

synopsis & transcript

**PORTH 8**

INFORMANTS:

<b>A:</b> Male, 35 years old <b>Welsh:</b> fluent/ <u>some</u> /slight/none <b>Mother's birth:</b> Treorchy <b>Father's birth:</b> Trehafod	<b>B:</b> Male, 33 years old <b>Welsh:</b> fluent/some/slight/ <u>none</u> <b>Mother's birth:</b> Glynfach, Porth <b>Father's birth:</b> Porth
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*They look through different pictures and comment [00.00 min - 07.50 min]  
on them, identifying places and people, talking  
(among other things) about coal dust and effects  
on miners' health.*

*They find a picture of a group of miners that they [07.50 min - 09.50 min]  
know personally. They identify them, talk about  
comradeship down the pits and about the  
bad times at present, with loss of wages and loss of  
protection from Unions.*

(transcript)

(looking at a picture)

A: that looks like Ty Mawr . . . . . ( inaudible ) . . . . that looks

A: like the siding in Ty Mawr that do . . . . might be Wattstown

(looking at another picture)

A: though . . . there you are that's my butty by there . . . . I've

A: worked with everyone on these on here look . . . . . him . . him

A: . him . him . him . him . . . and my mucker by there look . . .

A: . same shift . . . he used to work . he works in the Tower now . .

A: Will . the only one . that's erm Hallet that

C: . who's that by there then

A: is . I can't remember his . . first name . . boxer he was

I: . weren't

A: . . yeah . they used . . most of these were in the

I: they up at Maerdy

A: Maerdy . . he's still working in Tower he is . . . he's the only one

A: I think . out of all of them that's left . . . . . Jeff by there my . .

A: mucker . me and him mates finished altogether . . Jeff by here

A: . this one . he's finished . . . . and he's finished

C: . I've seen this .

A: . . they're all from . Wattstown and

C: where's he from . I know him

A: that

C: . . yeah . . . . . that couldn't have been taken long ago then

A: no that was in the . . Lewis Merthyr that is . . . I was on there .

A: but I was over there somewhere . . . we had a photo done and that .

A: . . on the other photo I'm on there see . . . Jeff is on there and I'm

=====  
A: . we're over here . three of us like  
\_\_\_\_\_

C: . . . they've got one over the  
=====

C: Lewis Merthyr now they've got a . a book . I don't know if you've  
=====

C: ever seen it the . Heritage Park and my father in law is in there . .  
=====

C: down the pit . . showing a photo of him like . when he was working  
=====

B: . . . . .  
\_\_\_\_\_

C: underneath the ground . . . that was a while back through  
=====

A: . . . yeah  
\_\_\_\_\_

B: could have been in there now look Kev  
\_\_\_\_\_

I: . . . . . and were  
=====

B: well . . down there it's a  
\_\_\_\_\_

I: they all good mates together like . you [know . (inaudible)]  
=====

B: different~ but you can't explain it to anyone . 'cause no-one would  
=====

B: understand . . it's not like we have now . I'm working on the  
=====

B: buildings but it's . . . the things you had down there mun they . .  
=====

B: everyone looked after each-other you know like you  
\_\_\_\_\_

C: . . you've [got to  
=====

B: wouldn't have it today now they . they just shit on you today . . .

C: haven't you]  
=====

A: . . . . . once they beat these . that . that

B: they don't want {to know}  
=====

A: was the end of everything . the miners were beat . . the unions are  
=====

A: gone . . . they just do what they like to you now . . pay you the  
=====

A: less money they want to and then . . if you don't like it . up the  
=====

A: road

C: . . that's it . . it's as simple as that

I: . . . is there much . not  
=====

A: . . . well there's work there . but if~ if you want to

I: much work here  
=====

A: work for . . for next to nothing . . . you haven't got a union . you  
=====

A: can't go up to the union and say oh . . well I'm not working for two  
=====

A: pound an hour . or whatever it may be and they just pay you two  
=====

A: pound an hour . and if you don't like it . all right we'll get kids off

=====  
A: the . off the street . sixteen  
\_\_\_\_\_

C: . there seems to be a lot of people who  
=====

A: . . yeah  
\_\_\_\_\_

C: are better off . . on the dole than working . . oh . . of course  
=====

B: . well you take it you work now . . say I can . . I work  
\_\_\_\_\_

C: there is mun  
=====

B: . . say . . hundred and forty pound a week . . I'm married . I've  
=====

B: got two children . . I~ I'm working for hundred and forty pound a  
=====

B: week . and you're fetching home . what~ what's that . . say hundred  
=====

B: and ten . hundred and five . hundred and ten . . . I can go on the  
=====

B: dole . I can get exactly the same money . . . and it's . you know  
\_\_\_\_\_

I: mm  
=====

B: you're not . . you're not . you're working for nothing basically . .  
\_\_\_\_\_

C: yes  
=====

B: . you know it's ridiculous  
\_\_\_\_\_

C: . and there's people who come to this club  
=====

C: who are on the dole who are here every night of the week . and the

=====

B: exactly . aye

C: likes of us can make it once or twice a week . . and

=====

C: they're looking at us and saying . . you're paying our wages

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*Continuation in this vein*

*[09.50 min – 10.50 min]*

*TAPE ENDS*