

Iain Macniven	Interviewed by Edna Murray 27.3.15
3.00	Trustee of OTRA. Came here 25 years ago from Scotland. Noticed that clock was deteriorating in the last few years. Wife became councillor and I asked her what could be done about the clock. The Council had no plans at that point. Wife put it on list for being in need of restoration but the list was very long!
8.00	Christine talked to traders in Oakwood. OTRA formed – didn't have any money then. Roger Williams – volunteered to be Chair of new Association. Started about August 2012. I retired in 2012 so had a bit of time available. I became member of Association. It became a company limited by guarantee on 22 Nov 2012. Jane Newton was Secretary. Clock was the priority. Got charitable status – much more arduous process. Got that about June 2013. Had done some fundraising and got about £30,000.
13.15	Martin Plimley, a retired Company Secretary, and I set about applying for an HLF grant. They were concerned about the heritage and people's awareness. So we included oral history and the heritage trail in the Bid to involve the community. Application went in just before Christmas 2013. Got £100,000 grant. Martin came up with format of the Bid. He invented Oakwood Day. Sadly Martin died, which was a big blow.
14.30	Marilyn Stowe donated £30,000 and we got the go ahead to start in March/April 2014.
16.00	Wanted to change the setting for the clock, so raised funds for that too. Did consultation exercise about what people wanted to see around the clock, and what the area should look like.
21.00	Farmers' market – area should be suitable for the continuation of that, and be suitable for other events. May 2014 – first Oakwood Day. Had an exhibition of the history of the clock in the library. Quite a successful day. Lord Mayor and wife came to launch oral history project. Plans drafted and approved.
28.30	Decided to sell paving stones that people could inscribe, for £100. Did on-line subscription through My Donate. Very effective. Got tax back too, as we were a charity. Earned about £45,000. Paid extra £10 if they wanted a certificate.
34.00	£35,000 grant from a landfill company. Got about £300,000 in total, including help from the Council. Had to put work out to tender. LCC did tendering work for us and NPS helped us at no cost. Civic Enterprise Leeds won the tender.
	Some issues – panels around the clock – problems about the etching. Some of existing pavements are cracked – we want to update that area too. Good relations with Graham Thompson and Paul Fairweather on site. Very co-operative. Heckmondwike – Rhodes Engineering Group – have done clock restoration. Whole team are enthusiasts.
	Unicorns – have been gold leafed, a golden owl. Tower is cream colour. Going to have steel roof rather than tiled roof. It's now waterproof. Was never designed to be outside. 4 panels – one for Marilyn and Graham Stowe – a memorial to the parents. One panel for a list of the significant donors. One with a short history of the clock. Going to bury a time capsule. Will be dug up 2112.
	Heritage Trail – historical society has documented history of Oakwood. Great source of information for the trail. Oakwood Church – David and Sharon

36.45	Donaldson – David has helped a lot with the trail. David suggested use of QR codes on trail. Interviewing side has added to the restoration. It's an opportunity to speak to a wide range of people eg wrestlers, skating rink. People have been enthusiastic. Has brought people together.
41.15	