

<b>Pseudonym</b>	<b>Dialect Zone</b>	<b>Provenance</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Educational Level</b>	<b>Religion</b>	<b>Ch.7 Text No.</b>
Catherine McGarity (CMcG)	MUE	Irvinestown, Co. Fermanagh	F	88	Left school at 14	C	7.2.22

**KPC** So one of the things I wanted you to tell me a bit about was what it was like growing up here in Irvinestown when you were a wee girl?

**CMcG** Oh, wh... when I was young...

**KPC** Mm.

**CMcG** ... like going to school?

**KPC** Aye.

**CMcG** Aye, oh, it was great, you know, with friends, and at a... and in, in, in the summer time, we used to go in our bare feet.

**KPC** No!

**CMcG** We did.

**KPC** Did you really?

**CMcG** Honestly, we did when I was young. Nearly all the children went in their bare feet. It was the 1<sup>st</sup> May.

**KPC** Uh-huh.

**CMcG** On the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, they all went out in their bare feet every day to school, and... but then, although on Sundays you'll go to the ch... chapel there, you wore a pair of slippers or something. But definitely when the fir... once the 1<sup>st</sup> May came, you would get,

you get a, you'd... a stone, your stone, you'd put, put, your foot got caught on a stone, you'd call it a 'stone bruise'.

**KPC** Yeah.

**CMcG** Uh-huh. And, and, eh, and what else would you get? Stones, and something else now. I forget what the name of the other thing was – stone bruises and, em, oh, you'd crig your toe.

**KPC** crig your toe?

**CMcG** That's right. *[laughs]*

**KPC** Right, okay.

**CMcG** Crig your toe. That's right.

**KPC** Because you'd knock it against something?

**CMcG** Aye, aye.

**KPC** Mm.

**CMcG** That's right, mm-mm.

**KPC** And did you enjoy school?

**CMcG** Oh, I did surely. I loved school.

**KPC** Mm.

**CMcG** I did, aye.

**KPC** So what did you love about it?

**CMcG** Well, I liked the, I liked the teachers.

**KPC** Mm-mm.

**CMcG** The teachers were...

**KPC** Who was your favourite teacher?

**CMcG** Mi... Miss Parker was a teacher, and Mrs Kearney was a teacher. Mm.

**KPC** Mm-mm.

**CMcG** And they raffled a doll. Oh, and the lovely doll won... and you... and I... I think I was 14 at the time.

**KPC** Mm-mm.

**CMcG** And they raffled a doll, and it was three, three penny... three pennies for a ticket. That's right.

**KPC** Mm-mm.

**CMcG** And, anyway, I remember... or two, maybe it was two, two actually, about two pennies or three pennies for a ticket.

**KPC** Mm.

**CMcG** But I remember I was in a shop one day, and, an... and, em, there was a man in the shop, and he said, 'I don't want...' you were to guess the name of the doll...

**KPC** Mm.

**CMcG** That's right...

**KPC** Mm-mm.

**CMcG** ... guess the name of the doll, and, eh, this man he gave this girl was, she had the doll with her, and she was selling the tickets, and she said, he, he give her sixpence...

**KPC** Mm.

**CMcG** ... and he told her, he told her to buy me a ticket, and her a ticket, and another girl there, three of us. So it was sixpence; it was only two, two, tuppence for a ticket.

**KPC** Mm-mm.

**CMcG** And I, I asked the girl that was selling the tickets, I said, 'I don't want to guess. Give me the tuppence.' She said, 'No, you have to gue...

**KPC** *[laughs]*

**CMcG** .... *[laughs]* you have to gue... you have to guess the right name there. You have to guess,' she said. And th.. the day, that morning, I think, or maybe that day before, the teacher had said the name of the doll. I forget what she said. She said, 'Would none of you think of calling the doll two names?' And then we got... that day, I, I... but she said, 'Call the doll two names,' and I thought, 'Well, I'll have to call it...' and she, th... this girl was selling, had the doll with her, and she said, 'You'll have to guess,' and I says, 'Well, put down Mary... Mary Theresa for me.'

**KPC** Right.

**CMcG** And, anyway, that was all. It lasted a long time, say, a good month maybe after that, eh, the doll's name was revealed, do you know what it was? The doll's name was Marie Therese.

**KPC** Very close.

**CMcG** And that... and that I, I, I got the doll.

**KPC** Oh, excellent.

**CMcG** Oh, it was lovely doll, it was lovely. But my... I had a cousin home from America at that time.

**KPC** Uh-huh.

**CMcG** And my father... there were nine of us in this house.

**KPC** Aye.

**CMcG** And my father seen the doll, and he said, 'This doll wo... wouldn't last a, a month or... in this house.' Anyway, a cousin of ours was going back, she was with her mother and her were over for a holiday...

**KPC** Uh-huh.

**CMcG** ... when we met her, and she bet the... she got the doll.

**KPC** No!

**CMcG** Aye, she did. Oh, she'd go out and get her, you know what I mean? My father gave it to her.

**KPC** And how did you feel about that?

**CMcG** Oh, I, I didn't care.

**KPC** Did you not mind?

**CMcG** No, I didn't care, because I thought to myself, 'There's...' there were six... fi... five girls in the house...

**KPC** Aye.

**CMcG** ... and thought the doll wouldn't last a crack. *[laughs]*

**KPC** *[laughs]*. So, in a way, it was for...

**CMcG** And I remember this.

**KPC** ... for the preservation of the doll.

**CMcG** I remember going to school when there was a lovely doll.

**KPC** Yeah.

**CMcG** The teachers had dressed it and all and put lovely... made the clothes and all for it.

**KPC** Mm.

**CMcG**

I remember that at school now.