

Kendal Oral History Group Interview 0337F

Kendal Flood Project Interview

Jill Clough born 1944
Interviewed August 2016

Volunteer at Roman Catholic Church shelter providing hot meals in the months after the flood

0337f Summary Sheet

Track 1, pp. 1-2

She is an active member of the Roman Catholic Church on New Road, Kendal. Lives in Selside had difficulty getting into town on the Sunday
Next door farmer trying to do flood management.
Even though 600 feet up, a neighbour was flooded
In the aftermath of the flood she was involved in their church setting up a shelter to provide two hot meals a week to those people who had been flooded (to open on different days to the scheme operating at St George's Church).
A safe space for people to come to.

Track Two, pp. 2-5

Details of the shelter provided the Roman Catholic Church in Kendal and how this worked. A space for children to play and for adults to talk.
It has all run by volunteers providing two evening meals each week.
It has become a space where people can talk about their problems - including problems with builders.
People have very different needs and use the shelter for different reasons.
They have volunteers cooking and serving the food and others offering to listen to people's concerns.
Those coming to the shelter have created a community.
Children, mostly girls, bonding with other children with whom they would not normally mix.
It has been very hard work keeping this going for all these months.
The Church is currently thinking about how they move on to something different, but something that will not lose what has been created in terms of support for these people.