

Forest Hill Group Interview	Interviewed by Tracy Craggs and Edna Murray
	<p>Participants and attendees – Denise, Margaret, Maureen, John, Edgar, Carole, Lesley, Susan, Sid, Irene, Lily.</p> <p>Roundhay Park – been going there most of my life. Beautiful. Hasn't changed that much. Lovely café now. Had boats on the water before. Paddle canoes. Small boats on top lake. Could pay to go on big boat. My kids born in 1970s – took them in the park when lake was flooded – not in a stable state for several years. No toilets for kids, had to look for a bush! Have had about three different cafés. Michael Jackson in the park. Bonfire Nights in the park.</p> <p>Lily – won two medals for racing, at Children's Day. Day was for schools in this area. Skipping and running. I was about 12. Did maypole dancing. Remember waterfall. Mansion has changed. Swimming pool. Mansion a great improvement. My boys went sledging. It didn't snow often but when it did we went sledging on plastic bags. (My boys had wooden sledge – Maureen). Hill 60 was known as the good place for sledging. There was seating there so it was bumpy for sledging. Lesley – Came in 1940s and 50s to watch grasstrack – cycling. Still traces of the ledges they cut. Remember wooden seats on there.</p>
7.00	
11.00	<p>Bathing pool was at bottom – popular. Used to queue for hours to get in – so slow on turnstile (Irene). Everyone tried to sit in the sun. Didn't like outdoor pools. My son got hepatitis and infected 29 other boys and they closed it down – hygiene was a problem (Maureen). Son in hospital for three months. Made it into a paddling pool but now it's a car park. Lesley – in mid 1950s my sister got a job there as a life guard. Lily – was a day trip to Roundhay Park. Had to catch the trams. Some of the trams had open ends. Tram went to Oakwood Clock but had to walk down Wetherby Rd to pool. Stopped using trams when fare changed from a halfpenny to a penny (Lesley). Leeds trams were a bit bigger than some.</p>
16.30	<p>Traffic – Lesley – we used to cycle on ring road in 1950s and there were no cars on it. Lily – Doctor was only one with a car – we all walked. Princess Diana in the park? Lily – I remember queuing to see her.</p> <p>Fireworks – Lesley – I go and photograph them. Lily – used to be in the Arena. Someone set bonfire alight too early so then it was moved to Soldiers' Fields. Lesley – remember cycling past clock in 40s and 50s and it was an open space then. Clock – became focus for toilets – there were various activities and then toilets were shut down!</p> <p>Bandstand – band still plays but in Canal Gardens now. Can hear it from here.</p>

	<p>Have sat in bandstand many times.</p>
23.00	<p>Irene – traffic from Bonfire Night last time was horrendous.</p> <p>Shops – Lesley – they’ve gone rubbish. Was a good greengrocers which closed. Fish shop has been there a long time. Irene – was a fabulous grocer’s shop – went there for bacon. Everything smelled gorgeous – Nathan Bates. (Discussion about local shopping). Lesley – supermarkets a bad thing for local shops. Community spirit? Maureen – used to go Scottish country dancing, ramblers group, Bridge. Always things to do if you want them.</p>
35.00	<p>Churches are providing a social service. St Andrew’s church, St Edmund’s church discussed. Have a service twice a month here, provided by local churches.</p> <p>Local schools – children and grandchildren have been to local schools. Roundhay is a superb school. Roundhay and Allerton Grange always in competition. Both very good.</p>
45.00	<p>Would like to see – a chemist on the parade, more little shops, free parking. Messages for the future – what was life like? Get to know your neighbours. People used to whistle and sing. I feel safe here, we live in a very nice area. It’s lonely when people are older. Families don’t live nearby anymore – people travel away for work. Economic base of life has changed – could get by on one income, now need two to support children. People have so little time to enjoy family life. Did home baking – people eat out more now, takeaways – we only had fish and chips for takeaways!</p>
50.00	<p>Changes in your lifetimes – space, TV, transport, NHS Astoria – dancing and dresses. Model railway in park.</p>