I So I’m interviewing Ben on the 30th September, and I think you probably know a little bit about the research already, you’ve been working with Eric and Dave for a while, but just to give you a brief background, it’s about online community engagement, particularly looking at retired people and we’re looking for a really broad spectrum of different experiences so it’s great to be able to interview you who maybe has much more online activity than many of the people that we’ve spoken to. So, yes, it’s a semi-structured interview, essentially talking points, but if we jump around a bit that’s fine. The first thing that I wanted to ask was if you could walk me through yesterday? So, we want something that’s approaching a typical day and if you could just talk me through everything. And if that’s not yesterday, if yesterday was unusual pick another day.

P So, are you talking about in terms of using the internet and stuff like that?

I So, we’re interested in offline and online, so it would be including internet usage, but it might also include anyone that you’ve spoken to our any events that you’re involved in or…

P Right, well yesterday was a sort of… an offline day, with going out in the morning, taking stuff by car to the dump, garden rubbish and then my daughters partner said, did I know there was a chilli festival on in Southease, which I didn’t, so we decided to go to that, which was a bit of a waste of time unless you were 1) a young family with children, everyone had gone to eat or drink and like extremely hot chilli’s! Because I mean I queued up at one thing to taste some stuff and I tried one and that was okay and there was another one and I tried it, well it was no point me tasting anything after that because it took two hours for my mouth to calm down to some level. It was basically stuffed with people in their thirties with youngish children and who’d all gone to eat stuff so I didn’t learn a lot about… because they have other things there, so if you like that was, but you know we weren’t sure when it was on. My wife looked it up on the net and there it was and it was obviously very well publicised because it was absolutely… and people were coming off the train from Lewes, driving in their cars, it was like, we’ve now got to make ourselves a note, ‘don’t go again’. So, partly because it was just not our thing really. I mean I don’t mind when… other times they’ve had people selling plants and you could talk to them about it, but it was all a bit chaotic. Anyway, remember that in your diaries for next year. So if you like, it was… but any day of the week, literally any day of the week, I mean one of the funny things about being retired is that you have to remind yourself that Sunday could be a work day, Monday could be a non-work day, I mean both of us, both myself and my wife are just busy. I mean I stopped working whenever it was, five years ago and I was teaching, I was teaching I.T. at the time so I gave that up, I was working up at the local prison, a good reason to give it up really, but I think we both say the same things. We’re now so busy we wondered how we ever had time to go to work. Now some peoples idea of retirement is just sitting around reading newspapers and saying, ‘I’m really bored’, I can’t understand how that happens, because I’m a trustee of this centre so obviously that’s one involvement like the lady in reception wanted, I’m doing their website there’s several emails that have come in, she’s sent them to me, I’ve now got to sort that out. So, I’m committed to that, there’s a film society that takes up a lot of time, this group takes up a lot of time, so if I’m ever asked to do anything else the answer now is… there’s a training association and I was on a stand and they said, ‘ooo would you be interested?’ and I said, ‘sorry, I’ve literally got so much to do and I’m not doing all of the things that I said I would do in my retirement, I’m doing all of these other… they tend to be I.T. related I suppose because that’s my expertise…

I Yeah, okay. That’s good and we’re kind of moving onto this area anyway, but the next thing to talk about was different kinds of community engagement. So, to start off with, just to ask, what does community mean to you?

P Well, what it means is like this place, it’s… to me there’s been a lot more… what we like living in Newhaven is because there is a community and I mean alright, it’s our community, the people that we know but having got involved with the community centre there is this, it’s not just a lot of faceless people, I mean I walk round Newhaven, I don’t think I can ever walk round without meeting somebody… now when I lived in Brighton I never got that. So that’s what I would say, community is about the people and where you live and however you communicate with them, whether it’s on or off line or whatever. I would say that it’s a lot to do with the place. We’ve moved around a lot and some of the experiences of… this is the most community based place I’ve known. In answer to that.

I That’s good. Erm, so, you have already mentioned things in this area, but locally, do you ever have conversations with people that you don’t know very well.

P Well I suppose, yes. I mean I still would. You meet new people. I suppose some of that is through things that I already belong to, but like, you know, Saturday I had a chat to a bloke because they’re trying to make the market in Newhaven a more happening thing because it was just two stalls and now there’s some money come from somewhere I don’t know if this Mary Porter’s thing, or they’ve got some money from somewhere so they’ve now got big banners and stuff. Anyway, there was a guy there selling chilli oil so I went to buy stuff off him, so chilli does come up! And he started chatting, I think maybe he was just bored, maybe he’d been on this stand all day. So we had a long chat about the area and the place and is he going to be back for Christmas, which he said he was, so you know, I’d never met him before but it was just talking about all sorts of things. I suppose most of the people I talk to do tend to be people I know, somewhere down the line, but I very rarely go out without walking into somebody. It’s small enough that… but I have lived in a village. I lived in Ditchling for five years, but that was a completely different experience where it didn’t work. I mean you would meet people and say hello to people but it was very snooty. Newhaven’s great because people seem to take you on your… they don’t… there’s no airs and graces about the place, you know. It’s very working class really and then there’s this artists community of people like myself kind of people like teachers and other artists, you know people who’ve… but kind of like more middle class what you would call middle class people who’ve moved into the area, partly for the cheap housing. It is the cheapest place in the south coast I think, so it’s got that advantage. But it brings together all sorts of people like you’ve brought the people you’ve met, so I didn’t know any of these people until I started doing this and it’s nice to see them once a month in a class.

I Yeah. Okay and do you think your experience of community has, do you think community has changed over the course of your lifetime?

P Erm, well I think the thing is that community in the past I think I would have only have seen it as neighbours friends. I don’t think when I was younger that I understood what community meant and I’m talking about and I’m talking about sixties, seventies. Then when I was at college it was that community and then when I went to work it would be home life and… do you know what I mean? Community? I suppose depending on where one lived there was a sort of… you do get to know people and get involved in local things, yes, as community changed. Not a lot really. All I’m trying to say is that, here, in Newhaven there’s a distinct community which I feel I’ve finally found somewhere I really like and want to be, because there is a thriving community and a lot of it is to do with this place. I mean if this wasn’t here I think it would be deader than… it’s not the most lively town for all sorts of reasons, but this community centre’s, I think is the heart of the place which is where I… why we got involved.

I Okay. That’s great. Right, now thinking about your social relationships, so more about the really important relationships in your life and who would you say are the most important people in your life at the moment?

P Well, family, wife, son, daughter and my daughter’s got a partner with a child, so we’ve got a grandchild. So, yes, those obviously are at the top of the list and following that would be friends and then it goes on to other, further away friends.

I And what is it about those relationships that make them so important?

P That’s a hard question. I don’t know. Well, I don’t know if I actually think about it. I just know that it’s important to have, personally to have a family and to have I don’t know, you always need people around you, you always need to have, but I think that’s maybe more important to me because I was an only child so I never had any brothers and sisters and I don’t have any other relatives so if you like one of the things that… those are my, that is who I have around me and the same for my wife, you know, her parents have gone now. I mean I’ve got cousins, I’ve got those kind of relatives, but either you tend not to see them, so the importance of… but yeah, family is very important really. I’d hate to not have all that.

I And is it very important to be in regular contact and keeping in touch with those people?

P Yeah, I think so and well, with my daughter anyway, quite often I take turns to pick my grandson up from school so we have this weekly contact but then we may talk to them on the phone and sometimes we get sent emails. Do you know what I mean? There’s other forms of communication that we may resort to.

I So do they live nearby?

P Lewes.

I Lewes. Right, okay.

P My son lives in Brighton. Hove, should I say. So, you know, they’re local, we don’t need to do anything more complicated than talk to them or text them.

I Now, if you wanted to make some new friends, what would you do?

P The only way I’ve ever found to find new friends is you’ve got to join something.

I Okay.

P You couldn’t walk down the street necessarily, but if you, whenever I’ve moved anywhere I always get involved with something like this place or a society or go to a class or a political party, whatever. We did have those sort of involvements when we were in London, but gave them up partly because, well we’d done that. You know, it’s that kind of, people say well I don’t know anyone, I just say, well what do you do then, you can’t expect people to come up to you, but if you join a class say, or whether it’s going to a yoga class or something you’ll get to know people and by being involved you can then make new friends. We’ve made lots of new friends by being involved with things.

I So you think it’s important to have shared interests or shared involvement in some kind of cause to build up relationships?

P Yeah, it could be a cause or just a shared interest. You know, if people do art or something like that or whatever really, yes, well it gives you a starting point. If not, it’s a case of, where do you start, you know. I mean we, somebody invited us to their wedding party about a week ago and it was very nice to be invited to that but when we got there we realised that we didn’t know anyone and yes, we did talk to some people, but it was just casual conversation to give us something to do, not, this wasn’t going to lead anywhere, because it was a one off, one night thing. These people had obviously come to this thing… like all weddings, so a bit like whenever you go to parties. You might meet somebody and it might lead to, you might exchange some numbers or email addresses but I don’t say that I go out of my way when I go to any social interaction that I’m there trying to get new friends, you know.

I Okay and moving now to thinking more about technology it’s kind of come up a few times but focusing more on that side of things now. What technologies do you use to keep in touch with other people? So, right from telephone, to mobile, to other online computer based…

P Well, it would be normal telephone, it would be mobile, obviously with computers it’s going to be email and Facebook. Email and Facebook are the two main ones. Otherwise, just the usual, same sort of things. Verbal or online communication I suppose are the two ways to sum it up.

I Okay. Do you use anything like Skype?

P I don’t, no. Mainly because… I’ve used it once this year, because I don’t have any relatives far enough away. Anyway, I had a cousin who managed to get back in… find us through ancestry who was my mothers, brothers, daughter. There’s a long story behind there and I managed to find it. Anyway, she lives up near Birmingham somewhere and her daughter did Skype, well in fact they had an i-pad, so we did face time, same thing, so we had a chat over… thanks for reminding me, because I was meant to get back to them some time ago, so I must send them an email to say that we’ve moved and sorry I haven’t heard from them and blah, blah, blah, but I’d never met her so there’s a, through things like ancestry online, blah blah blah, I ended up getting back with somebody I never knew, but she is a cousin. I mean she’s considerably older than me, she’s 80 something and I’m 60 something and I have photographs of her as a baby with my mum and dad before they were married in the 30’s before the war, you know, it’s, that sort of thing is great if you can, because I’m sure she’s got some stories she can tell me about that side of the family that I may not know.

I That sounds really positive.

P Yeah.

I And thinking specifically about close friends which of those means of keeping in touch do you use most often. Close friends and family.

P Well, I suppose emails the first one. I suppose using text a bit more, but I’m not a great texter.

I Okay.

P I mean on my phone I’ve got quite a silly, cheap little contract but it comes with I think it’s 300 or is it 500 texts…

I A month?

P Well, it’s something silly. And you know, I’ve used some of the calls, some of the download and when it gets to the text I’ve used four out of the whole thing. I mean it’s… I try to get the cheapest thing because I don’t use it. I’m at home, because I’m at home I don’t use my mobile, I tend to use the ordinary phone. We won’t go into all the Sky and… I don’t have that communication at the moment due to the problems with BT. So I’ve had to use this much more, but actually it’s interesting doing that because I always had pay-as-you-go and I’ve now gone to, I’ve found this contract, it was only about seven quid a month so it wasn’t ten, fifteen pounds a year more than I was spending on pay-as-you-go but it does give you so many minutes, so many something on orange, so I have to remind myself, especially when I’m ringing people on the mobile to use this and not the landline because that I’m paying for, this is free. So you have all these means of communication and from a financial point of view occasionally you have to think, ‘hang on, I’ve already paid for 150 minutes’ and I have to say to my wife, ‘don’t ring anyone on the mobile until you’ve used the minutes’, but it’s difficult sometimes to find out what’s the best way. I wish there was a more simpler way to do this. I always believe with communication I would rather, I suppose like, if I know seven quid a month here, with my phone I pay for that and then this and then pay extra for the calls and it would be nice to know that’s what your bill is but of course they always want to charge for other bits so, I’m not saying that I think about that when I communicate with people, ‘oh, this is going to cost’. You don’t do you? You just phone them and you just talk to them, but sometimes it would be nice to have a more simple system. You shouldn’t have to think about it. You should just be able to communicate with people. If you’re not communicating face-to-face, you’d rather do it through some form of technology, which is why I can see why people use Skype and these things. I mean, as I was explaining with somebody about this class today. Yes, it’s free, apart from the broadband costs. So yes, you are still paying but you have to, you wouldn’t have to send many letters would you to get up to what you’re paying a month now?

I No. Certainly not now.

P Not at current prices.

I Okay and how about keeping in contact with people in your local community? Which kind of tools do you use to do that?

P Well, once again, you know, I suppose I tend to use email anyway. Great thing about email because I run this film society you know I use this mail chimp thing so you can send a mass email, here it is, this is what we’re doing, so… whereas local community I suppose I would phone people up first, if it’s like a friend or somebody I need to talk to, email next, as I say, then if like this group here, if I need to tell ten people, twenty people, obviously it’s a lot easier just to send one email because you send it. Everybody’s got it. So, which would be virtually impossible using physical methods. To sit and write 20 letters.

I It would certainly be very time consuming.

P One, time consuming. Two, is it fifty pence a go for stamps? You’re looking at ten quid. I mean, it’s just, nobody’s going to do it are they? So, this is the way and of course it’s instantaneous and then they can reply.

I And what about using social networking sites, it seemed from a little bit of what you talked about today that you used Facebook as a way of keeping in touch?

P More with friends I don’t know. Yes, it’s something that I need to look at. Yes, I mean really we should have a group for this class and then I ought to communicate through that. But despite being an I.T. person I know I’ve got to do a bit of research to go ‘how does this work’, I’m not, you know, I use these things but I’m thinking, ‘well I’m not quite sure how this works’, and I set some things up, pages and groups, but I’m need to do a bit of research to work out, what I’m trying to say is that I’m not using it most probably as well as I should do because I don’t understand it fully and I feel even at 65 one is constantly having to learn about stuff.

I That’s interesting. Everything changes, doesn’t it? You can’t suddenly be there and up-to-date because a month later…

P Exactly and you can be I.T. literate to try and keep ahead of all this stuff because you’ve got to try and keep running and I can see how confusing it must be for people who don’t even, it’s like riding a bike isn’t it? Once upon a time it was like getting on the bike and riding it, now you need to be on the fastest road bike going hell for leather because the pace of change is staggering.

I Yeah. It certainly is. So thinking about the last time that you went on the computer, this might be probably other than when you were on it just now doing the class.

P Oh yeah, well yesterday it was.

I So walk me through what happened from switching on to closing down. Thinking about the activities and communications that you engaged in.

P I’ve got to think about this. I suppose because I’d get up and well let’s talk about my computer, on a particular day, any day, get up in the morning and will get the i-pad and check emails, twitter, BBC news and the guardian downloadable something or other to see what’s happening in the world. Then I’ve usually either written a list the night before of things to do, well I might answer the emails, but I’ve got a desktop computer, a Mac, sit there answer the emails, sort out whatever I need to do, so if you like it’s the admin’, that’s what I’d say, but that could be any day of the week, that could be a Sunday, if I’ve got to communicate with somebody over something and it depends really on, what I was doing yesterday, I was actually scanning some pictures. This is the sort of thing that I said that I would do when I retire and it’s taking a long time and it’s to go through, and I’m talking about physical negatives, which I’ve got, I mean I’m the custodian of all this but I’ve been taking pictures all my life and I’ve got books and books and books of negatives so I’ve worked my way through all the colour ones, I’m now trying to do some black and white which I hadn’t done so I thought let’s put some of these things in and see how it works and I had a slightly frustrating time with it not doing what I wanted it to. I mean it’s a very good bit of software a very posh scanner and all the rest of it. I set it up on screen so I thought, yeah, that looks right and I mean I got these really contrast-y pictures and I thought, ‘why hasn’t it done that’, so there’s always those technical things. So, you change the settings and muck about and you go off and waste hours. Obviously once I know exactly what to do it’s just the boring job of putting things into the machine, getting it set-up and leaving it to do it, but it is a long, laborious job. This is one of the problems with technology of course these days everything is in phones and cameras and most people never look at it or they lose it or they never print it out. On the other hand you’ve got the old stuff and of course you either, if you haven’t got a printer, you never look at them either. I mean one, this is an aside, but it might be interesting for your research. I’ve always had this stuff and it’s something that I’m interested in is family history and stuff like that and I’ve got a friend who’s, they had a fire at their flat, it’s sad that it’s wife died in it but the whole place was gutted and he lost everything, every photograph, every document, everything they’d ever had, you know, we’re so used to all this stuff, which made me think well, dreadful about his wife, but just thinking, yes, I’ve got all this stuff, what would happen if it all went. I mean a lot of people rallied round and gave him copies, where they had negatives or pictures to give him some of his life back, but he told me a story where they went to the council to try and get some temporary accommodation and of course they said, have you got a bill, so they looked and looked and said, ‘no it all went in the fire, I do not have a electricity bill or a bill’, and it was very hard for the council to actually do anything because their systems are based on if you’ve got everything and what happens if you’ve not got everything? So, what I’ve been trying to do is scan all the stuff, put it on CD or DVD whatever and give it to the children so they’ve at least got an electronic copy of some of their stuff. How much of it they’re going to want I don’t know. But most of it’s got them growing up so and it’s this business of today, where another little aside, but I was walking near the marina at Newhaven one day, ages ago and this woman walked past and she was on the phone and she said, ‘oh, yeah, I’ve got a picture of so-and-so, oh no, I deleted it’ and I thought that sums up todays society doesn’t it, it’s very transient, people, we’ve got so many things but they can just disappear in an instant. I suppose it depends and you’re talking about community and those physical people that you can talk to, but a lot of life is stuck in this electronic wherever, cloud isn’t it? And our lives are stuck in this and you know, some of the people that we’ve been talking about, well, if you put something out on Facebook it’s there forever, but you think, well is it there? They have some breakdown in Nevada or somewhere and everybody’s everything could just go.

I Yeah, I think…

P You can do so much, but it could all disappear, like in a fire.

I Yes, you can very easily come to rely on trusting that things will be there. So, thinking about other people that you make contact with online other than close family and friends. Do you ever make contact with people that you haven’t met online?

P What you mean, what make contact with people online who I’ve not met?

I Yes, so whether you’ve got anyone on Facebook that you’re friends with, like friends with on Facebook that you don’t, that you haven’t ever met.

P Haven’t ever met… erm, most probably not actually, to be honest, all my friends on Facebook are people who have been friends, physical friends. College friends, they may be people that… I suppose the good thing is that you can have a online friendship, but you may not see them for ten years. You will be in contact and somehow it doesn’t matter too much. I was showing you examples today of one of my other friends, he lives in France, now I’d like to go and see him, but it’s a case of well, when we get down there, or if he comes over to Britain maybe we’ll get together, but it doesn’t matter so much because you’re having this constant, he’s giving, I say something, then he puts something like a comment, you feel like you’re having a conversation with them even though you’re not having a physical one. And in a way I personally think that’s better than seeing them than not seeing them for five years and then trying to catch up. You feel he’s there, I’m here and there’s a distance we can’t, well we can, but there’s the time, the money and all the rest of it and the other person we’re commenting on he lives in Bournemouth. Now we haven’t seen him, we had a reunion in 2010. It was at college. We left in 1970, so every, 2010, 2020 is the next one, who knows… so far we’re all there. But several of those people there is communication, but others of those people just don’t communicate that way. They may have a Facebook presence but they just don’t take part in the conversation so, it’s interesting. There’s certain people that want to do it and certain people who don’t, but I don’t know their motivation. I mean I’m not that motivated to do things. But people comment on things on Facebook, sometimes I flick through things and go, ‘oh that’s interesting’ or I might just ‘like’ something but it’s not my main… I suppose that communicating with people locally in the community that I talk to and that keeping in touch with old friends and relatives. Not really relatives really I mean, I haven’t got a lot of them now, so as I say a few cousins, so yes, there’s a case in point, with my family we just had the death of two relatives who were in London we’d got them down to here, my cousins helped me, I’ve got cousins in Seaford, just down the road, so we had a lot of thing trying to get them to go. They were in their 70’s and then he got ill and died and his wife died almost six weeks later so we’ve had a lot of communication sadly about them about care homes and about funerals and all the rest of it. Now they’ve gone we’re not communicating as much and they live down the road. But I’ve got cousins who live in other parts of the country who are on Facebook and I’ve noticed they’ve comments and he lives in Southampton this other cousin and I’ve got some others who we do communicate that way, but then I’ve got three cousins we maybe communicate email or whatever and then their father who’s 85 and of course the only way that we communicate is going to be on the phone.

I And do you think having those connections on Facebook with people, help to maintain the sense of being in touch that, would it be possible to re-create that using another form of technology?

P Well only if you were going to phone them all the time. Ringing them up. It’s funny isn’t it, they’re different kinds of ways of doing because you could… to me, email or Facebook things, well the thing is Facebook’s different because you could, unless you do one of these private messages which I notice some people comment back to me in the comments and it’s obviously for me, but not for everyone else, but of course I presume they realise that. If you’re wishing somebody happy birthday, well then you don’t mind that their friends all see that you wished them happy birthday because that’s what you’re trying to do whereas a phone conversation is between you and the other person, so if you like it’s private in those terms isn’t it? If you email, it’s private. If you use well apart from the security services as we now find everybody can read everything and then you’ve got Facebook where you know that it’s public the arena well, it’s your friends, so I suppose that what you say in these different arenas depends on what method you’re using.

I Okay. Do you think community is something that can exist online, without ever having met the other person. Sounds like you haven’t got that situation.

P I can understand it and yes, I believe it does. I know people who seem to, they can have an online community that they belong to and I’ve got friends, I can’t give you a specific case, but they say, ‘oh, yeah, we communicate’ and blah-blah-blah, don’t know them all, but yeah. I mean I know that exists. Doesn’t exist for me because it’s just the way I organise my life. We were in… I don’t know if you’ve heard about this, but this group, we were involved in this thing called ‘Drop By’, which was this other, kind of like Facebook for older people as it was called I mean we, the lady did come down and it was useful for some people. I didn’t really see it was going to work. So there was a community there set up but it was all very based in Surrey. I think she was hoping that we’d set another one up down here, but the amount of work involved I couldn’t be bothered really. I haven’t got the time to give to it, but that was useful for people who were lonely so that they could communicate with people who didn’t know that presumably safely through this particular thing because it was aimed at specific people. I could see that could work. Luckily I don’t need that at the moment, but I suppose if I was on my own, then yes, one might want to take part in other communities. Talking about communicating with people I don’t know, sorry I mean, through the ancestry thing there is a lady who’s related to me through my mothers mother who’s my grandmother’s sister, she’s down that line, she lives in New Zealand, she emailed me through ancestry asking questions, we have communicated but we’ve never met. I’ve had one opportunity when she came over for somebody’s funeral but I couldn’t get there, so if you like their having… that’s been very helpful, we do communicate occasionally, her husband’s on email, so if you like that’s somebody I’ve had a relationship but I’ve never met her. That if you like is purely an electronic relationship. I mean I’d like to meet her one day, but it doesn’t matter because with ancestry putting stuff on it it’s all about family history, she’s obviously researched one bit that’s been handy to see if she’s done all this and the great thing about that is that they’ve done all the work and you just add it to your family tree.

I And have you done things that similarly…

P Yes, I’ve put pictures and she’s said, ‘oh great’ and they just take them and occasionally we’ve just talked about something and I’ve said ‘oh that’s brilliant, what you’ve found out there’. I mean this cousin I met… I don’t know, I hope she never actually says to me, ‘how did you find out about me?’ because I was contacted by somebody who was looking for her birth mother and she said, ‘I think this is your cousin’, so and she lives in Australia and all this thing that what’s her name, the last prime minster had given apology to all these people who had in Australian government had apologised for all these women whose babies were literally taken away from them and given to whatever... the long and the short of it is that discovered, yes, my cousin was that mother, but this lady has told me that you know, she didn’t know what and I said, ‘well I can’t help you’, but my cousin has said, ‘I never want my family to know about this’, well I know about it so I’ve got to keep, but I wouldn’t have found my cousin if this woman hadn’t done all this research. I did know roughly what she was trying to do, but another cousin who’s part of, there are three of us now cousins, he said, ‘I’m going to steer clear of this because I think it’s a minefield’, I said, ‘well fair enough’, but I’m glad to have got back to know this lady because I never knew erm, but presumably she’s never going to ask me the question because she doesn’t want her family to know. So I’ve said to the lady in Australia, ‘I’ve got to go by her, I’m happy for you to communicate with me, I can give you family background’, she’s obviously glad to find her mother and this has all been done electronically if you like, but she never wanted to meet her, so I’ve just got to… but it’s interesting what can come out of all of this, but I just tell her, ‘well I was just doing some research and something popped up and I checked this and then I found somebody else had done a bit of’… you can see other people have done things on ancestry and you don’t even know who they are, but it can be a minefield, so I don’t know, but I’ll try and go and see her and I’m sure it’ll all be fine. But there I haven’t got in contact. I sent some photographs. I take this girls daughter who I was then in touch with when she was this high, but she’d never seen them, because in those days it was all physical that I did slides and if you did slides you never had prints so they were delighted to see that.

I Okay. That’s good. Just checking back to see if there was anything else I needed to ask and I think those were all of my questions, but was there anything that you were expecting to be asked that I haven’t asked?

P No, not really. I didn’t really… I wasn’t quite sure what you were going to ask, but it’s… no that’s fine, I can’t think of anything. I hope it’s been useful.

I Yeah, it has been. It’s really good to get lots of different… we’re trying to build up quite a rich picture of different experiences and I think we’re getting some. Everyone we speak to has got completely different stories, so I think it’s going to be really helpful. Thank you.

P Fine, glad to be of help.

RECORDING ENDS