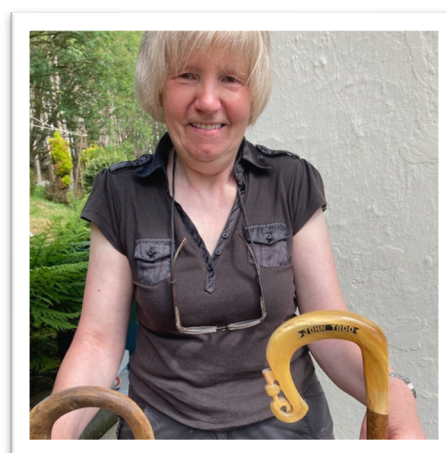





Project: Ploughing Up Our Past
 Respondent: Jean McHarg (Todd)
 Year of Birth:
 Age: 64
 Connection to project: works as milk recorder
 Date of Interview: 2 July 2021
 Interviewer: Kay McMeekin
 Recording Agreement: Yes
 Information & Content: Yes
 Photographic Images: Yes /digital
 Length of Interview: 19 mins
 Location of Interview: Glen Afton
 Recording Equipment: Zoom H4n Pro



Jean McHarg

Time (from: mins/secs)	Summary Description	Transcribed Extract (from- to: mins/secs)
00.00	Introduction born at Craigdarroch Father was a shepherd there, rented the farm for Ayr Count Council. Had 35 blackfaced sheep	
1.00	Had 35 blackfaced sheep Busy time lambing time through till October sheep sales. November tups went out to the ewes till end of year.	
1.53	Helped on farm for two years after leaving school then got a job in dyeworks.	
2:20	Went to New Cumnock school. Minibus collected pupils from Glen Afton	
2:40	20 years at dyeworks. Then started as a milk recorder. Mother wouldn't let her be a milk recorder after school because she would need to stay away from home.	
3:15	Milk recorder in Dumfriesshire to begin with. (1990s) Describes the job then. Written reports.	

	Noted when cow calved, when served by bull all out in a summary and milk samples sent to a lab in Glasgow. Once a month. Had her own car, as self employed. Early start to catch milking at maybe 4.30 am and took another sample at evening milking.	
6:08	Still doing job though much different. Employed Cattle Information Services.	
7:00	Father went to the New Cumnock Herds' Fair. Declare lost sheep, a meeting with speakers and a wee dram.	
8:15	Family, social life. Recently moved back to a house near Craigdarroch	
9:15	Accident. Blade came off an old reaper and flew across the river. No-one was hurt. And a case of ball lightning coming through the house. A calf was killed. Travelling salesman was at the door at the time.	
11:45	Other workers. A sawmill nearby and the workers helped out at busy times	
12:00	Father John Todd entered sheepdog trials. And won a silver cup when at Kirkconnel.	
13:45	Diversification. They had 5 milk cows and hens.	
14:32	Holidays a day at a dog trial.	
14:45	Best thing was the freedom, simpler life.	
15:30	Snowed in at one point, road closed for 3 weeks. Sheep were above the reservoir and stuck in snow for two weeks. Ewe buried for 3 weeks and survived. Family had a huge freezer. Everything was made from scratch. Campers wanted milk. But were horrified to see where it came from.	
18:43	Favourite was meal tatties and mince. Conclusion and thanks.	19:08
<div>  <p>Supported by The National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund</p> </div> <div> <p>Le taic bhon Chrannchur Nàiseanta tro Mhaoin-Dualchais a' Chrannchuir</p> </div>		