

Transcript of Bernard Crowhurst Audio Clip.

I evacuated to Axminster but my mother and the rest of the family was evacuated to St Austell in Cornwall. I was separated from them and why? My father didn't go cos he was working at the power station and it was right at the tail end of the war when the doodlebugs and the rockets and that was coming over and I remember we went to this school when we got to Axminster and I distinctly remember having a donut and I'd never had a donut in my life. We also had scrambled egg and I remember the scrambled egg was very watery. I don't know why these things stand at me but I remember the watery scrambled eggs and the donut. The local people came and said. 'I'll have him', 'I'll have her', 'I'll take her' and whatever. But for whatever reason no one wanted me, I was the last one there and – and I remember and very sadly I can't remember her name but the dear lady, very old, she said, 'I will take him but I can only take him for two days and – but I will take him for two days if you can find somewhere else for him'. I went to this dear lady, a lovely lady, and her husband was a tin-smith and he used to make kettles and saucepans in a big shed in the back garden, I remember that very well. But then another thing I remember with that lady, I got ready for school on my first day with her and I had a pair of socks that had lines up the side and I can remember pulling me socks on and making sure that the lines were dead correct vertical up me legs and not twisted. This dear lady thought that was something special in me to – that I was taking a little bit of pride in lining me socks up. But anyway I sadly got moved on and I – I finished up in another family, Miller, their name, which backed on to Axminster's football ground although there was no football then but the ground was there and the stand and the stand was used by Americans with their girlfriends and whatever. I remember that very well. But her husband was a baker and I can remember having fresh cream sandwiches. I mean, this is all strange to me, we never had anything like that. We had all the fruit and veg. back home but all of this fresh cream stuff and apple cakes. She made the most delicious apple cake but I was only there, I think, just a couple of months and I didn't like it at all. I hated it. So I wrote to my father and told him I wanted to come home and he got on a train and came down to Axminster and brought me home. Because the rest of me family was in Cornwall and he was at work, I stayed with me grandmother in the town, in Anne Of Cleves Road named after Anne of Cleves because Henry gave her the mansion across the road to Anne and they named the road after Anne of Cleves. Why I was evacuated just for that very short space of time I don't know.