

synopsis & transcript

**MAERDY 5**

INFORMANTS

<b>A:</b> Male, 41 years old <b>Welsh:</b> fluent/some/slight/ <u>none</u> <b>Mother's Birth:</b> Maerdy <b>Father's Birth:</b> Maerdy	<b>B:</b> Male, 41 years old <b>Welsh:</b> fluent/some/slight/ <u>none</u> <b>Mother's Birth:</b> Rhondda <b>Father's Birth:</b> Ferndale
---	--

*They see a picture of a group of miners from the area and identify who's who.* [00.00 min - 01.20 min]

*They look at a picture of terraced houses in the Rhondda and compare them favourably with modern housing. Then they talk about the bad times being experienced in Maerdy.* [01.20 min – 06.50 min]

*They talk about the dole and how they manage on it. A says he gains some benefit from having a piece of land where he can keep goats and poultry:* [06.50 min - 08.50 min]  
**transcript**

A: excuse me . . there's a lot of boys like isn't it . there's a lot of boys  
=====

A: now out of work . now isn't it . . ah . . a lot of boys coming out of  
=====

A: school like isn't it . . now they don't get no money until they're  
=====

A: eighteen isn't it . what are they going to do until they're eighteen  
=====

A: isn't it . . . they've got to have money isn't it . . . now I've got  
=====

B: yeah  
=====

A: three boys myself like isn't it . . . now they didn't earn no money until  
=====

A: they were eighteen . . . . (inaudible) they go down . go down this  
=====

B: [ i n a u d i b l e ]  
=====

A: place like isn't it and . . what~ what do they have . erm twenty pound  
=====

A: a week . twenty three . twenty three pound a fortnight isn't it . .  
=====

B: mm  
=====

A: what's twenty three pound . twenty three pound is nothing . . . . you  
=====

B: (inaudible)  
=====

A: spend more than that on the plants . or . on~ on the dogs or just to  
=====

A: feed the chickens . . . . . I've~ I've~ I~ I do (inaudible) . I have  
=====

A: chickens . . ducks . . geese . everything isn't it . . . . I've goats isn't  
=====

B: mm  
=====

A: it . . I was having a lot off them like isn't it . . . to keep me going . . .  
=====

B: mm yeah  
=====

A: sell my eggs isn't it . . sell my . . sell my duck eggs isn't it . . chicken  
=====

A: eggs isn't it . . sell my milk isn't it . . well the nurse used to come to  
=====

A: the house . . . well she barges into me erm . . . have you got any of  
=====

A: that . erm goat's milk there . . . . aye I said . I've got a couple of pints

B: mm  
=====

A: of it I said . I said what's the matter nurse . . . . well she said erm  
=====

A: I can't get this baby to drink {bottled} milk . . . and she won't . erm .  
=====

A: have breast feed . . . and erm . . . goat's milk is the only thing else  
=====

A: that'll do the trick . . . so she comes up to my house . . and she'd~  
=====

A: she'd say to me ( i n a u d i b l e ) . . have you got any goat's milk  
=====

A: there . yes . . . I said how many pints do you want then nurse . .  
=====

A: well erm . as many bottles as you've got . . . well I said I'll milk  
=====

A: them tonight I said . you can have~ you can have four now I said  
=====

A: isn't it . I'll have three of them off it tonight I said . you can have  
=====

A: another three tonight I said . yes . . . and then tomorrow morning  
=====

A: I said . I'll have four again tomorrow morning . . . . and . . . if you~  
=====

A: . . if that's the way you want it you can have it . . I do .

---

B: . . . . then erm

---

---

A: erm . that's the way you . that's the way you go like isn't it

---

I: . . . . ah

---

---

A: [times] . . times are changing all

---

B: no

---

I: well . . times aren't so good are they

---

---

A: the time . . . times are getting harder down . . . they're getting

---

B: . . yeah

---

---

A: harder down . . . down in South Wales . . than what they're getting

---

---

A: harder anywhere else . . . . we're on the breadline down here . . . .

---

I: yes

---

---

A: we're on the breadline . . . other~ other places now isn't it

---

I: yes . yes

---

---

A: other places when you're on . . when you're on the dole . . you get

---

---

A: more money . because you're~ you're in a posher area like isn't it

---

---

A: . . . so they gets more money . . . the boys down there because . .

---

---

A: because we haven't got a lot down there . we get less

I: . . . do you get

A: . . yes . definitely . all~

B: [aye]

I: dole . the~ the amount of dole is different is it

A: all dole . . all the dole is different . . . it's all different today

B: [aye] . . in

A: . . up there erm aye . look after the Queen . the Kings

B: London it is [inaudible] [aye]

A: isn't it . erm you're laughing . . you get . you get extra money for that

A: . and extra money for this . . you don't have it down here

I: . . are you

A: . . no . . I'm . . no

B: [no] [inaudible] . . there's no work

I: still working now ( inaudible )

A: . . . there's [nothing about]

B: about is there not around here anyway

I: . . have you

A: . no . . . . I . . no I~ I wouldn't fancy moving

---

B: [inaudible]

---

I: considered moving away

---

---

A: away [I like~ }

---

B: . . . if the money's there aye . yeah

---

---

*They continue to talk about the lack of employment and the hardship people are facing.*

*[08.50 min – 11.10 min ]*

*They talk about schools and the bad effect on children of large classes, and then resume talking about the 'hard times'.*

*[11.10 min – 12.10 min]*

*TAPE ENDS*