

Transcript of Audio Clip with William Epps

The challenges really were that you had to grow up very quickly. I mean, although my father – theoretically we lived fairly close to my father for much of the war, we actually didn't see an awful lot of him. And typically when we came to Broadstairs – when we came to Broadstairs I was nine. We came to be near my father but we no sooner got here and he was sent off to RAF Cosford and RAF Cardington and all over the place and so he wasn't at home most of the time. For months on end we didn't see him and so as a nine year old, my mother then had a five year old, my sister – my oldest sister, my brother who was two and my other sister who was a brand new baby. So she was pretty much had her hands full and so a lot fell on me. I mean, I was her companion, I sat up with her on an evening listening to the radio and I can even remember some of the funny old programmes, you know, like ITMA and things. I did most of the shopping for her, she sent me off with a list. There was rationing and then there was – everywhere you queued. I mean, if you come in to Broadstairs you queued at the baker, you queued at the butcher, you queued at the grocers, you queued at the greengrocers.