Transcript of Keith Manns Audio Clip

Keith: When you’re in convoy what you don’t realise is that you hear that the, you know, that there’s been an attack on the convoy. You’ve seen the ships going up during the night, being torpedoed. So the next morning you’re going along and you see all the bodies floating by in their life jackets. That’s when it all comes home to you that the bodies are all there. War is no heroics. It’s no place to be at all. The thing – the most thing – strangely I regret is that I lost all my young teen life and my education. You see, even night school that I used to go to had to be down weekends but it only went to a point and finished. There was no education after that because you couldn’t educate at sea.

Interviewer: You felt you had more in you but you didn’t have the chance to work on it really.

Keith: I was twenty-three before I started to live. So, you know, it was all that youth that you missed. You didn’t have your teenage life which to let’s be honest is an interesting time of your life.