

George Hogg

d.o.b. 1/12/1926

Lived: Parkend, Moseley Green, Howbeach, Cannop Villas.

Worked: New Fancy (Blacksmith's shop), Princess Royal, Listers, Parkend Sawmills and Watkins (Sling)

Time	Topic / Event
0.00	George Hogg. Born Church Walk, Parkend, FoD, aged 90 years at time of recording, born Dec 1 <sup>st</sup> , 1926. .
0.24	<i>Q - re father, coming to forest?</i> Came to be a gardener for the Deakins, at Parkend House. Also worked at New Fancy and in the wood at clearing ditches to save company money, of having to pump out. Did a lot of work for the Deakins. They had a nanny who used to take sons Robert and Hamish Deakin, in their pram. She became GH's mother. It all started off with the Deakins.
1.30	Even before birth a job was there for GH at workshops at New Fancy Colliery.
1.44	<i>Q - re Deakin's?</i> Lived in Parkend House. Thomas Hedges Deakin senior was a JP and part of the mine. His son came along – Thomas must have died - Carlyle studied mining and took over at New Fancy, Parkend Royal and Castlemain. Also had two pits at Moseley Green – one a very minor pit. Steel frames- very modern in those days. ( <i>So they had quite a few collieries?</i> ) Yes they did – more than any other company.
3.12	<i>So father was clearing ditches / garden. Did he work in colliery too?</i> At New Fancy and for a time was on-setter there. The on – setter manages cages underground – the banksman manages them on the surface. ( <i>How long did he do that for?</i> ) In GH's youth.
4.00	<i>Did he work until he retired?</i> The colliery had finished when he retired. When Carlyle Deakin moved, he was ordained of course. Became a vicar on other side of the river. Father went there and tidied up all the barns – there for months.
4.45	<i>What did your mother do?</i> They came together at Deakin's, Parkend House where she was a nanny to Robert Hamish. Robert became bishop of Tewkesbury. After marriage GH's parents lived opposite the big house, across railway on way up to the church. GH born there.
5.22	<i>Q - School attendance?</i> Went to Parkend school until age 14. Knew there was a job for him at New Fancy on leaving school. Went to blacksmith's shop at New Fancy.
5.48	<i>Q – What did you do there?</i> Firstly a striker, working with a sledgehammer. Had big hands, helped with hammering and using tongs. ( <i>What were you making?</i> ) All sorts – couplings to connect mine carts together, couplings to seal the end of a rope, horseshoes, steel ropes to pull ropes through, everything except the ropes that ran over the wheels.
6.48	<i>Did you shoe horses too?</i> Yes, and did shoeing years later, and at home until the horse and carts gradually died out. They used to take coal from pits, ½ ton at a time. As this died out shoeing business went down.
7.29	<i>Q – At New Fancy blacksmith's shop – how long did this continue?</i> Four years. It closed in 1945 – went there about 1940
7.57	<i>Q – Re knowing men working underground at New Fancy?</i> Not those underground, just the men on the surface – there they are – all of them ( <i>showed interviewer a list of names and started to point people out, including self</i> )

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<b>8.36</b>	<p><i>Q – Permission to ask about some of the people and their jobs / how did you remember the names? I knew them! (Did you have any special friends there?)</i></p> <p>William Marshall from Parkend, worked with him quite a bit. He was the best smith there – an all-round smith. He wasn't liked – a certain amount of jealousy. (mentioned Coombes, then an aside about a man from Fleece Hotel, who initially worked in the flour mill in Bream, named Russell Jeffries, the landlord at Fleece Hotel (in Lydney) – came to work in war 1940 – 1945. Marshall was the cream of all smiths – could do everything. Coombes and Warren Thomas went to the horses in the stables. (When shoeing) a hind leg is put over your knee, a front leg goes between your legs to put the shoe on. The men would urinate on the horse's hair if they knew Marshall was shoeing, to be nasty!</p>
<b>11.51</b>	<p><i>Q – How many horses at New Fancy?</i> Two on the surface and around 10 underground. Had to go down to shoe them. Had to take own light as no light there. From the stables a dipple ran to the north, and a dipple off to the east, where the coal came up from the different seams. There was a road up to the stables. There was a horseman, Bassett, who saw to feeding and cleaning them. On the top of the dipples were winding engines. Two men called Brown – Harry and Vince Brown. Browns worked a lot in New Fancy – engineers. A chief mechanical and a chief electrical engineer. Marshall to go down to shoe the horses. No electric light in the stables.</p>
<b>13.26</b>	<p>One day, GH still a teenager, been underground to splice a rope. Had a rest in engine house, then got in cage to go up the shaft. Not sure if 'done for my benefit'. Brown was driving the winding engine, didn't need light, but stables were like a pit within a pit – where there had been another seam years before. Bassett was also underground – someone asked to borrow his lamp – thought there would be a row. Brown was on the winding engine, Bassett feeding his horses, it passed off smoothly. <i>(Quite a baptism for a young man!)</i></p>
<b>15.35</b>	<p><i>Q – Re numbers working at the colliery?</i> Don't know number underground, the paper lists those on surface. Frederick Hill, he was the weighbridge man. Measured what went out on horse and carts / lorries and allowance coal for the miners. The coal had to be weighed and paid for. Frederick Hill used to go to Parkend each day with money to a white building, Parkend offices. Taking in the money from country bank. Carts etc. could be waiting for coal at 2 a.m. – open 6-2.</p>
<b>16.58</b>	<p><i>Q – What were your hours?</i> 7-4 – had a break for dinner. <i>(What did you eat?)</i> It was the war. Bread and raw potatoes sometimes. It was tough. We had pigs on the walk. Might have a rasher of bacon.</p>
<b>17.44</b>	<p><i>Q – Did you have anything to do with the winding gear?</i> Oh yes. Not the engine, but the ropes in the drum. Couldn't just attach a rope to a cage – needed coupling. Used to say a 'capling' but think it should have been a coupling. The rope had to be tied down so far, all the strands opened up, some pulled back or cut off, to make a taper. Then it would be wound with wire. A capling was put on, and closed with a sledge(hammer) then three rings were driven over it. The smith would use a hammer and a flecker to strike the rings until the taper couldn't get out. Then a detacher hook was put on. Like a giant scissors which could cut though a big copper rivet – this was a safety measure. It never happened as the men could control the levers which moved the cage. <i>(So the rivet was a safety measure to prevent it</i></p>

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	<i>pulling right up?)</i> Yes – it couldn't be pulled right over the wheel. There were other safety devices. If it went too fast the steam would be knocked off. It was a last ditch in the line of safety devices.
21.00	Q – <i>Were there any accidents while you were there?</i> Not on the surface, only underground, but nobody seriously injured.
21.12	The seam was only 18 inches.
21.22	Q – <i>Who was your manager?</i> Herbert Brown. (Pointed names out on the list). The two Browns were mechanical and electrical engineers. There was a man working with him called Grantley Parfitt. After New Fancy closed he went to Bridgend Colliery and was fatally electrocuted. Grabbed a panel and went up in smoke.
22.40	<i>The list describes jobs people did. There are two Bassetts...</i> William Bassett and his son – Percy. Took on stables after the old man. William Marshall reckoned Bassett senior claimed his foot had been trodden on by a horse. Marshall said no, he had been cutting a corn with his razor, and gangrene set in and that was the end of him. They didn't pay out compensation for the injury. When he died his son took over.
24.00	John Bennett, the manager, couldn't get petrol in the war. He rode a white horse from Parkend House to the colliery.
24.26 - 26.38	<b><i>Interruption - cat came into the room and played with recording equipment. Wife then came in – been married 32 years together 10 years before that. Second marriage. Wife lived Longlevens. First wife was sister to second wife – she was five when they first met. First wife died.</i></b>
26.39	Q – <i>Re the white horse incident?</i> Donald Bennet. (Aside about father and his pipe). ( <i>Was Bennet a good manager?</i> ). Don't think he understood mining in the Forest. Not from the Forest. He was all right.
28.19	Q – <i>Did war affect the colliery?</i> (muttering) It closed. Princess Royal engineered things for ministry of fuel and power. If New Fancy closed, Princess Royal said they could now mine underneath it, which they did – came up under Cannop Ponds.
29.22	<i>They told the ministry that, during the war...did it contribute to the closure?</i> They hoped Fancy would close so they could get the coal.
29.45	<i>Did many people get called up?</i> ( <i>Cat in again – broke up train of thought</i> )
30.12	If you were in the pit you didn't get called up. ( <i>Further asides due to presence of the cat</i> ) as important in the pit as in the army. ( <i>Coal production was important?</i> ) Quite right. Princess Royal was more valuable as it was steam coal. Fancy was 100% house coal. (Steam coal) they could put on a ship. Fancy only suitable for fire grate.
31.27	<i>You've drawn a picture – tell me about underground?</i> That's made of wood, that's metal, that's a chain and that's a hook. The miners had butter boys.....only 18 inches (G - mumble - ? demonstrating) – they crawl under that. ( <i>So the seam was 18 inches? – did they take out just 18 inches?</i> ) Yes. There were two cutters, but Anderson could get in better as it was narrow. British Jeffrey-Diamond would touch the top – too big for the New Fancy. Would churn coal into dust – a chain went round a jib. There was a wheel at the front of the cutter (demonstrating as he spoke) and a rope. Cutter was wound up through the seam of coal on the rope, controlled by the cutter man (demonstrated width with hands) then miner could use his weight to hammer it out and bring down the coal. Before cutters, miners had to lay on their side with a pickaxe – terrible work. .

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34.29	<p><i>Q – did the cutters make a big difference?</i> They reckon they spoiled the Fancy – took too much coal. (<i>So they spoiled it?</i>) They wasted coal. House coal not useful, it wasn't steam coal at all. Men did use New Fancy coal on site (? Clearwaters?) in boilers, but had to keep turning fire to take clinker out, in the furnaces. There were two furnaces in each boiler.</p>
35.38	<p>A while later GH became steam boiler engineer at Watkin's. (<i>We'll come to that. How many seams were they working at the Fancy?</i>) About two. Not worth taking out the warrant, as couldn't get money back on cost of getting it out. The Deakins said to keep a beam pump, like they have in Cornwall, working, but they didn't (referred to a picture in a book). It was in a tall house, pumping. (Then) they went for electrical pumpage, but had a motor burnout, so could do nothing - had to flood the best seam. (<i>What year was that?</i>) Between 40 – 44. The Rocky was the best seam. All the Blacksmiths had to go down to Parkend Royal. Plan was to wind the water out with the cage. Made a wooden box to go on underground with a top man on the other side. He was good man but failed in this respect. The box was called the (budge?) – a waterproof box. It was lowered into the water, an opening then filling it to the level of the water, then "wind it up". A second (sealed) opening was then opened to release the water "whoosh out it went". Then repeated process. This wasn't done at New Fancy, but at Parkend Royal, which was where the water went to downhill. Went all night, in the winding engine with two or three men. Think engine ran at about 100 psi.</p>
39.18	<p><i>Q – You think the flooding was because they stopped using the beam engine?</i> Yes, the motor burnt out. That was the end of it – the Deakins always kept the beam engine working. The pumped the water down through Blakeney Brook into the Severn.</p>
40.02	<p>(<i>Blackpool Brook?</i>) Yes, that's the one. I lived by it for years, in Howbeach Cottage. For several years, 1969 -70. (<i>They've knocked them down now?</i>) Yes, (they were) good houses, good rooves, but no water or toilet facilities. Had to manage but found a difference when left there and came here.</p>
40.44	<p><i>Q – You were living with parents when working at New Fancy?</i> No. The Deakins were aware mother's health not too good. Suggested a move to Moseley Green, away from smoke in Parkend. Moved with brother, father and mother. Mother had family, so had finished with the Deakins by then. Had two boys and a girl. Had TB and died when GH was seven. The Deakins were worried GH would have TB so was in Standish for about 12 months, and mother was brought every so often to visit. Didn't have TB, was running about like all the rest – it didn't have windows. (<i>How old were you then?</i>) About seven. Mother died with it.</p>
42.53	<p><i>Q - What happened when you came back?</i> Father looked after us with a bit of help from others to get us off to school Father used to repay them, with pig meat and bacon and shooting. He had come from other side of river where his father was a gamekeeper at a big mansion. He enjoyed shooting, woodcock, pheasant and snipe. And hares as big as dogs – not many about now. (<i>So your father was a countryman?</i>) Yes.</p>
44.00	<p><i>Q – You had no mother from seven, you were living at Moseley Green..?</i> In the garden was the toilet, on edge of one of three pits – Independent pits. One near the Barracks, one by the gardens, one near the pub in Moseley Green by the pond.</p>

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	They were the Independents and the house was called the Pendent House, Moseley Green. Lived there when working at the New Fancy until its closure in 1944.
45.00	<i>Q – Any other recollections about working at New Fancy...how were industrial relations...pay...?</i> 14s a week as an apprentice. Had own forge. <i>(As apprentice – any college time or learnt on the job?)</i> Learnt everything from the men who knew. Many men's lives depended on their work e.g. links for chains for the cage.
46.26	<i>Q – The closure?</i> (pause, thinking) Happened pretty quickly, ministry of Fuel and Power were behind it. <i>(Were you there on the last day?)</i> Yes, I was there last day <i>(what did they do?)</i> Just closed it all off, the winding engine was beautiful, it was gleaming and spotless.
47.36	The winding engine had beautiful brass <i>(Do you know the make?)</i> No, no – I do know they had their own power plant there (referred to the written list) – reciprocating engines <i>(yes I've got it, self-condensing steam engines...)</i> That's right – made in Gloucester. <i>(Yes, I've got Baylis and Morgan?)</i> That's right. Don't know how they were self-condensing. Mr Pocket and Mr Cabe were the engine men in the Power House. Later the power came from an underground cable main line on way to Cinderford.
49.13	<i>(What did they do with them when they shut the pit?)</i> Don't know. (Described noise of self-condensing engines starting up) don't know the speed, they connected to an alternator.
50.00	<i>(Q – How did New Fancy men send their time off e.g. commoning, pigs?)</i> Everyone had a pig. A lot of big tumps in the Forest. Had a lot of wooden barrels at Fancy, with grease used to lubricate tram wheels. Miners would have the barrels for a few pence. They would burn them out and clean them. When new bracken and nettles were coming, this would go in to form the pigs' diet.
51.20	The forest was different then – a lot of oak and acorns for pigs to get own food. A pig would come back with little pigs – mounted out in the woods. <i>(So your dad had pigs that he turned out in the Forest?)</i> Always had bacon on the wall. Had sheep as well, about 500 at one time. <i>(Who kept them?)</i> Dad and GH. The Rising Sun was about 50 yards from the house, and dad's money went there. GH hasn't drunk much through seeing his dad drink – did years ago but not now. <i>(You're still here!)</i> Yes (chuckle).
53.04	<i>Q - How long did you keep sheep for?</i> Quite a while – all the time when living in Moseley Green. <i>(Did you common them?)</i> Not same now, they had more forest to run in then. Had more food. Acorns and beech masts. Cut the beech in forest down now. It was natural food for pigs and sheep – it's all gone.
53.46	<i>Q – They've changed how they manage the forest?</i> It has changed – could live off Forest a few years ago. Could get rabbit or hard, use a ferret – can't now. Everything that came free has gone. You got to pay for it.
54.16	<i>Q –What happened to you after closure of New Fancy?</i> We just waked away. Don't know what they salvaged there. Heard they cut the rope and let the cages fall. Must have smashed the winding engine up – don't know.
54.40	<i>Q – Where did you go?</i> To Princess Royal. Same job. <i>(How many New Fancy men moved with you – did they all get a job?)</i> No, Mr Marshall was on edge of retirement, Mr Coombes died, that left GH and another boy, Phillips. That left GH, Mr Marshall and Russell Jeffries from The Fleece in Lydney. He'd been a blacksmith,

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	years before, in Bream, on the old Flour Mill Pit – knew the job. But not like old Marshall.
56.00	<i>Q – Who was the Philips?</i> Handyman, used to do a bit of striking with the sledge. Don Philips (referred to the list) <i>(Yes, I Knew him. Lived near Ned's Top)</i> That's right, he had a sister. <i>(His wife was Hilda – daughter Betty lives in same house)</i> . I nearly married Jessie Saunders – lived down the road from the Philips. Her brother worked pit bottom on Yorkley seam. <i>(But you didn't marry her!)</i>
57.28	I didn't have the money. I should have married a girl evacuated from Hastings who came here during the war. Went down there a few times.
57.38	<i>Q – Were there many evacuees?</i> Yes indeed. Little story – we are both men – re a local woman. Laughing about a 'jewellery catalogue' and lack of money (mentioned a name) – 'a sweet old girl' – that was the end of the story!
59.16	<i>Q – How long at Princess Royal?</i> Don't know - until they out the Fancy men off. Didn't have the coal sales – couldn't sell it. Fancy men were the last in, so were the first out. Happened three times. First of all GH went to R A Lister in Cinderford, to a factory there.
1.00.18	<i>Q – You were engineering at Lister's?</i> Putting wheels on engines. Inspectors used to come down. Went from there to Parkend Sawmills. Mr Rivers senior lived in Parkend. Father always worked for either Rivers or Deakins. So the Fancy men were laid off and GH went to Lister's. Then got a letter and went back to pit – got allowance coal every month. A big benefit – it was handy. <i>So you were asked to go back to Princess Royal?</i> Yes. But Fancy men got put off again. Had a trade as a blacksmith by now – could go 'where other men fear to tread!' <i>(So you were laid off again?</i> Yes. The last time, thought 'not having this again' so looked for 'pastures new'.
1.03.02	Went to Sling. Well known – Baden Watkins. Other business men's sport would be tennis or golf. 'Baden's main enjoyment was giving men the sack'. If he walked by and couldn't hear the hammer going. GH went there. Knew men left quite frequently. Watkins didn't know a nut from a bolt himself. Told GH he had never put a man off for working. That was the case. GH used to go to tend the boilers and heating. GH also went to Flaxley Abbey to his house.
1.05.07	There was a man at the Abbey. The boiler was down in the old ?Mugs - still there. Thousands of bottles down there – all empty. A man was doing ground work with a caterpillar tractor. Struck a match looking at the bottles, day after day – but never found one with anything in it! Never seen so many bottles.
1.05.59	<i>Q – How long did you work for Watkins?</i> <b>(Wife – went to Watkins in 56 and were there until you were 70)</b> yes that right <i>(so you did 14 years there. Did you retire then?)</i> Still used to do his boiler.
1.06.41	<i>Q – And by that time you'd moved here – to Cannop Villas?</i> <b>(Wife – we moved here in 71 – working at Watkin's then)</b> . How did we come to move here? That's right, there was a murder! Off in Scotland on holiday. Searching for them all over Scotland. <i>(Looking for you?)</i> Yes, where were we, began with B didn't it? Had a caravan there. <b>(Dialogue with wife)</b>
1.08.09	<b>(Wife - children were playing outside on the Wednesday. Two blokes came and asked for George. His brother had been murdered)</b> . That's right. <b>(Wife – I told George. Had to come home then, the following morning. Got told in the evening</b>

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	<p>as had been out all day. They'd been looking for them at every caravan site in Scotland. Can't recall name – a long time ago) (<i>Did you have to come back then?</i>) Yes.</p>
1.09.30	<p>At time was living at Howbeach, came here due to the murder – house given by the Forestry Commission. Eventually bought it off them.</p>
1.09.50	<p>Q – <b>Murder made you move? (Wife – they demolished the house – half a dozen houses, only George and his brother lived there by then)</b> (<i>So were you together by then?</i>) (Wife – yes but still living in Longlevens. Jack and George lived at Howbeach)</p>
1.10.27	<p><b>Wife - further details of breakdown of George's first marriage</b></p>
1.10.44	<p>Brother used to go to pubs in Blakeney, never married. Went with friends. Got very friendly with a bloke – a water bailiff. Salmon fishing with a lave net (<i>who used a lave net?</i>) Me – never sold one.</p>
1.11.29	<p>Anyway a friend said to brother to get this chap out - on his way. Didn't take any notice. Brother must have had some money (<b>Wife – he had quite a bit</b>) they never found a penny. A friend went around the local banks but couldn't find any trace. The bloke got in bedroom window with brother's shotgun and waited for him to come home. Shot him down.</p>
1.13.03	<p><i>That must have been very difficult for you.</i> He was sentenced and came out and committed suicide at the Arboretum near Speech House (<b>Wife – when he came out of prison no-one in the forest would have anything to do with him. He went in pubs. Don't know whether family had anything to do with him. He was found by Speech House</b>)</p>
1.14.07.	<p><i>It all sounds very tragic.</i> (indistinct) (<b>Wife – kept telling him to get rid of him</b>). A water bailiff from Viney Hill, Arthur Parry, told brother to get rid of the man – he'd been in Borstal etc. Not much he hadn't done. But he wouldn't would he! He was still there waiting for brother to come back and – bang! (<b>Wife – they didn't find him for three days</b>). No!</p>
1.15.14	<p>Frank Cook from Blakeney had a shop, brother was living alone in end house. Frank used to bring him his groceries every week. There were a lot of rooms – 8 - in the houses. They were covered in cardboard boxes. (<b>Wife – police had been in</b>) yes – and they didn't find him! Pete, with the big eyes – went in there. A mate who he went to pub with in Blakeney - ? Norris – went in (<b>Wife – police went in with them</b>). Anyway, he was found dead under the boxes.</p>
1.16.38	<p><i>And after that the Forestry Commission decided to knock houses down?</i> (Indistinct) I never went back to live there, no. (<b>Wife – you stayed with us in Gloucester for a while</b>) then when got this, was happy.</p>
1.17.09	<p>Q – <i>Re lave net fishing – did you do it all your life?</i> Did it for a long time (<b>Wife – confirmed this</b>) (<i>which part of river?</i>) Down to Lydney, up the bank – had the lave net there – quite a big one. Right where the railway comes against the river. Wellhouse Bay. Had some (good) salmon – a deep freeze full of them! (<i>were you fishing off the sand?</i>) No, tide was running out and fish with it. When tide came in, brought fish in. When in Wellhouse Bay they couldn't get out – had to come back – so I had them.</p>
1.18.44	<p>Had a black Labrador dog – it knew his fish. If GH put his bag down, dog would sit on it. But if fish were in the bay, dog would look into the water – that's the truth! GH</p>

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	would know there was a fish. One time, two other men there, GH was last man out – came out with biggest salmon. <b>(Wife – twenty pound one)</b>
1.19.19	<i>Q – Who taught you to lave net?</i> (Pause) Taught myself. Arthur Parry was a big help – water bailiff. <i>(Did you go with anyone from Yorkley?)</i> Didn't get mixed up with them. (?)Buckold Harris had disease, had to go to toilet – no good. Not sure – Crohn's Disease?
1.20.59	<i>Did someone from Yorkley go missing?</i> <b>(Wife- Mr Nelmes)</b> 'Ah, takes me back now'. Right! Didn't only have fish there, there was a gang, Nelmes was one of them. Midnight 'came in front of them – couldn't see us in the dark'. Different matter in the day. Greedy Nelmes would go down the river, you'll see a blue light in the river there now. He came struggling back up laden down with fish. When salmon swim against tide can see them clearly. He put down the fish and ran in to get another – that greedy.
1.22.34	However, this particular time, Mrs Nelmes was waiting for him, saw him go over sand bar out of sight. Never seen again. Went into the soft sand. That was his greed <b>(Wife – never found)</b> Never found. Sand could have been yards deep. Had to go quick or go down.
1.23.29	<i>What years were you lave net fishing most?</i> <b>(Wife and GH – don't know)</b> Had plenty of fish every year. Hadn't killed one – wife had to take off shoe and kill it with her heel! <b>(Wife - sometimes would take kids down with us – sit on bank – take sandwiches. Enjoyed it. Kids not very old then. 13, 14 (when would that make it?) she is 60 in October. (So, 50 years ago?))</b> .
1.25.00	Discovered something down there. A wreck – still visible at low tide. Went at night so wouldn't be seen. <b>(Wife- worried me sick! Would get talking – come waltzing home 2-3 hours late)</b> It's a dangerous place.
1.26.29	Apart from Greedy Nelmes, there were four in the gang. Used to fish together for a living. We had our licence just same as theirs. Always had a compass round neck, when fog comes down 'had it'. This man, Davies from Blakeney. Train went down the line – if he hadn't seen it would have been the end of him. <b>(Wife and GH talking over each other)</b>
1.27.43	<b>(Wife- what was that Townsend – nearly had it one night – you kept calling to him)</b> What! It was in the fog. Saved his life, aye. Thought his car's here. Others had gone. Heard a shout out in river. Shouted back. 'Now he knew where he was'. 'Took me to the Cornfield and bought me chicken in the basket!' <b>(Wife – you kept shouting. He swam back.)</b>
1.28.59	<i>He was in the water? He was lucky then.</i> Had all his clothes off and a fish on his back! <i>(He brought the fish back – oh)</i>
1.29.20	Went to Aberystwyth with them. <b>(Wife / GH – talking over each other)</b> Drank! Pint after pint after pint. <b>(Wife- wonder who has lave now – talking over each other)</b>
1.29. 52	<i>Thanked and END</i>



**George Hogg**

**d.o.b. 1/12/1926**

**Lived: Parkend, Moseley Green, Howbeach, Cannop Villas.**

**Worked: New Fancy (Blacksmith's shop), Princess Royal, Listers, Parkend Sawmills and Watkins (Sling)**

Robert Lister started a business producing agricultural machinery in Dursley, Gloucestershire. His father (George) was a Yorkshireman, who moved to Dursley in 1817. The father established a business involved in tanning, card-making and wire-drawing.

By 1944 the company was producing diesel engines for marine use. Subsidiary factories were set up in various locations including Nympsfield, Wotton-under-Edge and Cinderford, manufacturing components

New Fancy Pit: <http://lightmoor.co.uk/forestcoal/CoalNewFancy.html>

In 1841 Coal Awards possession of the New Fancy gale was held by Edward Protheroe, who acquired it from his uncle John Protheroe who held in in 1812. Edward Protheroe was a local coal owner with extensive interests in the Parkend area.

The collieries were bought by a Mr. Jackson in 1881. He installed Thomas Hedges Deakin as manager. In 1884 Deakin and two others (Fanny Toomer and Susan Broadley) acquired the collieries, installing new equipment – including compressed air coal cutters.

By 1892 the Parkend Deep Navigation Collieries Co. Ltd. had bought up the company with Thomas Hedges Deakin subsequently becoming its Managing Director and Chairman.

The narrow (as little as 18") seams of house coal extracted from New Fancy steadily declined until its final closure in August 1944.

Key names within the Deakin Family:

Thomas Hedges Deakin was born in Pontypool in 1850. He first became involved in mining at around age 13. By 1877 he was appointed colliery manager of the Parkend Pits and came to live at Parkend House. He had interests in many of the pits in and around Parkend.

Thomas Carlyle Deakin – born 1881, son of Thomas Hedges Deakin, also a manager of the Parkend Collieries. Trained as an Anglican priest after closure of New Fancy Pit.

Thomas Carlyle Robert Hamish Deakin (known as Robert) was Bishop of Tewkesbury and the only bishop to have died in office there. He died on 3 August 1985 at the age of 68.

<https://www.revolv.com/main/index.php?s=Robert%20Deakin>

British Jeffrey-Diamond: [https://www.gracesguide.co.uk/British\\_Jeffrey-Diamond](https://www.gracesguide.co.uk/British_Jeffrey-Diamond)

The company formed in Wakefield in 1897, making a variety of tools used in mining e.g. crushers. In its heyday employing in excess of 1000 people. It was bought out in 1996, closing in 2001.

<http://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/news/massive-picture-archive-recalls-great-days-of-yorkshire-firm-1-2413684>

Watkins Engineering, Sling: [http://www.forest-of-dean.net/gallery/coleford/pages/page\\_37.html](http://www.forest-of-dean.net/gallery/coleford/pages/page_37.html)

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Company founded in 1860, supplying iron ore taken from the local family owned mine. Later moved into manufacturing boilers, cranes etc.

Currently managed by Philip Baden Watkins, a direct descendent of the original owner. He and his family live in a wing of Flaxley Abbey.