	Travel, Finance, work with HSBC. Not practicing law. First mention of Hong Kong ("least belonging place").	00:09:00	00:13:30
Schooling and Religion (again). "Gift of the gab".	The Bar, clubs, HSBC structure (similarities with the military while still being a free spirit).	00:18:00	00:26:40
Several school friends were on officer course to join the military.	Self doubts and his current role.	00:32:40	00:35:00
More on travel as a child. New York, Europe, Britain - London.	"Where is home?"	00:36:50	00:39:00 / 00:39:40
Hong Kong, feeling isolated. Like a second class citizen.	Discussing identity as a global aspect.	00:43:20	00:50:30
Being (and becoming) a Magistrate.	FLAGGED FOR REMOVAL. (Questions regarding magistrate role became to specific.)	00:53:50	01:00:20 - 01:01:00
Married in 2015. Came back to the UK.	Ilfracombe. Britain in the 90s felt less divided.	01:01:00	01:02:00
Day of Brexit Vote. An uncomfortable encounter - one of the only ones he can remember.	Proudest Moments.	01:05:07	01:07:00

### Interview Highlights:

Childhood || Early Schooling || Coming to London for University || Loving the UK || Cricket!

**[00:00:58 - 00:10:51]**

Cricket in Ilfracombe || Confidence || Trying to take care of oneself || Visiting Europe as a child || Identity **[00:33:25 - 00:41.10]**

Rarely/allmost never experienced discrimination her || Proudest achievements **[01:02:34 - 01:06:55 and 01.07.15 - 01.08.06]**