

7.2.1 'Heather Patten', BMUA, June 2008

Pseudonym	Dialect Zone	Provenance	Sex	Age	Educational Level	Religion	Ch.7 Text No.
Heather Patten (HP)	Mid-Ulster English	Belfast Metropolitan Urban Area, Cos. Antrim/Down	F	90	Left school at 16	P	7.2.1

HP But anyway, when I lived at, at Ashton Park, that's over the bridge there...

KPC Mm-mm.

HP ... and I was baking, and, eh, my daughter was at home, the Caroline one. She was still at college.

KPC Mm-mm.

HP And, em, I said to her, 'I'm, I'm going on my bicycle up to the crossroads for to get some baking chocolate.'

KPC Mm-mm.

HP And I says, 'I've shortbread in the oven and take it out.'

KPC Mm.

HP Well, I went up to the crossroads, and there was a bomb on top of the bridge and that was at two o'clock, and I didn't get back to half past eight that night.

KPC Oh my God, because you couldn't get...

HP We couldn't.

KPC ... through.

HP The police had it all cordoned off, and there was a bomb under the bridge at Finaghy.

KPC [*tuts*] And you were just, your whole life was just stopped.

HP So, and then I kept, I kept phoning Caroline...

KPC Mm.

HP ... and I says, 'I'm still here and I can't get over. I'm alright now. Don't worry.'

KPC Mm.

HP And, eh, then at, I, I think seven o'clock, she says, 'I've put on the dinner'.

KPC *[laughs]*.

HP Well, I says, 'There's chops for the dinner'.

KPC Mm.

HP And she, and I says, 'Just open the tin of peas'. She put them in the oven and the peas were like wee hard balls.

KPC *[laughs]* by the time you got them *[laughs]*.

HP And then her daddy worked in town, and the youngest girl was working... eh, was it, em... you know, a temporary, just, on a Saturday job.

KPC Just... exactly. A wee Saturday job.

HP A Saturday job.

KPC Mm.

HP And it was in the Solomon Pearce, the music shop in town.

KPC Right, uh-huh.

HP And her daddy had to go for her, and they didn't get home...

KPC til all hours.

HP ... til all hours. So it was an awful time.

KPC It was a bad day *[laughs]*.

HP Absolutely.

KPC Mm.

HP Standing in the street watching the, the blazes going up in the air.

KPC Such a waste of money and...

HP Yeah, absolutely.

KPC Terrible, terrible, terrible waste.

HP Absolutely, mm-mm.

KPC And very frightening too, really frightening to be in those experiences.

HP And then mummy was, was at... I have a sister in, in Sutton Coldfield.

KPC Where is that again?

HP Out, outside Birmingham.

KPC That's right, exactly.

HP Sutton Coldfield.

KPC Mm.

HP And mummy was there for... they usually would go for a week.

KPC Mm-mm.

HP And they kept phoning home to see, because they heard it on television, all this...

KPC Mm.

HP ... bombing that was going on.

KPC Terrible.