

## ORAL HISTORY RECORDING SUMMARY

### 'Fighting for our Rights' project

<b>Surname</b>	Macfarlane
<b>Given name</b>	Ann
<b>Date of birth</b>	1939
<b>Place of birth</b>	Thorpe St Andrew, Norfolk
<b>Date of interview</b>	27 April 2017
<b>Length of interview</b>	01:40:25
<b>Number of tracks</b>	1
<b>Name of interviewers</b>	Ijeoma Aniyeloye, Jen Kavanagh

#### Track 1 of 1 [01:40:25]

Ann Macfarlane (AM) was born in 1939 in Thorpe St Andrew, Norfolk, to parents Frances and David. Talks about early childhood, long periods in hospital including in Great Yarmouth. Mother worked as a housewife, father in retail. Describes her disability, wheelchair user, little mobility [00:04:10]. Talks about schooling. Poor education in hospitals. Talks about using the ward clock to play games with herself, very lonely experience. Left hospital around age 14. Parents had moved to New Malden. Attended Bedlesford School. Class ranged from 9-16 years. States learning nothing. Describes abuse by headteacher [00:07:45]. Left school age 16. Describes education not being a strong point. Underwent major operations until the age 18, attended rehabilitation centre [00:10:00]. Moved home. Attended college in Leatherhead for typewriting or shorthand. Talks about jobs available at the time for disabled people. College very unsupportive of AM's needs. Broke arm after 10 days. Left college and employed private tutor for 4 years [00:15:50]. Set up private practice as a teacher and did some work for father at home. Comments about lack of social life. Talks about getting medical secretary work at Kingston Hospital [00:20:25]. Moved out of home at age 29 to British Home and Hospital for Incurables. Talks about not getting meals at home due to being out at work [00:25:40]. Talks about joining Kingston Association for the Handicapped, mentions Wycliffe Noble. AM became Honorary Secretary. Mentions getting housing back in Borough of Kingston. Talks about Wycliffe seeking office space for Association [00:31:30]. Mentions £100 grant. Coup by disabled members to get on Board. Mentions Ken Livingstone and time of change, heady days. Talks about protests including at Westminster Bridge [00:34:25]. Mentions Kingston Hospital Access Policy with Patricia Page. Describes abuse currently experienced by a friend in a home. Talks about what Kingston Centre for Independent Living (KCIL) are and should be doing. AM is Patron [00:39:05]. Worked as Disability Equality Consultant since 1988, including Equality Care Commission. Talks about involvement with the Rangers [00:44:05]. Describes group trip to Switzerland and discrimination from hotel guests. Explains fundraising for KCIL, rattling tins in the streets. Describes KCIL job roles in early days including volunteers [00:49:35]. Mentions Arthritis Care and YDAPA (Young Disabled and Positively Artistic). Talks about working with Phil Levick, partnering with local artist, Fran [00:54:20]. Refers to change in language around disability. Tells story about friend try to move to better supported housing, including anecdote about poor living conditions [00:59:50]. Talks about lack of understanding of the term 'independent living'. Mentions lack of engagement with KCIL by some of the younger disabled community. Their knowledge is needed [01:04:40]. Talks through the history of the Direct Payments, starting in 1981. Initiated by four residents at Leonard Cheshire Home in Hampshire. Also mentions Berkeley, California. Hampshire movement inspired Kingston

action. Focus on access issues [01:09:10]. Describes Park House in Sandringham, attending training. AM then travelled around UK delivering training about accessibility. Talks about meeting Jane Campbell, who was seeking advice on moving into her own flat in the community. Jane suggested that she and AM propose an independent living scheme in Kingston. Took proposal to Social Services. Mentions attending conference in Vancouver [01:15:15]. Direct Payments introduced, with a co-ordinator at KCIL. Management group established. Reflects on scale of Direct Payments today. Mentions CQC (Care Quality Commission), language used around disability. Talks about need for liaison with local authority to understand agendas, and Access Officer role. Mentions Phil Levick again, working for KCIL [01:19:05]. Need for stronger Board and more community support. Talks about means testing policy and challenges of this. Describes changes in charging based on disposable income. As of 2017, 100% is charged, despite appeal from disabled community. Explains about AM trying to make repayments [01:24:50]. AM has social worker allocated to help with finances. Reflects on being hopeful about future of independent living. Possible issues around self-funding [01:30:45]. Lack of monitoring by Council. Talks about recent progress made by KCIL, dedicated staff. Need for a Board who understand issues and rights of disabled people [01:34:15]. Reflects on feeling AM has had a good life. Reflects on achievements of KCIL. Talks about Wycliffe Noble. Ends with story about receiving MBE and OBE.

**End of recording [01:40:25]**