Transcript of Jean Slattery Audio Clip

Upheaval – which nobody wants at any age. I think a kind of a deep down sorrow of what I missed by being away from my immediate family, it was softened a lot admittedly I did have what you might like to call an ‘easy war’. But it’s difficult to capsulate. My brother as I say, he said ‘What you’ve got to remember, Jean, is that when we were away we were told to stick together. We were a family but because of the circumstances we all became unstuck’. He said, ‘We were never stuck together again’. Meaning father, mother, three children were never in that situation ever again. Dad had died, Pam married, Peter went into the Army. We never lived together as a complete family again. So that’s the way he summed it up and I think that I agree with him. But I think we gained a lot. We lost a lot but we’d also gained a lot of experiences that we wouldn’t have had. And who can know what experiences we would have had if we hadn’t gone away. You see, it’s not something you can really sum up is it?