

Interview 22-1

Paul Marshman

- > Born in Nursing Home, Waterlooville. Lived on the edge of RC Village in a semi-derelict house called 'Rat's Castle' but moved to new Council House in 1949
- > Early schooling in RC- ran away from school.
- > Memories of Queen's Coronation 1953 celebrations. Double decker bus driving around Recreation Ground. Streets full of red/white/blue decorations.
- > Memories of Redhill Road route to school with no pavement - then one side only.
- > As a child, Havant was an unknown place far away. Family did their shopping in Finchdean Village.
- > Memory of Granny taking him by bus to Portsmouth — a long way away.
- > Often played in the woods round the Old Brickworks instead of going straight home after school ended.
- > Joined Scouts — Bob-a-Job week in Links Lane and Bowes Hill.
- > Memories of 2 Mercedes Benz cars in the Village.
- > Memories of being late for school at least 4 days a week.
- > The new house in Uplands Road had a bathroom but family continued to use tin bath in kitchen. Back door never locked until first burglary in the area. Washing hung out and if it rained the neighbours would bring it in for you.
- > Memories of Great Storm (1987).
- > Memories of National Royal events — Queen's Jubilee's (2002.2012), Charles/ Diana Wedding (1981), Diana's death (1997), Princess Margaret's honeymoon return on Royal Yacht to Portsmouth.
- > Tour de France 1(994) through the village.
- > Memories of Guy Fawkes bonfires in Recreation Ground.
- > He has written some historical booklets on the village
- > Dances at Parish Hall but not allowed on Sunday.
- > He has a collection of 40 box files of history of village going back to 1850's.
- > A Gypsy named Jimmy James lived in a caravan at Wellsworth, down in woods at back of Uplands Road. Local boys befriended him. When he died the Gypsy fraternity came to burn his caravan. Land owned by Dymoke-White.