

Kendal Oral History Group Interview R0094
Male born 1932
Recorded August 2001

Summary Sheet R0094

- P.1 Born 1932. Home was Plumgarths, Kendal. Toll bar; jaw bones.
Mother bred Arab horses and Welsh mountain ponies.
- P.2 Father director, K Shoes.
Romney Hotels, Kendal.
- P.3 1940-45 in Canada; Miss Mann's School, Greenside.
School in Canada, tutoring from Vicar of Burneside, Michael Hall School in Sussex.
- P.4 Spent one year at K Shoes, then to university.
Menial job at K Shoes.
- P.5 Began at K Shoes as graduate trainee. Progress through departments.
K Shoe holiday period.
- P.6 Gold Cross shoes. Exports. Training of staff. Unions.
- P.7 Factories at Lancaster, Workington, Askham-in-Furness, Millom, Shap.
K Shoes trademark.
- P.8 Setting up of K Shoes by Robert Miller Somervell.
Making of boots for army and Air Force, 1940s.
Making of shoes for Marks & Spencer.
- P.9 Social activities. K Fete. Fellfarers.
- P.10 Howard Somervell; Everest expeditions.
Reject shoes sold in factory shop.
- P.11 Clifford Turner's shoe shop - X-ray machine.
- P11/12 Repair shop.
- P.12 Sarah Lee; Brian Smith; Mary Gudgeon, Robin Davies.
Taking of snuff.
- P.13 "Eyelet"; John Watton did drawings (had been Colditz prisoner).
History of Westmorland Orchestra.
- P.14 Rehearsals. Concerts performed three times a year.
St. George's theatre.
Conductors.
- P.15 Composition of orchestra - 50-odd members.
- P.16 Funding of the orchestra.
Commissioned works.
- P.17 Occasional choral works.