

synopsis & transcript

PORTH 9

INFORMANTS:

A: Male, 45 years old Welsh: fluent/some/slight/ <u>none</u> Mother's birth: Ynyshir Father's birth: Stanleytown	B: Male, 35 years old Welsh: fluent/some/slight/ <u>none</u> Mother's birth: Gelli Father's birth: Barry, Glam
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They talk politics – ‘getting the Tories out’ and similar sentiments. They talk about the nicknames given to Welsh rugby teams. They are surprised the interviewer doesn’t know that Swansea are called ‘the Jacks’ . They talk about the Club and its Committee members, then look through a number of pictures. [00.00 min - 08.00 min]

They talk about the housing estate at Penrhys. They say it won a design award when it was first built, but has since run into a lot of problems: [08.00 min – 09.50 min]

(transcript)

(
looking at a picture)

A: considering this statement that’s made on this . erm photo-

A: graph . (laughs) it’s . . . renovated

B: what . St Mary’s Well

A: and scheduled as an ancient monument it’s~ it’s

B: ah but

A: unbelievable that they’ve done to Penrhys

B: . . I know but . . you see~

A: [if (inaudible)]

B: you see~ but this . but this is going back about a hundred years ago

A: . . well . . if~ if it's a religious artefact . . they've

B: probably

A: desecrated the bloody area if anything . by putting a Council estate

A: on there . . with some of the worst families they could find

I: . . .

A: . . . well .

I: why did they build that up there then . . up the top

A: probably I think at the time . . at the time I was . . in . . nine-

B: [well]

A: -teen sixty . . . I think it was about nineteen sixty six they built it

A: I was working in the old Ferndale Brewery then . . which~ which

A: you wouldn't know what it was . in Pontygwaith . . and . . . a

A: couple of . boys . . working with me . as I say two of them . they

A: come here now as . . they're members here . . they~ they've

A: moved down here and . . . erm . . I think with the
=====

A: Rhondda Housing Association . there was . like limited . space
=====

A: to build houses . council houses . . ant they were at the time . .
=====

A: sixty . six . perhaps seven . that's not far off thirty years ago now
=====

A: . . but they were the prime . . they were look . of the looked .
=====

A: great they were . . [flats] . . high-rise flats . . three or four
=====

B: (c o u g h s) yes
=====

A: storeys on top of the mountain but . it was . . a prestigious sort
=====

A: of place . and everybody wanted to go there or . not everybody
=====

A: a few people . quite a few people wanted to go up there . . and
=====

A: applied for them and . . in no time . and oh God . there was a
=====

A: mist come down . . it was down and . . you'd be up there . it
=====

A: was down and of course you couldn't go out and if you went down
=====

(l a u g h i n g)
A: into Ystrad . or went down into erm . . Stanleytown . the sun was
=====

A: shining so {there you are} . they got . . fed up with it . I think
=====

B: [inaudible]
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A: when they~ when they moved out then

=====
B: they~ they had an arch~ . . .

=====
A: [yeah]

=====
B: architectural design award . . for . building that site . . and all

=====
B: they've done . . is have problems with . . erm . the design of it .

=====
B: the same as Colditz in . Merthyr . erm not Merthyr . erm Bleddau

=====
B: . . . they've knocked . . they've knocked Colditz down now . .

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A: . . yes . it [was on similar lines to that]

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B: the concrete place I don't know if you erm . know about

=====
B: it . mm . yeah . well th~ they . they had a gold award . .

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I: . . no

=====
B: for building . . the actual building . . . obviously run by

=====
A: but when people moved out of there then . they

=====
B: Conservatives . (laughs)

=====
A: couldn't replace them with . . whatever you call them . . genuine

=====
B: (i n a u d i b l e) (i n a u d i b l e)

A: people . erm . people who were paying rent and erm . . people

B: . yeah

A: who~who . . wanted to go there to live . . they were . . erm forced

A: there for the . . what people wanted . . rehouses . single parent

A: families . . . and all that up there . with the result of

B: mm . that's right

A: erm them . . erm erm [there was this~ there was

B: . chaos . there's drugs . . alcohol . there's {child}

A: they were] just there . to use the place . non-payment of rent . which

B: abuse

A: they wasn't earning any money you know which is . . and then . .

A: all the good people started to go from there . and then they knocked

A: a few of the high-rise things down . and then they . . erm revamped

A: it by erm . doing all . all the outsides of it and do~ new roofs . and

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

I: [erm]

A: putting . . knocking all the erm . . . erm the flats all down . . .

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A: just . . having the . erm families up there

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*They continue to talk about housing problems.
Looking through more photos, they say that the
Library at Porth has a good collection of 'old
Rhondda' photos.*

[09.50 min – 12.30 min]

TAPE ENDS