

synopsis & transcript

MAERDY 2

INFORMANTS

A: Male, 30 years old Welsh: <u>fluent</u> /some/slight/none Mother's Birth: Maerdy Father's Birth: Maerdy	B: Male, 43 years old Welsh: fluent/some/slight/ <u>none</u> Mother's Birth: Gelli Father's Birth: Gelli
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They look at a picture of a group of miners and identify who's who. They talk about their school days. [00.00 min - 04.20 min]

They talk about the Welsh language. B, who doesn't speak Welsh, talks about an encounter with Welsh-speaking lecturers at a pub in Carmarthen. A, who attended a Welsh-medium school in the Valleys, talks about how he learnt Welsh at that school and how he practises it with his 'auntie': [04.20 min - 07.00 min]
transcript

A: [yeah]

B: no . I'm just saying . . I was in an English school I~ (inaudible) you

B: know the Comprehensive School . . erm . we'd only have about . . .

B: two lessons a week . . of Welsh and that would be half an hour . . .

I: mm

B: each lesson . . . so we had no . . . you know what I mean . . there's

B: no way we could . . . learn the Welsh speaking language in . . the

A: [no] . . . different with

B: time we was at school with the two half hour lessons

A: us see ['cause we erm . . . we used to do everything in Welsh]

B: every week see . . . you get my point don't you

B: . . . no my parents didn't no . . .

I: . . . did~ did you parents speak Welsh

A: no . mine don't . . my grandmother used to

I: . . . yes . . the same as

A: . . . but erm . my grandfather never . because

I: mine . . the same as me

A: he was from Surrey like

B: . . . and when I went up erm . Carmarthen way

B: . . . canvassing with erm . . Corona soft drinks we was in

B: this pub one night . . . and erm . . there was two lecturers . . from

B: the . . . you know from the College . . come in the same pub . . . and

I: mm

B: they turned round and said to me they said . . can't you speak Welsh

B: . . and I turned round . 'cause everybody was speaking Welsh like isn't

B: it . . I said . erm no . . and we started . arguing . . . back and fore

I: yes

B: like isn't it . . . and I said if I . . was taught . . . fluent . . like

B: you're taught~ taught up here . . . I said erm I'd be speaking Welsh

B: . and he~ he turned round and said erm . . . it's

I: yes

B: quietened down now . . he said you~ you know . . this is the honest

B: truth . he said you sound more Welsh . . . than what we'll ever

B: sound . he said . he turned round and said to

I: . . . he~ he~ he said what

B: me . . you sound more Welsh . . . than what we'll . ever sound

I:

A: [the

B: . by the . . the~ the way we . . I was

I: why~why did he say that then

A: accent I] expect
 =====

B: talking . . . you know the accent . . the way I was talking . . . he
 =====

B: thought that . . I could speak . . when he heard me talking like . . he
 =====

B: thought . . he thought I could . . speak it . . fluent . you know what
 =====

B: I mean yeah . . yeah
 =====

I: . right . . from your accent then [inaudible] well it's a pity . .
 =====

B:
 =====

I: do you think it's a pity Welsh has gone . you know from the Valleys
 =====

A: . . yeah it is . 'cause
 =====

B: . . yes . it is . . I agree with that . that's
 =====

I: a little bit
 =====

B: what I was arguing . well~ well I'll argue with~ with anybody I will
 =====

B: they're not getting taught enough . . in these schools . . . perhaps
 =====

I: mm
 =====

B: they are now . . I don't know . . but erm . my~ my daughter comes
 =====

B: home . . she~ she turns around and say to me that erm . . she is
 =====

B: taking up Welsh and erm . she says . she's not getting taught

A: yes [the only way] . . the only way

B: enough of it (inaudible) for her to progress

A: to do that is if you was in the Welsh . 'cause in the Welsh school . .

A: you're taught everything in Welsh . you . you take French . . you

A: d~don't translate the French into English . you translate it back to

A: Welsh . . . it's . . it's the same with erm . Latin you do . when you

A: wouldn't translate it . . the only thing you'd translate . from Welsh

A: would . was when you was in . having an English class and that

A: would be say . . two hours a week like . . but erm . . other than that

A: . . everything was in Welsh

I: do you hear . . Welsh

A: the [old]

B: yeah yeah

I: spoken round erm . in~ in Maerdy at all . do some people [speak

A: people [yeah] like my aunt like my auntie . she goes

B: . . . the old people yeah [oh aye] . yeah

I: (inaudible)] [they do]

A: . . . to chapel down there she . . . if I see her like we . . . have a . . .

A: she do talk to me in Welsh and . you know . . . but then she goes to

A: chapel then . she sees her friends . . she . they talk Welsh . . .

A: mostly the old people it is isn't it but . . there's a few of us living

B: mm [erm]

A: up here we all went to the Welsh School like but erm

A: some of us went to Llan~ . . some of us went to Llanharry and some

A: went to erm . . Rhydyfelin like . 'cause there wasn't enough room .

I: [mm]

A: . in one school but when we was in Llwynceilyn . . . that's

A: when they sta~ . . . you know . . some had to go . . down to

A: Llanharry and . . the others to erm Rhydyfelin

They continue to talk about Welsh. Then they look through several pictures, commenting on each one.

[07.00 min – 11.00 min]

They talk about how they, their fathers and their grandfathers worked down the pits.

[11.00 min – 14.00 min]

TAPE ENDS