Interview with: Jim Dickinson (part 2)

Date: 15 November 2006

Interviewer: Lynne Fox

Summary

Jim Dickinson lived at Moorends Mill, sometimes referred to locally as the ‘Paraffin Mill’. His father worked as the joiner for British Moss Litter Company & his grandfather ran the mill until his death in 1936. Jim lived at the mill until he was 21. He earned pocket money by catching snakes for William Bunting.

How grandad (Fred) came to work for British Moss Litter Company
Moorends Mill – burnt down 1924 & 1936. Description of the mill
Some family history – connection with St Wilfrid’s Church Moorends
Description of the peat coming into the mill. Mill workers including Dutch workers
Family connection with Bilborough & York Minster
Kempens lived at Moorends before Dickinsons
Mum shopping by bike
Wildlife on the moor. Story of owl. Rabbits
Introduction to William Bunting – payment to collect snakes.
Father’s dash to Doncaster Hospital with antidote when Bunting bitten by snake.
Several snake stories.
Bunting delivering snakes to London Zoo by push bike
Visiting Bunting’s house – escaped snakes.
Dealing with snake at school
Locusts at Bunting’s house. Bunting’s eviction.
Bunting’s knowledge of insects.