

INTERVIEW WITH - WILLIAM FINDLAY, PETER FINDLAY AND JOHN W. MAIR
at 40 SEATOWN, CULLEN.

Interview with William Findlay, 40 Seatown, Cullen; Peter Findlay, 121 Seatown, Cullen; and John Wood Mair, 30 Castle Terrace, Cullen. 8/7/88.

William Findlay and his brother Pat, locally they're baith kent as 'Weelum Rambler' and 'Pattie Rambler' due tae linkin' them back tae the steam drifter thit they hid afore the war, the "Rambler Rose", which never came back tae Cullen aefter the war, it wis selt tae Norway, an' accordin' tae a Fishin' News Report in 1983, I think, it is still goin' in Norway. Aefter the war they hid the motor boat "Rambler Rose" built in Irvines in Peterhead, an' they sailed the gither as Weelum, skipper, an' Pat as mate until Weelum retired in ay, the boat wis selt.

Weelum, they are a family a' four, 3 boys and 1 girl in the family. Weelum sailed as skipper, Pat as mate an' the brother John was engineer. He died I think about late 50's, early 60's, so we'll be talkin' tae them, in their home at 40 Seatown.

We'll also be talkin' tae Johnnie Wood, he's kent as Johnnie Wood the "Ocean Crest" an' he bides in as ye eid say the 'Reedy Raw' in Cullen, an' we'll be gettin' his story an' a'.

Q. Fan did you start the sea noo Weelum?

A. 1917.

Q. Did ye aiy hae it in yer mind tae ging tae the sea? Hive ye ony stories back afore that?

A. It wis aiy in my mind tae ging tae the sea bit my father geed awa' tae Portsoy an' got me an apprentice wae McDonald the engineers, jist afore I left the school. I geed awa' on the train tae ging tae Portsoy, the train for gan' tae Buckie first, an' I geed on tae it an' geed doon tae my aunties man an' socht a birth on the "Loyal".

Q. Hoo lang wis ye on the "Loyal" Weelum?

A. Twa year.

Q. War came the

A. The year afore I stopped. It wis 1920, February 1920, she wis lost.

Q. She wis lost an' you came oot o'er her the year afore?

A. The year afore.

Q. Fit like a lads were they tae ging wae? Fit wid ye say?

A. Finest men I iver geed wae, a 'hale crew a Sloughie men.

Q. Aye, is that right noo?

A. Aye. I wis the only stranger thit wis in her.

Q. Fit wis it, wis ye gan' cook in it, that time or?

A. I wis cook, aye, made a mess.

Q. An' ye wis in her twa year did ye say?

A. I wis twa year in her.

Q. Fit did ye dae aefter that noo Weelum?

A. I gaed in tae, fin the "Loyal" wis lost I geed awa' in tae the "Valkyrie" of Finichty, a drifter. My father bocht a drifter, the "Docile", an' that wis in 1919 an' she wisna' aff the service that time, the war wis deen in 1918 an' she wisna' aff the service till aboot February 1920. An' I geed awa' in the "Valkyrie" in the month o' February 1920 an' the "Loyal" wis lost fin I wis awa'.

Q. Wis that right?

A. Even fishin' for nets fin I wis 18 year aul'. I got sixpence fae my father.

Q. You've felt gye sad fin ye heard o' the loss o' the "Loyal".

A. Did that. Some o' the men wis in her it that time.

Q. Now far did ye ging in the "Valkyrie" fin ye started like, wis that?

A. Ireland.

Q. Ireland!

A. Far I niver geen since, right roon tae fit est the...?

Q. Buncranna?

A. No, we wis it Buncranna for a start, (Killybegs). Geed roon the Killybegs wey. Burtonport.

Q. Ye fished there till fan?

3

A. It wis wae Jeemes the famous!! (The famous Portknockie man).

Q. Hoo lang wis ye in it like noo Weelum?

A. Oh jist the winter.

Q. Oh jist the winter?

A. Jist the winter, then we started in the "Docile" in the summer. Gye poor times.

Q. Did you tick o'er the "Docile" yer sel'?

A. Oh no. No. It wis my father thit bocht her.

Q. Oh wis ye niver skipper a the "Docile"?

A. I wis skipper o' 'er it that time.

Q. That's fit I thocht, I thocht you took 'er o'er as skipper. Ye'd her till?

A. My father started her in 1920, an' I geed skipper o' her in 1921. My father didna' like the skipperin'.

Q. Hoo auld wid you've been it that time noo Weelum?

A. 1928 - 25!

Q. Aye, aye. Ye'd her till fan, fan did ye hae her up tell?

A. 1936. She geed awa' for scrap in 1936. Bocht the "Rambler Rose" it that time.

Q. Bocht her oot o' Lossie?

A. No - Whitehills.

Q. She wis INS though wis she?

A. No, SN - North Shields. She belonged tae Irvine completely. She wis the only steel boat thit Irvine hid. Irvine used tae hae a lot a drifters, an' she wis the only steel boat thit they hid. It wis built in Middlesburgh in 1910. I bocht a half o' her, fae Hendry Milne - Whitehills. Ye cane some o' the Milnes' - Bertie an' a' that lads. Oh aye aye. They hid the "Bunrose" afore that.

Q. Aye she niver came back noo aefter the war, the "Rambler" did she nae? Ye niver took her, the drifter, back?

A. Aye I took her back here, I took her back tae Buckie.

Q. Aefter the war?

A. Aye.

Q. An' bit ye niver fished wae her though?

A. No. No no, we niver sailed in her. She geed awa' oot o' Buckie hairbour an' that hid been aboot the month o' April or May, towin' the "Provest" tae Norway. "Provest" o' Portknockie, her boiler wis wrang. An' the "Rambler" towed her tae Stivana. STRAVANGER.

Q. An' they were baith sailt there?

A. Baith sailt there.

Q. Did ye see the bit in the Fishin' News aboot the "Rambler" still gan'?

A. Aye twa year ago, twa, three year ago.

Q. Aye. Then you got the motor "Rambler" 104?

A. Aye. She wis the first ane thit came up here, durin' the war.

Q. Aye jist the back o' the war?

A. Jist the back o' the war. She wis a' ready tae gang tae Lowestoft in October.

Q. That wis her first fishin' sooth?

A. That wis her first fishin' sooth.

Q. I mine fin you took her in tae, I mine her comin' in tae Cullen.

A. Brucie Lawrence wis wae her an' he got merriet on her birthday fin he wis in Lowestoft.

Q. Aye Brucie?

A. Brucie.

Q. Aye aye.

A. Merriet a quinnie then.

Q. Aye ye worket herrin' maistly wae her till the kin' a herrin'?

A. Till 1956 wis't, John died in 1956.

Q. 1956 thit John died?

A. Aye, niver geed back tae the herrin'.

Q. That wis kin' o' the herrin' fishin' feenished?

A. Bit I liked the herrin' fishing.

Q. Aye. Then aefter that the seine-net, it turned in tae prawns wisn't it?

A. That's right, aye.

A. Nae prawns, I niver geed tae prawns.

Q. Nae prawns? Jist trawlin'?

A. A' the seine-nets.

Q. That's richt, I'm wrang, she wis turned o'er tae prawns aefter you selt her that's right. Fan did ye retire noo Weelum?

A. 1968.

Q. 1968, it's a lang time.

A. I geed 51 year at the sea.

Q. Of course you took the "Rambler" on the service an' a' didn't ye? The steam drifter?

A. Aye, the steam drifter, I wis on her a' the time o' the war.

Q. Aye you took her awa'?

A. We wis attendin' tae a' the merchant ships. Convoys at Methil, tickin' aff the Captains a the ships tae tick them ashore, an' tickin' them aff, an' the Captains o' the Officers o' the naval escorts, tickin' them aff.

Q. Aye wis ye nae in the torpeda recovery thing an' a'? No that's.., I'm thinkin' wrang.

A. No that wis in Ainster, torpeda recovery, the "Aucaple" an' the "Bow Wave". There wis anither ane or twa. Oh we wis a' attendin' the merchant ships an' the naval ships.

Q. So ye hid her a' the time the war as weill as then?

A. A' the time o' the war.

Q. Till ye retired, then?

Fit about you noo Clip, fit time did ye start the sea?

A. First time I geed tae the sea I kent nithin' aboot it. I wisna' a year aul'!

Q. Ye wisna' a year aul'?

A. No. The hale faimily, my faimily wis doon in Wick then, ken the end o' the week fishin' Weelum an' John, they went back on their sail - the "Camelia" wae my father an' I went in the drifter, ken I travelled first class was the weeman tae Finichty in the "Harvest Hope", wae my mither, wisna' a year aul'.

Q. Yer mither did ye say?

A. Maybe you dev Weelum, do you mine aboot that?
"Harvest Hope", yes. Jock Anderson's father 'Jockens' BCK 90.
(Gran' crossin' that).

Q. So yer mither hid been doon at Wick, fishin'?

A. Oh aye.
Hive ye heard aboot the man thit bade in Prood Fit, 'Tooter James'?

Q. No.

A. He wis a bit o' a crank. He entertained weemen o'er, there wis fower Cullen weemen an' they were a' wives a skippers, my mither wis ane o' them, Pete's mither, Fred Runcie's wis ane, an' John Hairper's mither wis anither ane, an' Alex Ross.

Q. Oh Finees Alex?

A. No nae Finees Alex, ay Jeemes Ross's brether, ye widna' mine in Jeemes Ross, they bade in that hoose thit Jim Dove hid in the Seatown.

Q. "Elderado"?

A. "Elderado", Alex Ross, he merriet Annie Goobran'. Aye he'd a share a the

Q. "Produla", ye see fin I wis.....

A. Ah well, well his mither. An' he didna' caw the wives by their names, their boat wis the "Prudent" so she wis Mrs Prudent! My father's boat was the "Camelia", she wis Mrs Camelia. John Hairper's mither wis Mrs Radiance, that wis their boat, an' fa wis the ither wife? There wis four o' them. I've said the "Prudent", the "Camelia", the "Radiance", oh "Fragrance", his mither the "Expediant".

Q. "Expediant", aye. I've heard aboot her aye.

A. Ye nicht mine on her?

Q. No no, I widna' mine on her bit I've heard my father speakin'...

A. They made her in tae a cargae boat. She wis a big sail-boat. Aye. Her an' the "Camelia" wis bigger even. Aye, Johnny's father bocht her. Changed her name tae the "Denburn". No no, my father wisna' in the "Denburn", he wis in the "Camelia" jist a fishin'. Oh, it wis David Mair fir ye cawd the "Denburns", she wis carryin' cargae.

Q. She wis a big boat the "Camelia"?

A. She hid a 75 horsepower - low tension gairner, ye can figure that ane oot! She wis an awfa' big boat. 2 cylinder - low tension gairner. She wis built in Lossie.

Q. An' far did ye start the sea richt though Pat wis it...?

A. 1927. The summer fishin'.

Q. 1927. Wid that have been the "Docile"?

A. The "Docile" aye. That wis my start a

Q. So actually you an' Weelum his mare or less geen the gither a' yer fishin' life?

A. Aye. Well war time no, bit ither times aye, apairt fae the war.

Q. So you....

A. Some cook I can tell ye. "Rambler Rose" wis back an' I took a birth for the summer in the "Rose Hall" wae John West in the "Day Star". John bocht the "Rose Hall" fae Hopeman.

Q. That wis a standard boat wisn't it?

A. She wis a standard boat an' John hidna' a ticket at a'. An' I wis skipper o' her, then aefter that fishin' John got a mate's ticket. I think it's a mate's ticket thit John his yet.

Q. That wis time o' the "Rambler"?

A. Aye, a richt fine chap John.

Q. Aye you'd geen in the "Rambler" richt up till the war? Aye fin Weelum took the "Rambler" awa' tae the

A. Aye that's richt fin the war started.

Q. Aye you geed awa' tae the

A. "Maranatha"

Q. Oh you wis in the "Maranatha" afore the war?

A. Aye, so wis John.

Q. John in't in a'?

A. Aye. John wis in't twice, he did 5 year as a seaman early on as a young loon an' he came oot o'it an' he joined again afore the war as a stocker bit he wis a chief engineman ken, later on. There's a picture bane there o' that first trawler, thit John wis in, a picture o' her. It wis a coorse day an' she wis sweepin' for mines in December 2, 1939, the day afore day-war wis declared. The "Sargone" wis her name. An' she came through the war, she geed awa' back tae the fishin'. An' she geed adrift awa' in the Artic somewhere, Coalgate Dean an' she wis weeks sweelin' aboot the sea - no food or nithin'. They said the crew wis aitin' rats, I dinna' ken. It's true enough thit ane o' the crew's wife's wis merriet. She wis picket up, a German trawler picket her up jist afore the war and towed her tae Germany. The "Sargone" wis her name. A picture o' her bane there. Then she came back an' geed tae the fishin', then she geed ashore in course a Ireland and wis lost wae a' han's.

Q. She wis lost wae a' han's aye? John wis sweepin' it that time, aye yer brether John?

A. No no, John wis niver sweepin' that time.

Q. So ye geed awa' tae war then Pat aye, ye widhave aye far did ye ging?

A. I did a six weeks course afore the war, I wis a month in the R.V. "Victory" an' I wis a fortnicht in the "Vernon" a boat, a destroyer, I wis on the "Vernon", trainin' ken. Ken a foreign, a' the drill, this sort a thing. Then I wis in tae sweepers. I wis called up, I wis sweepin' tae "Granton", then we left "Granton" jist afore Dunkirk, bit we landed in Yarmouth. Ken we wis sweepin' fae there, then eventually tae Battle a Britain time tae Sheerness. HMS "Willfire". Well I wis a year there an' then I wis a filie up the Wallat, the "Bridle Sea" an' then I took my skipper's ticket, aye in Grimsby.

Q. Aye the time o' the war?

9.

A. Aye, an' then I geed doon to Portsmouth six weeks, I took the men up an' then, no wis Smutohaven afore that for a year. An' then I wis made up there aye ken

Q. Aye chief?

A. Aye fin I took my ticket. An' then I geed in tae "Asdex" doon the Scappa. Joinet the Scalbie like.

Q. Oh wis ye wae in her wae Alex McKay?

A. Aye I wis wae Alex McKay, the "Sign o' Capital". I wis wae Charlie Gomer first, Charlie Gomer o' Aberdeen. Then McKay took her o'er. Convoys, escorts - that sort o' thing. Dein' the North Patrol an' then we wis pittin' up convoys it Methil in Belfast ye ken, roon aboot. So I wis there till V.E. time. So I came oot o'er her an' geed back tae Lowestoft an' feenished up in the "Yankie Bimps".

Q. Oh aye.

A. Aye Yankie minesweepers, ken, doon at Mill Bay in Devon Port, an' oh they were rooted for Australia ken, bit we missed oor ken through repairs uncompleted, so we sent tae Swansea an' wis there a while an' then was demobed, ken time wis up, ken log book numbers. That wis that, aye.

Q. So you came hame, wis the "Rambler" noo, did you ay, did you hae anither boat afore the "Rambler" wis ready like?

A. I wis aboard the "Rambler" a filie, ken, aye it Methil.

Q. No no, fit I mean Pat wis, fin ye came hame fae the war, did ye go aboard anither boat afore the "Rambler Rose", aye the motor wis ready?

A. No. No.

Q. Or did ye jist ging right aboard her?

A. Aye, aboard the "Rambler".

Q. An' the twa o' ye sailed the gither?

A. Till it wis back in fishin' aye. Started off, mine Wamfil got the ...the "Rose" or somethin' they cawd it.

Q. Oh aye that's right the "Rose". She wis a deralenty.

A. The Carlton. An' that wis jist trouble ken.

Q. Aye.

A. The latter end we tied her up an' got a job wae fool Jokes! Mine on her? The "Darnaway".

Q. Aye the drifter?

A. Aye, hid her on hire fae Lossie. So, oh it took plenty herrin', every black shot hid herrin' everyday an' ay Fa took her aefter that? Oh aye the "Rambler" ken?

Q. Aye she wis ready for the....

A. There wis aiy man ye ken jist sharin' the summer.

Q. Oh aye, till the "Rambler" wis ready?

A. Mind you I got the "Darnaway" tae go sooth. An' ay, covered me share o' "Itsmer" bit he didna' ken about boatbuildin' it the time, it wis back ken, back tae square one again.

Q. She wis a bonnie boat the "Rambler"?

A. Oh aye, she wis that, smart boat. Aye.

Q. So the twa' a ye, of course aefter Weelum retired ye geed awa' tae the ...

A. Och I wis a' the waes!

Q. No ye gaed awa' in the cruisers?

A. I wis aboard the "Explorer".

Q. The "Explorer" that's right.

A. It wis interest ye aboot a story, time I wis in the "Loyal" at the West Coast. We landed it a pier, if I can mine, it wis in Loch Brackadale, is there a quay in Loch Brackadale?

Q. Aye, I think there is, Brackadale, aye.

A. Aye it wis Brackadale, an' I geed ashore wae ane o' the crew, carryin' an' auld net up till a black house tae get a bag a tatties, I mine we geed in tae the hoose, a great big room wae an earthen floor, smooth earthen floor, an' a big fire in the middle o't an' there wis no chimneys, jist a hole in the roof far the smoke geed up. An' there wis anither room, there wis a coo or twa coo's kept in't. Bit my particular notice, the whole room wis papered wae the newspaper o' Scotsman.

Q. Is that right?

11.
A. I never read the first anes thit geed on, wae peat smoke, bit I think they must have put them on maybe every week as they got them 'cause ay, ye could've read a lot o' them.

Q. Is that right?

A. Bit the coo's 've kept them warm, the coo's hiv kept the place warm.
An' I jist aiy won'er if that black hoose is there yet, in Brackadale.

Q. Funny you should say that noo Weelum. We wis in a museum place, aye in Mull ken twa year ago an' there wis a black hoose, noo jist is you said aiy noo, the faimily wis bidin' it aiy side an' the coo an' the animals wis in the ither side.

A. There wis an elderly man an' his wife, the faimilies likely been awa' an' workin'.

Q. That wis in Brackendale fin ye wis in the "Loyal" noo?

A. Yes, it wis the time the boats wis sooth ye see, we didna' get sooth. There wis twa sail-boats geed awa', the "Laurel" an' the "Loyal". The "Laurel" struck a rock an' wis lost, she niver come hame. The crew got aff o' her a' richt.

Q. Fit like wis it sailin' in a zulu? Ken fin she wis under sail?

A. Oh it wis gran', it wis fine, besides the steam or the motor.

Q. Nae a soun'?

A. Nae nithin' bit the swish a the water an' the creekin' o' the blocks.

Q. A lot a work gettin' tacket roon aboot noo ken?

A. Bit it wis a lot o' work for the men in the weenter time. An' the canvas ye see wis, if it wis weenter an' frost the canvas wis jist like boards thit couldna' be han'led.

Q. Aye frozen?

A. An' if ye'd tae deck aboard a' that hid tae be hauled roon the ither side a the mast. Of course ye'd the capeson port, bit still it wis heavy heavy work. It wis murderous work in the sailin' boats, in the winter time ony wey.

Q. Thone big block, is't the tie-block they ca' it, thone muckle I see it?

A. Oh it note a' the crew ye see, tae shift fin they were takin' a sail, tae shift the blocks, wae the boat rollin', the blocks wis that heavy, an' a that. Aboot eight haul a riggin' ye see. It wis three sheave blocks that hid been seven haul.

Q. An' ye shifted them?

A. I'na ken, the blocks wis four sheaves if I can mine. Mine ane wis the top ane or the lower ane. It hid been the topper ane, the top that.

Q. Fit they ca' the tie-block, fit's the tie-block, I've heard them speakin'

A. The tie-block, that wis the top ane.

Q. I've heard my father speakin' aboot that like ye ken. The like a runnin', they say the fastest passage win't it fae Yarmouth hame wis a zulu wisn't it?

A. Aye?

Q. I've heard them sayin' thit the fastest run fae Lowestoft tae hame tae Buckie wis a zulu wis that right.

A. Oh it widhave been, oh it widhave been. Oh it wid ootstrip a steam easy ye ken wae a leadin' wind. I've seen't deen mony's a time. Bit usually the drifter got in tae the hairbour afores some wey or anither.

Q. Aye jist, ye'd the take an' aiy thing I suppose.

A. Aye. Bit they were grand boats it the sailin'.

Q. Quiet! Fit like wis the comfort below noo Weelum?

A. Oh nae much comfort, no. The summer time the cabin wis like an oven. It wisna' a that cald the weenter time, they'd the boiler ye see goin' an' the stove. The hatch hault doon, bit the summer time they were awfa' smelly, especially the first o' the week, a' the heerin' gorie lyin' in o'er them o'er the weekend, an' I used tae be dead seeck on Monday fin they started aiy fin' they sailed. Bit is the week geed on, the clean water come in tell's it wis a' clean.

Q. Aye, fit aboot pumps an' that noo Weelum?

A. Oh they'd a steam bilge.

Q. Oh they'd a steam bilge?

A. Oh aye.

Q. I hidna' actually thocht aboot that noo, the likes o' us lads, we jist geed doon an' we turn on a pump.

A. Oh the Donkey-Pump.

Q. It wisna' fit they ca'ed the Lobaiga Pump?

A. A little wheelie aboot the size o' that gan' roon an' roon, aye. It did for the hose, bit bilge pumps besides that - the same the drifter hid. Aye, jist the one pump though. The drifter widhave hane twa bilge pumps, ane fore-side the bilge ane on the ither side bit the sailboat hid only one, there wis no bilge heed in a sailboat.

Q. Noo ye hailed the nets, did you hale the nets o'er the quarter in the "Loyal" noo - the sailboats?

A. Yes. If the weather wis good, ye cwedna' dae it wae bad weather. Ye hid tae get the heed tell't in bad weather. It wis awkward kin' hailin' by the heed.

Q. Aye. The zulu's a mare or less hault o'er the starns?

A. If the weather wis richt, they hault o'er the starns, sometimes the water wis splashin' o'er ye like a that.

Q. Aye.

A. Half-croons a' turned green!

Q. Aye, aye the smell o' the nets?

A. An' the sulphur ken, left a week it the side yer bed, it wis green.

Q. Oh wae the gorie smell?

A. Aye.
The silver turned blue.

Q. Is that right?

A. Aye they polished the breast pipes an' the boiler an' fin ye geed oot on the Monday, they were a' blue wae the, wae the smell.

Q. Aye.

A. An' the boilers looket bonnie on a Saturday ye ken fin ye polished them.

Q. A' cleaned aye?

A. An' they were a' varnished, varnished wed roon them an' the breat pipes an' the donk' pump wheel painted bright red an' they looket bonnie. The stove aiy black leaded in a Saturday. That anes lyin' doon there, fin I look it them I aiy think some lads been prood a that, fin eed it a polished up!

Q. Oh the ane thit's lyin' in the san'?

A. Aye. Bit that wisna' a sailboat that wis a sailin' ship, cargae boat.

Fa the "Missionary"?

Oh the "Missionary", the "Mission" ye see her boiler yet.

Q. Oh is that her boiler, aye the zulu, there's twa boilers there, there's ane it the fit, there's ane aside the "Jean Shearer" an' there's anither ane....

A. Well that's the "Missionary" up, they took the boat up aside their hoose tae brack 'er up. I can mine in the boat fine, she wis a sma' zulu, she'd jist been aboot 54 or 5 fet I wid think bit she hid a boiler in 'er, an' the boiler is there yet, there's sometimes ye dinna'....it disappears the san' comes o'er.

Q. That's the ane up aside Frankies?

A. Aye that's richt.

Well that's far they broke her up then, aside the hoose.

Q. Jist front a Cullen yon'er? Aye.

A. They hid fire-wed handy!

Q. Aye aye. Well I believe I've a photae a that noo Pat, a zulu lyin' up there bein' broken up.

A. They cremated the boat aefter.

Ye'd hae a photograph a "Jean Shearer" an a'?

Q. Oh aye.

A. Mine a boat's boiler lay a lang time in Buckie hairbour.

Q. Aye that's right. We eest tae play in't fin we wis bairns. Fit about you noo Johnny?

A. Somebody picket it up I think? Camerons picket it up, Camerons or some o' them. It widhave been there yet ye see if they hidna' tane't awa', boiler!

Q. We can hae a yarnie noo, fit aboot you noo Johnny, fan did you start the sea?

A. Noo, afore ye ging ony further, Weelum wis speakin' aboot the "Loyal". Fit year dae ye say she wis lost Weelum?

1920 - February.

1919. I wis on the "Golden Darn", we come across the Firth, it wis a coorse nicht, a westerly ween', a strong breeze, a westerly ween', an' fin we came in, half the crew geed awa' tae walk hame tae Portknockie, an' there wis a Joe Cowe (?) an' me, I wis cookie in the "Golden Darn", an' ay.. fin she geed up the back the quay. Noo I wis jist a loon an' I wis up on tae the tap watchin' them an' ye cwed see the men fin they fired off the rockets ye see, they hid the tripod for firin' the rocket doon on the quay, because it wis that weenie they couldna' go up on top o' the parapits ye see?

Q. Aye.

A. An' ivery rocket they were firin', the strength o' the westerly ween', it wis aiy gan well tae win'ward o' the boat, bit it aiy drappet awa' tae the loor an' they cwedna' get a rocket across her.

Q. No?

A. An' they saw them a', they were up on tae the tap o' the wheelhoose.

An' a drifter cwedna' get oot tae 'er.

Oh they couldna' get near them, they were richt o'er tae that bit far the rocks is, an' ay, it wis a sad business a' the gither because ay, they were practically very near against the quay an' they cwedna' get at them ye see.

Q. Aye that's richt.

A. An' ay, oh there wis aiy man there a lang, lang time afore he wis, he wis in tae the fore-riggin', ye see the fore-mast wis up an' he wis in tae the fore-riggin' an' he wis there till the mast geed o'er. O'er the side. She hid the sail a' the time thit I wis in her an' she jist new got in the motor it that time an' it sailed oot the hairbour.

Q. Oh she wisna' comin' in under sail then?

A. No.

She hid the short mast ye see.

I think they'd hane that 55 gairner thit she hid.

Q. Oh aye.

A. Pariffin.

Q. I wis aiy under the impression Weelum thit she wis comin' in under sail?

16

A. No. No no, bit she'd sail a' the time thit I wis in 'er. her number wis changed fin I wis in her, fin I joined her she wis BF 1488, an' they changed her number tae BCK 263. Well they wey I thocht, I'm sure it wis 1919, I started in 1919 in the "Glenesk", now, my uncle hid the "Glenesk" on hire fae the Robertsons o' Aberdeen, there wis a 'hale fleet a "Glens" an' the "Glenesk", well we geed a filie in 'er an' then they shifted aboard the "Golden Darn". We feenished the weenter in the "Golden Darn". She wis A 559, an ay, aefer we tied-up it the weenter, now it wis durin' that time I wis in the "Golden Darn" thit the "Loyal" geed ashore. Aefer the weenter we geed aboard the "Lizzie and Ann".

Q. Drifter?

A. Drifter.

Q. Aye.

A. She wis A 277, she wis eventually selt tae Lossie. Then I geed wae, that wis three boats wae the same skipper like, it wis my uncle Wilkie.

Q. Aye.

A. Well Jeemes Joseph I'm sure ye can easy ascertain the time she wis lost?

Q. Oh aye, aye nae bather, aye jist aff the records.

A. I still think February 1920.

Q. Aye aye, oh aye, I've the records it hame.

A. February 19...?

Twenty!

I canna see't because I jist canna' see't, because I left the school...

Either February or March, I cane it wis durin' the weenter. I wis 13 in May an' I got awa' fae the school it Christmas.

Q. Bit I hive the bit in the paper.

A. Bit I micht be wrang, bit I wis in the "Golden Darn" in the weenter a 1919 an' I wis in the "Golden Darn" fin the "Loyal" wis lost. An' my uncle an' them wis a' up it ay, Edinburgh it the ay, it the inquest aboot the "Loyal" ye see.

Q. An' far did ye ging aefer that noo Johnny fin ye come oot o'er the "Glen Esk" an' that, far did ye, wis ye wae Heck a' the time?

A. Aefer anes I wis awa' fae my uncle, oh I wis in the "Sloshia".

Q. Oh aye, Portknockie.

A. An' ay, she wis BF 1056, that richt?

Fit ane?

The "Sloshia".

Oh aye.

An' she belonged tae - well it wis Wood thit wis their name.

An' ay, ye mine in ay, in Jimmy thit wis

Q. No that wis afore my time.

A. Well, that wis folk thit hid the "Sloshia", an' ay, we were it the weenter, an' ay, we should have hane ten o' a crew bit we'd only nine! It wis a good job, sweemin' ashore.

Q. Aye?

A. The boats wis a' gan' awa' hame for Christmas ye see, New Year, an' the like o' a' ither weenters, we'd niver nithin' it weenters.

Q. No, I eest tae think it a shame.

A. An' we geed tae Kyle an' fullt her up a coal an' we wis gan roon tae Ploughton tae tie-her-up, there wis a 'hale fleet o' drifters in Ploughton, on anchor, for the New Year, it wis a coorse day an' I'd niver been in Ploughton afore an' ay, we wis follyin' a motor boat in bit the ween wis that strong thit a' the loch wis liftin' wae the spray ye see, an' this boat, it wis a Finichty motor boat, an' she wisna' drawin' the water thit we wis drawin', he geed o'er the tap o' the rope thit we stuck, an ay, it wis comin' dark ye see an' a coorse nicht, an ay, her starn started tae ging awa' doon as the tide wis gan' awa' ye see an' they were feart she wid slide aff the rock an' pit oot o'er the boatie an' we'd tae slack her awa', we'd a 'hale kiel a raifie stuff tied in tae the rail, an' we slacked her awa' doon clear the rocks an' aefter we got her clear the rocks we lit her swing roon about an' we'd abeen a mile tae gan' in a sma' boat, afore the ween' like, an' aefter we got an' roon the p'int, we wis in among the drifters an' they took a pickle lads here an' a lad there. An' in the mornin' fin the tide wis awa' she wis lyin' a' stem in the air an' the gear a' floated a' o'er the tap o' the mast an' the wheelhouse.

Q. That wis the "Sloshia"?

A. Aye. She lay there till summer.

Q. Wis she nae a widden boat?

A. Oh no, she wis ane o' yon bigger ships.

Q. Fit wey wis she lyin' Johnny? Wis she lyin' awa' in the air like that?

A. She wis lyin' like that ye see.

Q. Ken I hive a photae in the hoose o' a drifter, aye you've maybe seen't in my book Weelum, bit it's the funniest photae, she's lyin' straight up like this on the top o' a rock an' her heeds.... I dinna ken her name like.

A. Well, she lay there till the summer time afore they lifted her bit I'na ken fit happened aefter they lifted her. Now Weelum ye say 1920, oor George wis in her richt enough. There wis Ecky Dodd - Cullen, an' Jakey Pindy, Jock Tamm!! A' the worthies!!

They were worthies that lads!

Q. Wis that lad 'Pindy' thit wis the chief?

A. Aye.

They geed the weenter that time bit they werena' expectin' tae get nithin' ye ken, an' I wis jist a youngster an' fin I wis in the "Sloshia", an' Jottie eest tae come in tae the... he wis a rare lad, dive ye mine Jott, Ecky Dodd's brether Jott? Ecky Dodd's brether Jott?

No! Oh Portknockie?

Ay?

Portknockie?

Aye.

Oh aye.

Well he eest tae come in tae the galley an' he eest tae sing "To jail for debts shall no man go, carry on the glory o'", they kent they widna' get nithin' it the end o' their time ye see.

As happy!

A' well I got merriet in September 1933 an' I geed awa' tae Yarmouth an' I wis eight weeks in Yarmouth an' I'd a fourth share a gear in an' ay, for my ane share an' my gear share, I hid £4.10.

Q. Wis that for yer Yarmouth fishin'?

A. For my Yarmouth fishin' - 8 weeks an' I said tae my wife, "No, I'm nae gan' back tae the herrin' again", an' I geed awa' tae the trawlin', an' I wis trawlin' steady till the war broke oot. Bit trawlin' wis a job thit ye hid a lot a changes at, ships like, because if ye come in an' hid a dud trip, the skipper got the sack, an' that meant a' the crew, except the twa lads thit belonged it got the sack. That wis the routine an' ay, in 1939 fin war broke oot fin I wis in the "Sunlight" an' ay we come in an' landed

Q. She wis lost aff o' Scrapster wisn't she, aye the "Sunlight"?

A. She wis lost?

Q. Aye, aefter the war like?

A. Aye, ah well ay, she wis a standard trawler we cawd them, bit however, we landed in an' come awa' hame, an' I wis second fishman in ay, in the "Sunlight" an' they phoned an' said ay, "Oh the boats been tane o'er, we're a' signin' on, T 124" an' ay, "You'd better come through an' sign on". So I geed through an' signed on wae a' the rest o' the crowd, an' we geed tae Yarmouth, based it Yarmouth, an' hid a bonnie big white 'N' sign on 'er starn an' nae a gun aboard a nae description! An' the patrol thit we hid tae tick up wis 4 mile Nor-Eastern Europe, an' we were supposed tae be watchin' oot for 'E' boats! Then of course they decided it wis too risky an' they wid pit the skipper in tae uniform, skipper only, in uniform, it wis still T 124. An' we wis it that till February, an' then they decided we hid tae tick her up tae the Victoria Docks a London an' tae get her renovated tae tick a navy crew aboard. An' we a' geed awa' hame, an' then aefter twa three trips trawlin' I geed awa' in the "Ben Arthur". An' ay, we wis aiy feenishin' up in prominent areas ye ken, an' David says this is gettin' o'er ...this ga wa' doon tae the noop, an' Simon Campbell an' me an' Davie, the skipper, wis in the wheelhouse.

Q. Wis that Simon thit hid the "Europa"?

A. Aye. An' ay, newsin' ye ken, a bonnie day an' we passed a the capital ships ootside a Hoy, ay, a few o' them ootside there manoeuverin' an' we geed doon an' Davie says ay, "I think you should hud her awa' east". We wis gan' doon north an' he says "I think ye shid hud her awa' east". An' ay, of course we held her awa' an' made a richt sharp turn an' the first thit we caint wis thit a plane hid come up astarn, an' we didna' ken, an' it wis a Gerry plane mind ye, Nor-west fae the noop, an' we his turnin' bomb geed richt atween the masts, landed in the ither side o'es, of course it braks up, lift a' the plates an' ay, the lad stoppit ye see, we sa' the plane widna' come back, so aefter we got her aff she wisna' makin' water so Davie says "oh we'll hae a twa three hauls an' clear oot a here". I hid the first watch, it wis bonnie mean licht.

Q. Are you a cook noo Pat?

A. I dinna' dae one's han' turn.

Q. Dive ye nae?

A. No.

It wis bonnie mean licht, an' we shot awa', it wis a bonnie mean licht nicht, an' fin he wis towin' I saw mines nae far faes, I called the skipper mannie, I says "Davie" I says "There's mines here", fin he come up an' saw the mines, "Noo dinna' say nithin' tae nane the rest o' the boys, we'll heave up, we'll heave up till day-light". An' he hove up an' lay tae

day-light then we cleared oot an' geed tae Scrapster an' got orders tae ging through the Firth, an' we geed through the sooth channel, a convoy geed through the north channel an' come the gither comin' o'er Duncan's Bay Head an' Davie says "I think we'll hud her awa' up along the land tae get clear a that convoy. An' afore it came dark we saw aeroplane get twa ships in the convoy. Ane aboot the Sanny Riddles an' ay, oh I cwed right a book I can tell ye.

Q. Aefter the war ye hid the "Ocean Crest"?

A. No, I geed a year wae Jeemes in the "Fidelity".

Q. That's richt, of course ye're nae a Cullen man ye see. Of course I forgot tae say ye're nae a Cullen man Weelum?

A. No. He's a Portknockie man.

Q. He's a Knocker.

A. Aye that's richt, he merriet tae Cullen. Every nicht I'm o'er it the hospital it Buckie.

Q. Fit's that noo Weelum?

A. Madge, o'er in the hospital ivery nicht.

Q. Are ye?

A. Every nicht.

I've seen Madge every nicht except three nchts since she geed in tae hospital in Aberdeen.

Q. Is Madge in the hospital?

A. Aye.

Q. Your Madge?

A. Aye. She's there as happy as could be.

Q. I niver kent that, no.

A. Disna' ken she's in the hospital. Disna' ken she's in Buckie.

I saw her aiy nicht an' she disna' ken half the week she's there.

O'er every nicht.

Q. Well I niver kent that noo Johnny. I caint thit Jeannie wis in the hospital.

A. Aye. Oh bit Madge his been in the hospital since November. A year past November. An' sure Weelum, she's as pleasant as ye

like fin ye... aiy laughin'! Aiy laughin'!
Jeanies very content an' a'.

Q. Is that richt Weelum?

A. Weelum says.. comes in tae Madge in 'ees wey oot an' she says "Far ye gan'?" "We're gan' awa' tae the boaties moored up ye see". She says, "Oh that's a' richt than, watch yer sel's". Then she waves us oot, ken, ye ken thit her mind wis far awa'. She disna' ken ye see.

Q. No. I niver caint that.

A. Of course dae ye mine the time that Willie Bow got Davie Dunn for a cook?

Q. Aye in thon little boatie?

A. The "Deliverer".

Q. Oh no.

A. Aye the, mine the Salvation Army boat ken.

A. Aye.

Q. Blood an' Fire on the funnel an' that.

A. Aye that's right.

Q. Well they were ready for the summer fishin' ye ken, a painted an' cleaned an' athin', bit the cook hid tae pack it up ken, it the last minute, so Willie Bow met aul' Davie Dunn, he says "Davie, will ye come awa' cook wae's?" "Aye" Davies says "I'll gang, bit gae ma five shillin's". "Ah" Willie Bow says, "I've nae money on ma bit I'll go up tae the hoose" so he come doon, he gave the five shillin's tae Betsie, ken Davie's wife. That's right aye.

So the followin' mornin' he wis doon tae the boat, ken, he stoppet, an' the bow's an' athin' light oot, ye see an' were ready for them goin', driver an' the fireman doon below ken revin' steam ken, bit he looks in tae the gailley, the cabin, "Far's Davie?" "Naebodies seen 'em". So he ging up tae the hoose ken the hoosie across the road there, Davies sittin' tae a bowl a tea, Betsie's makin' broth. So he says "Davie fit wey are ye nae doon tae yer work?", Davie says "You offered me, you owed me five shillin's afore we go bit ye gave the five shillin's tae Betsie", so he says "Ye can tack her cook wae ye".

Q. He hidna' gotten his ane entrance fee fae Bow ye see.

A. Aye.

He got the five shillin's mind ye!

Q. Aye Davie wis a great lad for that. I jist won'er far a' the aul' lads, ken the aul' lads in Cullen noo ken?

A. Mmm some great aul' lads.

Q. Dae ye mine a' the aul' drifters in Cullen noo Weelum? Name o'er a curn?

A. The only early drifters thit's iver been in Cullen I could gae ye.

Q. Fire awa', jist, cane tells a curn. "Deliverer"?

A. Better gae ye some o' the aul'er anes first. The "Rose", the "Hisop" wis the aul'est ane.

Q. "Hisop" wis the aul'est drifter?

A. Aye. The "Rose", the "Diamond", the "Yare".

Q. Can ye mine fa belonged them an' a' it the same time?

A. Oh the maist o' them.

Q. Near enough.

A. Well the "Hisop" wis George Den.

Q. George Den?

A. She geed up the last century, the "Hisop". Well about 1900 built it Bowlen (?) she was a poor poor drifter. Strongest ane thit ever wis in Cullen bit the poorest ane, they couldna' shot a net in her.

Q. Is that right.

A. Every time they geed tae shot - every shot o'er the starnboard side it took the propeller, suppose they shot mare than ane, she took the propeller. She wis an' awfa' clean ethed an' she didna'... an' I dinna' think she drew say muckle water as a sail-boat did. She wis like a puffer, an' awfa' strong drifterie the "Hison".

"Hison"?

"Hison" aye.

I mine on her.

An' the "Diamond", the "Yare", the "Carmela", Willie Bow hid her. Willie Den hid the "Yare". The Weelum Findlay, Jeemes Pum's father hid the "Diamond". An' then the "Rose" wis Joke Dattle.

Q. Is that him thit hid the "Altaire", is that the same?

A. Same. Willie hid the "Altaire" bit Joke skippered the "Rose" as lang as he'd her, three drifters a filie, they hid the "Ebeneezer". They bocht the "Ebeneezer" an' they didna' keep her nae time, an' I think Adam Addison geed skipper o' her. He wis merriet tae Leebie Dattle.

Q. Adam - wis that Adam thit hid the "Glide".

A. Adam's father.

Q. Oh, oh that's gan back a bittie that.

A. It wisna' Adam thit hid the "Glide".

Q. Aye hid father?

A. Oh no it widhave been him thit hid the "Ebeneezer" aye? Aye 'ees father wis lost in the "Glide"?

Q. I see, comin' hame in thone big breeze it...?

A. Aye, it wis him thit skippered the "Ebeneezer".

Q. "Carpie"?

A. Aye.

Q. The "Carpedium"?

A. The "Carpedium", that wis Jimmy Lardie. Aye there wis mare on the share than him. We're jist sayin' Jimmy Lardie, the "Gartly" 'ees brether, Dodie Lardie.

Q. Dae ye ken hoo the "Gartly" got her name noo Weelum?

A. No.

Well - a country toon.

Q. Well I jist learned that fit wey the "Gartly" got 'er name. Apparently fa wis it thit hid her again, wis it the Hartles?

A. Ay, Dodie Lardie.

Q. Their mither eest tae ging on the train wae fish an' that's far she geed, she geed on the train tae Gartly wae a creel sellin' fish. Fin they bocht this drifter I've heard thit, fit wid we ca' her, wis she ane o' the numbers fae Yarmouth?

A. Yes, she ane o' the numbers aye.

Q. I've heard they took her hame an' changed her name. That wifie says "Well a' the money we've gotten nearly hid been oot o' Gartly an' we'll ca' her the "Gartly". So I wis jist

wonderin' if you would ken that. I canna' mine fa' tell't me that.

A. Then there wis the "Resource" there wis anither Smith - Joke Dane hid her, bit he'd ane afore that, he'd a "Breadowner" a widden ane afore that BF 9.

The "Pitness".

An' the "Pitness" Joe Mowat hid her for a filie.

An' there wis mare Smith boats there wis the "Vigilant", Jimmy Bow, Willie's father an' the "Dodgent" wis Boy's father - that's a' Smith boats. There wis the bigger ane, the "Springbud" the "Resolute".

Aye the "Springbud" and the "Resolute" that's the - aye Jeanies father, Jim Bow hid her.

He hid the "Ingie" for a filie.

Q. Aye Jeannie's father?

A. Aye, he bocht her fae aul' Cathenray (?) BCK 31, an' kept her a filie an aul' Cathenray bocht her back fae 'em, an' he bocht the "Breeze Rose", then he hid the "Fisher Lassie", the zulu aefter that, a big zulu.

Q. Aye my father wis sooth wae her.

A. Aye, father sooth in her.

Q. Aye.

A. She wis a bigger boat than the "Rose"?

Q. That's right, well my father wis sooth in her wae Jim Bow, the "Fisher lassie".

A. Oh aye.

Q. That hid been the second fishin' aefter the war I think, Jim Bow widhave hid that, "Fisher Lassie".

A. That's right. We'd the "Rambler" that time.

Q. Aye the motor "Rambler"?

A. Aye.

Q. Ken 'is I mine that, seein' you ane's in Lowestoft that time an' that wis, I mine commentin' on how bonnie the new boat, ken looket among a' the.... that's right that wis the year though.

A. Noo there wis the wooden boats, there wis the "Flower O' May". Fit aboot the "Carpodeum", that's anither ane. Got her, Jimmy Lardie.

Bit the "Flower O' May" that wis Jim Gardner, Tanie's father, Jackson.

Q. Jackson that's right.

A. The "Sunnyside", wis Cecil, bides doon there, his father Blanks.

Q. Oh aye Blanks.

A. Blanks they ca'ed it. An' the "Lonsdale".

Q. Aye that wis the Innes's.

A. Then wooden anes, the "Herald". There wis Jimmy Fairmer. "Flower O' May" - "Sunnyside".

Q. Aye fa belonged her again, the "Herald"?

A. Jimmy Fairmer, dae ye mine Jim Fairmer?

Q. Did he ging awa' tae Aberdeen did he?

A. No, he wis, died in Cullen "Crack", "Crack".

Q. Oh aye, aye aye.

A. An' the "Docile".

Q. That wis yer ane 'een aye. "Altaire"?

A. The "Altaire". That wis the biggest boat that. Aye.

There wis only the three BCK's.

Wis the "Altaire" nae built oot aboot?

No. No built in Herdies. Biggest boat, the langest boat thit they built, they hid a great puzzle launchin' her, tae get room tae turn, they jist managed.

Q. Wis that Finichty like Pat?

A. Finichty.

Q. BCK 180.

A. An' ay, fit mare wooden ane's wis there? There wisna' a lot o' wooden boats in Cullen.

Q. The "Killiecan?

A. The "Killiecan".

Q. The "Lyndabow"?

A. The "Lyndabow".

Q. Johnny, ye shid mine that?

A. Oh aye. 872 an' the "Killiecan" wis 2122.

Built aboot 1908 or 9. My good-father Jeemes eest tae tell me there wis one bad thing aboot the "Hope" - she hid a steel kiel stone an' he didna' like it. He says it ruined the boat. Anse it bent, the bend never come oot o' her.

Q. Aye aye, she wis built in Leith.

A. She wis built in Leith.

Q. Sma' kind a boatie wis she, wis she a sma' kind a boatie?

A. Oh no I widhave said she wis as big as ony the ither, as big as the "Flower O' May" or ony o' them. Average size o' that boats is 86 feet (84) 86 maybe. The "Eglise" that wis a big boat. She wis a big boat aye. They made an awfa' bad job wae a' the wooden drifters they built in Cullen. They only built seven an' there wisna' a good ane among them.

Q. Is that right Weelum? Built seven?

A. Well the boats wis right enough but they'd the great big cabin, big engine-room, stock hole, an' they'd nae room tae hud herrin', mucket up wae seventy cran.

Q. Is that right, aye they geed awa' by the heed sign?

A. They geed awa' doon the heed. They'd only three lockers aside them an' their fishroom. A' the Cullen boats, the "Flower O' May" wis a bonnie boat, she'd a poor howl an' a'. I wis aboard ane o' them fin she wis launched. I wis gye young.

Q. Fit ane wis that?

A. "Hastle".

Q. Oh "Hastle", wis that nae the first ane?

A. No, she wis the second last ane.

Q. Second last ane?

A. She wis BF 80.

Aye that's richt.

She left Cullen hairbour a file ken.

Aye.

I'na ken if she wis ony bigger or no, I dinna' ken aboot her Johnny.

No she wis much aboot the same.

Aye.

The last ane wis bigger, the last ane the "Harvester" she wis mare like a Finichty boat. Bit they built her the "Harvester", the "~~Arthur and Bud~~" at the same time. "Arthur and Bud" wis built nearest the water an' the "Harvester" wis built up the brae an' her stern wis built up the brae. An' thocht her a bonnie boat fin she wis lyin' there, bit fin she wis launched she didna' look at a', her stern wis droopet! HAWTHORN
BUD?

Q. Is that right, is that wae bein' built up the...

A. She hid a droop in her stern. HAWTHORN BUD?
Cane fit I mine o' the "~~Arthur and Bud~~", she hid a great big hatch, fiddle hatch, back the funnel, back the cabin.

Aye.

Ken there wis somethin' in her boiler.

Aye I know, a queer kind a engine, I think a second-hand engine an' boiler.

Awfa' big engine she hid.

Aye. Wis't a tow-boat's engine?

Aye she wis ane o' that kind thit wis at the seine-net.

Q. I'll tell ye, I think we've missed an iron boat thit I can mine on, well, canna mine on her, ken the big ane, the....

A. "Cloverdale"?

Q. No, aye "Cloverdale" that's anither ane Pat. No the ane I'm thinkin' on belonged tae her...?

A. "Walkerdale"?

Q. Anither ane "Walkerdale".

A. "Christmas Morn".

Q. "Christmas Morn" aye.

A. "Crannach". "The Breen". "Ventyrie" an'....

Q. Ay the ane I'm thinkin' on, fit's the big ane now Weelum, the big drifter ken?

A. "Cloverdale" wis the biggest ane.

Q. No bit there wis a bigger ane, Pat there's a photae o' her gan astern oot a.....

A. "Excellcia"?

Q. "Excellcia", that's the boat aye. "Excellcia".

A. The "Excellcia" wisna' the biggest ane though.

Q. No.

A. She wis a poor boat.

Q. I've heard that.

A. She wis a steamer. She wis jist one banneck a roosht!

Q. Is that right, aye.

A. An' took aff her ... planks, jist shift them fore-it, shift them richt through the bulk's heed.

I mine on that.

Spear it Weelum about the lad thit came fae Aberdeen or some wey tae drive her.

Her name first afore wshe came tae Cullen ye see wis the "Pitulie" an' there wis nobody cwed get steam tae lift, they couldna' get steam at a'.

Q. The "Excellcia"?

A. Couldna' gang, so they sailed her tae Cullen an' changed her name tae "Excellcia". An' Alex Fairmer got a driver fae Aberdeen an' they come tae Cullen spearin' boys thits gan, an' "Oh the "Excellcia", she's awfa' stiff tae steam that ane", he says "She canna' be worse than the last ane thit I wis in". "Fit ane wis that?" "The "Pitulie"!!

Bit fin he geed doon the stock hole, doon the stock hole in the engine-room an' he looket roon about he says, "This looks awfa' familiar". He got the next train awa' hame.

He didna' ging awa' in it though.

No no. He jist geed awa' hame. Geed awa' hame again.

There wis awfa' differences in them steamin' ye ken.

Q. Oh aye.

A. Some o' them wis jist nae bather tae steam, the next ane again...

I always found in the "Docile", the trouble hid been the richt engine.

Aye.

'Cause she wis a great big boat an' she'd a big fish-room.

Q. Well I would say that I wis in ane o' the fastest drifters, the "Deveron Side", dae ye mine on her?

A. Aye.

Q. She hid a 16 inch

A. Lichtin' the coal an' a'.

Q. Lichtin' the coal an' ay....

A. Plenty trouble!

Q. Ken this, ye could've read a bookie an' steamed her.

A. Fa wis driven her?

Q. Well...

A. Wis't John Gairdner?

Q. No. Willie Bow, Cullen.

A. My cousin John Gairdner drove her for a lang time.

Q. I wid say thit thone wis ane o' the bonniest steam engines, ken they'd plenty trouble, mine they hid thone....?

A. "Deveron Side". The "Bud an' Rose" wis the same boat.

Q. Aye. They hid thone smoked steel across the cylinder heed, an' a' the isle wis deen wae boxies, aye brass boxies a' the wey along the...

A. Jeemes George, I'll tell ye a story aboot the "Deveron Side" durin' the war, the time I wis in Scappie Lake, we wis escortin' the licht-hoose boats ken, in the island, aye she wis tae service the lights an' we wis escort them, so went in tae Stornowa' for the weekend, an' that boat came alongside an' I invited Willie aboard, Willie Bow. He came doon, I gave him a good dram an' he drank it, he says "Ye ken this Pat, that's the first whisky I've drunk for twenty year!"

Q. Is that right?

A. That's right aye.

Q. He wis a richt consciencious driver.

A. Ah well he tellt ma "The first time I've tasted whisky in twenty year!"
Thone Poochie's brether?

Q. Aye that's richt, Poochie's brether. Ken 'es, that engine, the fishin's thit he hid aboard her, run like a watch, ken. he wis aiy potterin' ken an' dein' things, run like a watch.

A. Plenty trouble.

Q. Aye an' ay, fin he geed oot o'er there wis a Banff manie came ken, a Banff manie drove her an' she wis jist a riddle a ... aefter that ken she wis jist a he jist niver bathered. Bit speed - oh - you could steam her as ay...

A. Aye she wis a built-up boat as well.

Q. That's far you lads wis lucky ye see, Weelum, mine ye hid yer ane driver?

A. Aye. Oor ane driver hand.

Q. Then John wis a ... your John, he kept the "Rambler" gan wae the Glenifer.

A. I niver saw John come hame wae the crew tae Buckie yet, comin' on Saturday he wis aiy buses ahin' the crew workin' it that engine. He kept her gan' for seven year though.

Q. That's richt, I mean the Glenifers wisna' famed for bein' trouble-free engines.

A. Oh no, they were fool engines. John tellt me tae niver pt her up tae 900 revs.

Q. Unless ye got somebody like yer sel' thit wis consciencious.

A. Niver hid a tow on her except once. Mine that aefter the canal, it wis a the "Golden Lee" fae Gamrie, ken. I dinna' mind. She stuck up onyway aye, gan' through, aye ken the canal an' that man gave's a tug. Jist a tow, jist a sizie that. It's amazin' the wey thit they han'led that purser, purse boats.

Q. Aye oh aye.

A. An' the men geed below in them jist for ah, they geed firemen for a filie, maybe tae get on.

Q. Driver aye.

A. Bit they kent fit tae dae wae them, the majority o' them.

Q. They were good boats an' ken.

A. I've a list, a short listie here a some Cullen aul' boats noo: The "Rathdale" BF 57, J Findlay wis my grandfather, built in 1875. The "General Gordon" was my ither grandfather BF 1424, John Gairdner. The "General MCDonald" BF 329, John Gairdner, my grandfather an' a', that's anither ane o' his. Then my father hid a share o' ane cawd the "Firm", him an' Sandickie's brether Jimmickie, him an' Mary Docher's father. They come through the November gale in her, she struck the bottom o' the Sherenham Shall on the November gale an' they knocket the rodder aff o' her an' she geed richt back tae Lowestoft on the bare poles.

Q. Is that right?

A. Aye. They were lucky this time - the "Firm". I mine seein' her lyin' bein' broken up in Finichty, I cwed aiy read the name on her.

Q. Aye, fit year wis year born then Weelum?

A. 1903.

Q. 1903. That "General Gordon" that's her photae tane gan' oot o' Cullen hairbour?

A. Then there's ane thit Willie Bow hid here, the "Nimrod", you'll mine on the "Nimrod", the motor ane?

Q. Aye, aye the motor ane.

A. This is the zulu BF 371, I'na ken hoo aul' she wis. Then there wis the "Lively Hope", a steam drifter, BF 1339, I can mine on her, she wis sunk in a collision in 1911. An' then there wis the "Lively Hope" sailboat, BF 2, I can mine on her an' a'.

Q. Mine on her an' a'?

A. Aye.

That ane the "Rapture", that's the ane they cawd the "Dry Minen".

My mither tellt me, this fit they cawd her, the "Dry Mitten". I'na ken, I think my granda liket tae keep 'ees mittens dry.

Q. You'll min a lot o' changes in Cullen hairbour noo Weelum, fin ye look back on Cullen hairbour as fin ye wis a loon, ken?

A. I've seen't packet a sail-boats an' packet a drifters.

Q. Noo it's ay...

A. Noo it's little boaties.

Q. Jist little boaties aye.

A. I got a richt tellin' off fae Ecky's loon, ken the "Spring Bud" wis jist lyin' off fae the hoose, so I geed aboard an' there'd been somebody doon that day redin' her up ye see, for the weemum, ken the weemun eest tae scrub oot the boats, somebody hid been doon redin' up an' there wis a basket a jelly jars. I got them on tae the heed the gailley, drapped them doon the funnel. The followin' mornin' somebody came doon an' kin'led the fire, the smoke wis comin' oot the gailley doors, comin' oot the port-holes, comin' oot the engine-room an' sky-lights, the smoke wis comin' oot a' the weys bit the funnel! (That's the "Docile" comin' in tae Lowestoft).

Q. That's right, I think, wis it me thit got that photae tae ye Weelum? Dae ye nae mine on that? Me thit dug up that photae tae ye.

A. Wis't?

Q. Aye. I mine in you anes sayin' tae me, doon the back a the toon, ye said, "I hid twa drifters, an' aefter a' my time, I hinna hane a photae a nane a them". An' I got that photae tae ye in Yarmouth, ay Lowestoft. I got the two o' them in Lowestoft.

A. We'd seventy cran a day.

Q. Aye. "Docile" an'....

A. Seventy four cran aye, she wis easy puttin' tae the heed.

Q. 'Cause I mine the day I come doon wae that photae tae ye Weelum, ye wis as pleased as ken...

A. That's the "Rambler Rose" drifter, you wouldhave niver thocht that.

Q. No no.

A. Ay?

You wid niver have thocht that wis a drifter.

Oh no that wis the "Rambler".

An' she looks an awfa' size the wey she's rigget.

That's the same ane there ye see.

Q. Aye.

A. Bonnie photae.

Oh she's 7 ft lang the...

Q. She's been lengthened.

A. Aye.

Ken this I think she's a purser there, she's nithin' aboard her.

Q. No she's a cargae.

A. Aye bit wis she nae fishin' afore that, I think she wis fishin' an' then changed tae a cargae boat.

Oh maybe.

She wis carryin' buildin' materials aboot Sterangar(?).

Q. Aye, aye. Aye it's great tae live tae your ages Weelum an' see say muckle changes in the fishin'?

A. It is, that wis a bonnie drifter aside the "Rambler".

Q. Wis she, aye the "Docile"?

A. Aye she wis a bonnie drifter.
Bit she grew awfa' leakie the last year.
Fin you think about it, Cullen hairbour ruined every wooden drifter.

Q. Is that right, cabin an' flou aye?

A. Ye see a boat in a saft sannie hairbour, every time thit she gings agrun', she mak's a hole left a bit deeper. An' sine she disna' mak' it nane deeper for it.

Q. No.

A. Then she sinks in tae the shape a that, the boat goes in tae the shape a the dock.

Q. Hive ye niver seen that afore Johnny?

A. No.
The wooden drifters shid niver be litten agrun'.
No!
Well that's how the Lowestoft men did, kept their boats afloat, the wooden boats.
That's richt.

Q. Well ye see, the kine o' a drifter the weight o' their boiler, the weight o' ... ay ay...

A. Bit they werena' strong boats ken.

Q. Fa the Englishmen, no no.

A. Werena' built wae the same amount a wood as they put in tae the boats up here.
I wis hane a yarnie, English friends that's a' the wey tae spend their holidays.

Q. Aye aye - sailin'?

A. They hive a - fits ye ca't a kin' a farm, a small holding, an' that's the wey they spen' their holidays.

Q. That's the richt wey eh?

A. Fin they hid their boatie, the "Mooswanna".

Q. That's a fine wey tae - nae fancy that noo Pat? Sailin'?

A. Ah well.
There's an awfa' conglomeration o' craft in the sooth coast ye see, an' we escorted 36 crash-landin' barges fae Portsmouth tae New Main an' aefter we're tied up ye see, an' they're a' aff

the engines I geed awa' up, an' aside the, the "Tredmill" thit I wis in, I'm stan'in atween the twa loonies an' I hear somebody sayin' "Johnny". Fin I looket across the river it wis yer father.

Q. Oh aye.

A. An' he says "Are ye gan tae be in here the day?" I'm sayin', we wis speakin' on oor ane lingo. He says "I think we've got two formals here".
Dodie Arthur an' oor John were inseperable.

Q. That's right Weelum. My father wis that disappointed fin....

A. I geed awa' an' saw him it nicht an' he let me see the engine.
Yer father used tae come in tae oor hoose every mornin' for John tae ging tae the school.

Q. Aye.

A. I geed across tae see an he says "I dinna' ken the wey tae start the thing, maist o' them doon here" he says, she'd a bonnie switchboard, an' he says "I jist hault doon this an' away she geed!" Hault on this main switch, he'd her a' set ye see, bit he didna' ken fit wey tae.....

Q. Tae start it?

A. Aye or tae get the power. He says "I hault doon the switch an' awa' she geed".
I wis a lot in contact wae yer father the time o' the war though Willie. Aye in Lowestoft an' that weys.

Q. Aye, the fishin's awfa' different noo though for a' that?

A. Oh aye.

Q. The like a gross weys an' athing, I mean....

A. Och, nae comparison.

Q. It's jist nae... the funniest story thit iver I heard wis, mine on him, mine him Pat?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you mine on him Weelum?

A. Aye, I geed in the boat wae him. I could tell ye a good story aboot him!

Q. Aye I think the funniest - fin he wis up on the shed wae a men'in, fin they were men' in ye see, he'd come awa' wae some stories, an' I mine him tellin' his, mine the highlan' men eest tae ging in the drifters, mine the highlan'men?

A. Aye that's richt.

Q. Aye I dinna' mine on it bit he says they were it Yarmouth I'na ken if it wis Yarmouth or must have been the Broch or someway an' ay somebody came doon wae says "Boys that's great news the day". Of course the Christmas, hidna' been dein' an awfa' lot, ken herrin' been scarce, hidna' been dein' nithin'. Somebody came doon wae this news an' said "Dear me hear that news the day?" "An' so an' so's swam the channel", ken? I canna' mine fa it wis bit "So an' so's swam the channel". "Well" he says "I jist looks up" an' he says tae the manie, the skipper manie an' he says "Well that's nithing, if we dinna' dae better than we're dein' aiy noo, oor highlan'men 'll hae tae sweep the boats".

A. That wis the kind o' them, aiy awfa' ready witted, a' that faimilies humour wis the same.

Q. Aiy, ken if you've tae mine on somebody, I'll aiy mine on him by that story.

A. Aye.

I can mine the highlan' men fin they came, ken in the evenin's they eest tae sit ken the Brae a Fit Ness (?).

Aye.

Ran up there an' watched them, an' ye ken there wis a cloud a smoke geen abeen their heed, every ane wae their pipe, ken their bogie roll.

Q. Aye.

A. I seen the black cloud a smoke risin'.

Ye aiy kent a highlan'man by their kit bags. They'd a' ane o' that bags.

Oh aye.

The Shetland men they'd white canvas bags. Ye aiy recognised them by that, aye.

Q. Did you lads hae highlan'men?

A. Yes aye. Some very good men. Yes.

There wis an awfa' kirk o' them on Portknockie ye see, there wis an awfa' fleet a drifters, an' they'd a' twa highlan'men sooth. At least twa.

Q. Aye every drifter hid a couple a highlan'man? Aye

A. Aye, we very aften got the same men.

Aye they got the best, they were treated awfa' well, oh aye.

Q. Fit happened noo, did ye, aye ye kent them or did they jist apply tae the Fishsellin' Offices for a job or...? An' fin they came here did they jist bide on the boats or?

A. Aye they hid a shareman, the shareman got that...
Aye my father an' Sandy kent men an' mine my father used tae get men through mine Sandy Loos, aye Sandy Smith FR 111, an' they got a lot o' men through Sandy.
Dae ye mine on Willie Dane an' 'ees dog?

Q. Aye Willie Dane across the road here? Oh aye I mine on Willie Dane.

A. Aye. Mine on thone wee doggie aboot that size? "Far's Flocet thit she's nae oot wae ye the day Willie?"

"Oh I left her ween an' washet wae Jessie".

An' she wisna' ween an' washet - she wis fullin' menin'.

An' Willie Dane ken him?

Aye.

Mine the "Lizzie Rose"?

Aye.

Bonniest boatie thit I iver I saw come tae Cullen, jist a picture, bit there wis a hatchie ken, there wis a helm, an' there wis a hatchie it four sides, an' Willie's aul'est loon, ye ken, fin they were pittin' her in doon tae the hairbour he used tae sit an' work the engine ye see, an' 'ees feet came abeen the hatch, an' if Willie wanted tae go ahead he got the loons heel, gan' the ither wae. If he wanted tae come astern, he'd come astern the ither wae.

Q. He wis an awfa' lad Willie Dane.

A. Willie brocht up Barrie there.

Q. Barrie?

A. Oh him an' Barrie were great pals.

Q. Oh aye, that's richt, well Barrie is my age ken. Aye me an' Barrie wis in the same class it the

A. Aye. Barrie aboot your age?

Q. Aye. Bit he's 6 months younger than me.

A. Aye.

Q. Willie Dane, Barrie wis aiy wae Willie Dane.

A. Hoo lang hive ye tae gang yet?

Q. Ah well that's, I've six, five year. Five year well hope tae stop afore that.

A. Aye.

Q. Bit five year tae go.

A. Well ye needna' think lang for't.

Q. I suppose no. Fit dive ye think noo aefter a life-time it the sea, an' ye retire an' your boat's awa'?

A. Fit kin ye dae, that's the point!
Well I wis doon-hearted for 3 year aefter I retired.

Q. Wis ye?

A. I come tee a' richt. The rap o' it is the fishermen, the majority o' them dinna hae a hobby an' fin they come ashore, they're like a fish oot o' water.
Aye.

Now I wid say Weelum, says monie a time, he enjoyed a' the time he wis it the sea, so did I, bit lookin' back I cane fit wey folk lived ashore an' fit wey we lived gan' tae the sea. Ye lost an awfa' lot a time it hame wae yer faimily, see.

Q. Aye aye.

A. An' so much so thit I widna' recommend it tae nae young man, nae even it the present time. Now you tick a lad thits gan' tae the sea aiy noo, if the fishin' wis gan' tae collapse as we've seen't deen afore for reasons we didna' understand maybe it the time - they hinna' a trade a' nae kind, the majority o' them. Now admitted, it oor time ye served yer time as bakers an' joiners an' athing an' they cwed aiy ging tae the sea, there wis a lot a' them geed tae the sea, isn't that richt Weelum?

Jim Legge mine, Jim Legge an' them hid a joinery business an' Yarmouth time wis a slack time an' they geed tae Yarmouth drivin' drifters. Jim Legge aiy geed drivin' the "Arthur and Bud", an' Arthur 'Gramophone' wis a baker an' he aiy geed the Yarmouth time an' a' ye see. A lot o' that lads served his apprenticeship ye see, they hid something tae turn tell. Bit the like o' his lads, we hid tae ging tae sea or nithin'. I liket the sea an' I liket boats, especially the models a' boats.

Q. Boats wis a' yer life, boats wis jist, as ye say, ye took a filie tae get o'er, aye ken sellin' the boat an' stoppin', ken, bit ay, I suppose it's ay, it comes tae abody an' a' ken. Bit are ye still interested in the fishin' ken, dae ye still read the Fishin' News?

A. No I'm stoppet the fishin', fin I lost ma sicht ye see, twa year ago I'd tae get ma sicht sorted. I thocht I wis on the waitin' list for years an' they're niver comin' an' the last time I geed, he says, "I've put you on to the waitin' list". I

says "Oh ye needna' bather noo", so I jist geed richt awa' an' got it deen privately, richt awa'. Aefter I wis years gan' back an' fore aboot ma sicht, an' I could hardly see. I wis very near stane blin'!

Q. Bit yer still interested in the fishin' Weelum, yer still interested tae hear aboot the fishin' or speak aboot the fishin'?

A. Oh aye. I've still an interest in it, bit I dinna' read the Fishin' News, no no, I dinna' read muckle noo. Ah bit there's anither point ye see, fin we wis gan tae the fishin' ye kent fit abody wis dein'. Now ye dinna' ken fit fowks' dein'.

Q. Oh no no!

A. They dinna' discuss ane anither's fishin's noo, as they did then. I caint a difference, cane fan the difference came in? Back an' fore tae Aberdeen, a hale fleet a' seine-net men workin' oot a' Aberdeen an' they a' came hame on the train the gither or the bus, an' they were a' discussin' far they were workin', ah bit fin they started tae get cars ye see, ye lost track o' ane anither. Ye didna' ken fit ane anither wis dein' the same. Oh no.

Q. Oh it's jist completely different.

A. Am friendly wae Peter Smith the "Crystal River", he's merriet tae a niece o' Jeanies an' he d'es awfa' weill.

Q. Oh aye that's richt.

A. An' I niver ken nithin' thit he d'es, I aiy spear 'em if he's hid a good trip or ony thin' a' that, bit I niver ask aboot money or nithin'. If he tells ma hoo muckle boxes he hed, good an' well. Bit I'm na interested in the money, no.

Q. The money side o'it no.

A. No. Bit he des awfa' weill, Peter Smith.

Q. Oh aye, aye.

Q. Bit ye see I dinna', I hear a lot aboot big fishers, now I dinna' pit nae emphasize on big fishers as such, because it's abnormal times thit yer fishin' in, ye could go oot an' get a boat load o' muck! Tick it in, get a great big price for't. Peter's been gan' tae Rockall for boat load's a' muck, squeebs.

Q. Aye.

A. Three times broke the record last year aefter ane o' the trips wis roon £60 000, anither ane jist ablow sixty, an' the ither ane aboot fifty - 5 day trips every time.

Q. In your time Weelum lookin' back - your sayin' I ken that £60 000 for 'ees trip, noo a drifter widhave tane ages tae that widhave been a lifetime.

A. Jeemes George, he can gross mare in a week yet the majority o' the seine-net boats grossed a year, now Weelum even wae the "Rambler Rose" there wis a good puckle years thit ye didna' gross ten thoosan'.

Oh aye.

For yer year.

Q. Aye gan' back tae ken Gorleston that time, that race.....

A. Oh no, fishin' wisna' good.

A. Now there's a crowdie started tae work in the Norwegian coast it that time, bit they hid tae stop it, it wisna' for want a' fish. The price didna' start tae shoot up till...

Q. Aye we geed tae the Norwegian coast.

A. Now ye tick this purse-net an'.....

The price didna' start tae shoot up till the seventies.

Q. Aye that's right, tane a really firm hud ye ken.

A. The last year thit I wis tell the sea 1969, if we hid onything fae £4 tae 500 for oor week that wis a big week, ye see. That's nithin' noo.

An' they started in 1970 tae ging up that wey.

Q. Bit even the methods in fishin' Weelum ye ken, is so much different fin ye stoppet.

A. Oh that's right.

Q. Ay, tick the electronics in the wheel-hoose noo o' a seine-net boat.

A. Aye.

Q. Bit I'll tell ye, I'na ken if we'r happier, if they're ony happier, ken than you lads wis fin ye ging back tae the time, fan a' the drifters wis in Cullen hairbour an' everybody gan' doon, a' glaid gettin' a job chippin' their boaties.

A. Aye.

I believe ther's more worry among the fishermen noo than iver there wis.

Oh aye.

Q. I wid say that noo Weelum, ken, aye, than there wis it that time fin I kent ye wis awa' tae ging tae Yarmooth an' you wid probably come hame wae, as Johnny says, four poun' for yer Yarmooth fishin'.

A. In that days ye see, if you go in ane o' that boats noo, if you miss a weeks fishin' that's a big worry.
Oh aye.

Q. You've got the expenses tae meet ye ken.

A. Aye. I mine gan' doon the quay in Buckie an' the skipper o' the "Unity" wis comin' up.

Q. John Grant?

A. No nae John Grant, ay, skipper afore Weelum, est Weelum Smith?

Q. Smith, aye.

A. I says, "Fit hive ye in her aiy noo?" He says "We've 270 cran in her". I says she's a good boat.

Q. Is that the "Fragrant Rose"?

A. No the iron boatie the "Unity".

Q. The "Unity" aye aye.

A. An' he says, "It tane ye a good file an' a gye struggle tae get 270 cran in tell a drifter." I says, "Aye!"
Nae monie saw 270 cran in a drifter.
He wis jist sayin' that wis two 'oors work, see.

Q. Aye.

A. Twa 'oors work!

Q. That wis trawlin'?

A. Aye.
We used tae pit the "Docile" on tae Herdie's slip for slippin' an' paintin' her fae kiel tae gunnels seventeen poun's.

Q. Seventeen?

A. Seventeen poun's. That included the slippin' an' a', an' paintin' her fae the kiel an' top railin's, nae the cabin or top masts or nithin'. Kiel tae top railin's seventeen poun's. Less than twenty widhave deen athin' else.

Q. I wid say yer twa hun'er tae pit her on tae the slip, ay jist tae pit 'er on tae the slip.

A. I've got a receipt in the hoose, the sailboats the "General Gordon" ma grandfather's boat, an' the sailboat wis painted for aboot four poun'! An' that included a paint brush! That wis the dearest side o' the boat.

Q. The paint brush!

A. Wis it 1880, wis it 1883 or somethin'? I got it fae Bob Addison, that hid been 'ees father's time. "General Gordon" - jist nae comparison. "General Gordon", four, five poun' tae paint their boat that.

Q. Bit fin ye look back in the fishin' an' a' noo Weelum like, you spent maist o' yer time it the herrin' fishin' ken.

A. Aye.

Q. An' I wid think thit if Weelum hid seen the wey they tick herrin' noo, ay, like o' fin we're fishin' for herrin' noo, the wey, tane in the purse Pat.

A. Aye.

Q. Ay, the like o' ay ring sometimes you could hae, well 300 ton which is mare than a fleet o' drifters would've tane in a nicht ye ken. Nae only that the wheel-hoose, the things thit ye hive tae look for - the likes o' you lads geed tae the sea an' you hid a sounder, well the latter end you hid a sounder.

A. Now, we were the only Cullen boat thit geed tae herrin' aeafter the war.

Q. You wis the last Cullen boat?

A. There wisna' anither ane geed tae the herrin' fishin' aeafter the war. Last boat thit bark nets in Cullen, the last boat tae tar ropes in Cullen.

Q. You wis the last boat aye?

A. Aye.

Q. The "Rambler Rose".

A. Mhum.

Q. Aye, well that's interestin', it really is, aye.

A. Aye.

Q. Well that's been a richt interestin' aefterneen speakin' tae ye. It really his Weelum.

A. Aye.

There's a lot mare stories tae tell ye!

Q. There wis nane a' ye iver ashore, wis ye iver ashore noo Weelum a' yer time, ken, iver on the rocks or onythin'?

A. We ane's geed agrun' it Scarborough.

Aye we were washed up, bit she came aff nae bather, fin the tide came in.

Q. Bit that's yer only strand in yer hale lifetime?

A. That's the only strand all my life. We wis on oor wey tae Lowestoft an' it wis a Saturday nicht an' I says I think we'll ging in tae Scarborough for the nicht an' it wis an awfa' hazie nicht.

Aye.

We made the lights bit we wis too late, there wis no hairbour licht on ye see.

Dinna' pit on a hairbour licht in Scarborough if there's under 12 feet o' water, so we wisna' lookin' for a hairbour licht, an' we jist saw the lights, fin iver I saw them, I thocht it wis a' richt I wis writin' the telegraph tae Burn Doon an' she geed agrun'!

Q. Wis that the entrance a' Scarborough Hairbour like? North side?

A. Aye. North side the hairbour.

Q. Scappie?

A. Aye.

Q. Ah bit's a lang time Weelum, skipper, it's a lang life-time ay, oot o' a' that, jist a

A. Niver seen a man got hurt a' the time, niver, no.

I wis a week in the dry dock it South Shields an' took her hame an' we hid the best Cullen boat that fishin'.

Mine we thocht we'd lost the fishin' we were that late!

Mine we shot wer nets 33 mile North, North-East fae the Scarborough an' not a craft in sicht. Bit we got 120 cran an' half wer nets, well we widhave lost the ither half o' them, ye ken.

Q. That's richt.

A. Geed tae the bottom! We came hame wae the best fishin'....

Did ye iver land in Yarmouth that time?

Did ye iver land in Yarmouth that shot?

I think we did.

I think we did, aye. Alan Bow's thit bocht them. Aye we landed in Yarmooth, I mind in that.

If ye'd see the fleet, afore the war ay, aye aefter the first war, they were jam-packet fin ye were in Yarmooth. There wis o'er a thoosan' boats geed sooth.

Q. Aye, ye jist canna' imagine that noo!
That's the tape deen boys!