

Maitland City Library Oral History Project 2023

Interviewee: Sue Gray

Interviewer: Magella Kerr

Date: 17th July, 2023

Interview log:

Time	Subjects	Proper names
<i>Interviewer introduction</i>		
00:00	An overview of Sues early life growing up in an industrial area of Northwest England.	Oldham Manchester England British Rail Cheshire
01:17	Details her university education, early career and retraining as a civil engineer.	London Liverpool Torquay Devon England
2:16	Outlines immigrating from England to Australia 6 years ago (approximately 2016)	Australia
3:16	Outlines that the reasons behind the move to the Hunter and describes Gillieston Heights appeal.	South Australia The Hunter (Hunter Valley) Macquarie Hills Cardiff South Gillieston Heights New England Highway Hunter Expressway Newcastle Newcastle airport Adelaide
5:41	Describes Gillieston Heights life and community.	Gillieston (Gillieston Heights) Cessnock road
9:10	Outlines considerations made when moving to Gillieston Heights and reflects on personal research into Maitland's flooding history.	Toronto Torquay Maitland City Council
12:42	Reflects on the timeline of events during the flooding in	Cardiff Testers hollows

	July 2022. Sue mentions watching weather reports and monitoring weather warnings for the area.	Red roster Hedden Greta Cliftleigh Buchanan road Macquarie Hills Maitland Fisheries Creek The Hunter (Hunter River)
15:50	Closing the road – early hours of the morning Details the timeline and change landscape engulfed by rising waters. The bizarre sight	Gillieston heights Gilligan’s island
15:53	Reflects on the event, experiencing interest rather than a sense of panic. Volunteering to help other in the community.	IGA
18:10	Community connection and residents sharing resources with each other. Reflects Emotional toll Sharing and care for others	Gillieston Heights IGA Hedden Greta
20:20	Covers the ‘Show and Shine’ community event on day 6-7	Saddlers (Saddlers Ridge)
22:05	Describes emergency services update at the local community centre. Share the varied reaction from resident to the suburb being cut off by flood waters.	Jenny (Aitchison) IGA RFS (Rural Fire Service) SES (State emergency services)
25:39	9 days in total Leak in levee wall in South Maitland Reflects on properties and families immediately impacted by the flooding. Loss of homes	South Maitland
26:34	Details daily routine Keeping busy Impact on social life	Testers Hollow IGA UK
29:42	Shares experiences of staying connected during isolation.	

32:00	Covers impact of mould caused by humidity, align with other type of damage. Animals moved - goat and horses, cows.	Gillieston Heights Wallis Creek South Maitland Lorn
34:02	Details sense of isolation and feeling of separating from family and missing the routine of volunteer work.	Gillieston heights Mike (Gray)
37:38	Detail personal thoughts on ways of water management Threat of surplus water And comparing management systems between UK and Australia	Australia Testers Hollow Torquay West country
40:35	Reflects on forming community connection through such events.	England Australia Sue Kath
43:25	Close remarks	
<i>End of interview</i>		