

Tony Quinn	Interviewed by Iain Macniven 10.2.15
1.30	Educated at Roundhay Grammar School from 1968 to early 70s. Went to Chapeltown County Primary School. To get to Roundhay School got 2 buses and second one dropped him at Oakwood Clock. Looked similar but difference in levels of traffic.
3.00	Caught bus in Oakwood every morning and afternoon. Met friends under clock. Was a landmark. Public toilet block there. Everyone knew they were there, but didn't know anyone who went in them. Scary place, 'the 10 bob man' was in there. They were put up for auction – went in for a look and took photos as they were being boarded up.
	Last year we had Tour de France – city stood still and there was no traffic. Walked down to Oakwood and sat outside café – there was no traffic in Oakwood. That was how this area used to be, now it's a very busy road junction. Still a nice area with a lot of character. Residents more involved because of restoration of clock. Want to restore area around clock and lose the toilets.
10.30	Memories about school – masters wore black gowns. I was caned, slippered, chased round Roundhay Park on the cross country course by master. Number of pupils – 380 to 400. Was one pupil of Asian extraction and two with ginger hair, rest had black hair. With ginger hair I stood out.
15.00	Boiler room – round back were table tennis tables. We found when we leant against stud walls that behind them there were extra rooms and found under the school there was a firing range, with gun lockers with wooden guns in them. Became our den down there. When we were discovered we tried to find an escape route but there was no escape. Presented to Mr Glover and caned.
17.15	Incredible changes in the school. I was there when it was a grammar school, now it's a mixed school. Seems strange to see girls wearing that colour school tie. Fixtures and fittings well polished in those days. Had strange plumbing in chemistry labs – could block it up by putting tissue paper down and turning taps on slightly. Ceiling fell down in our form room because of water.
19.15	Form master came in and found me scuffling with another boy. He put us both on trial. A split in the class and I was slippered six times in front of the class. Arthur Brown, English master, would get off bus at Oakwood and fill his fountain pen for free at Post Office. He told us all to do the same.
23.00	I was asked to leave school and go to comprehensive school. Then to Jacob Kramer Art College. Moved to The Avenue off Street Lane and then re-married and moved to Oakwood 5 years ago. Oakwood has improved a lot in that time. More community feel to it, I like it. Has its own feel, more bohemian.
	Another cycle race this year will raise profile of the place. A bypass would be incredible. Lot of old photos have surfaced of the area. Was very quiet but now very different. If group can stay together and carry on doing other things to improve area then in ten years time it could be fantastic. Lots of little things could make a difference – trim a hedge, clear up a verge etc. It's down to the locals to do it. Give it a bit more polish. Little triangle of woods opposite clock, one of trees has a piece of bark missing and someone has fitted a brass handle to it and painted in white 'knock thrice to enter!' That's Oakwood!