

KENDAL ORAL HISTORY GROUP INTERVIEW 0325f

Kendal Flood Project Interview Kevin (born 1961) & Patricia Moffatt (born 1970)
Interviewed June 2016
0325f Summary Sheet

Track 1, pp. 1-6

They have lived on Appleby Road for 20+ years – never been flooded before.
At its height the water was like a tidal bore.
Earlier they had heard of roads flooding so cancelled a party at Crooklands.
Took daughter to Castle Green Hotel – description of journey. Left car there.
Walked home – water knee deep. Helped neighbours brush water away.
Water stopped flowing and everyone thought the problem had gone away.
Later water was lapping outside the house. Moved items upstairs. Stacked furniture
Water came in front door and gushed through air bricks. Later came in back of house
Moved upstairs for the night with supplies. Fire Service knocked on door.
Daughter spent night at the hotel. Details of a panic with elderly neighbour.

Track 2, pp. 7-8

Details of their night upstairs. Saw Bay Rescue, tractors and flooded cars go past.
Saw a rescue on Copperfield Lane. There was an awful smell of diesel.

Track 3, pp. 9-11

Next day the water dropped rapidly. Began to move stuff and take up carpets.
Took photos. Family urged them to start looking for accommodation that day. Found
one in the Westmorland Gazette ads. Insurance company was very helpful.
Someone volunteered to help them move on the Monday. They had helped many
others.

Track 4, pp.11-14

More on their helpful insurance company. Had a very good assessor. No problems.
Sandylands Methodist Church offered help but they didn't need it. Very independent.
Did everything themselves. Appleby Road was like a disaster zone on the Monday.
There has been more interaction with neighbours as a result of the flood.

Track 5, pp. 14-17

At the time of interview progress with house renovations is going well.
Hope to move back in July.
Problems with dehumidifiers held things up. More on insurers and builders.
Landlady in their rented accommodation is very good.

Track 6, pp. 17-18

Concerned that no one seems to know why the flood happened in the way that it did.
There has been no explanation at all to date. They have lots of questions that need
answering. They are concerned for the future.