Observing the 1980s
Making official history unofficial?

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Select archive material
Digitise archive material
Identify extracts for teaching module
Build teaching module
Package raw digitised materials
Put everything online
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Themes and practicalities
Permissions and ethics
Sharing and technology
Observing the 1980s

1) Thatcher + Thatchersm
2) Britain + the world
3) Britain at war
   i) Falklands
   ii) Northern Ire
4) Miners Struggles
5) Sovereignty tech
6) Community, Nation, Race
   i) Riots
7) Family Values
8) Cultures
   i) 28/1189
9) End of a meeting
   Back

Part II Retrospective View of the Eighties

For us the Eighties was:-
1. The reign of Maggie Thatcher.
2. A decade of disasters - train + plane crashes, fires, sinking ships etc.
3. An increasing world wide awareness of our environment.
4. Beginning of the end of communist domination.
5. Escalating house prices + increasing mortgages.

And on a more personal level:-
1. Marriage break up + divorce something I thought would never happen to me.
2. Learning to live on my own.
3. Buying a house + being solely responsible for its upkeep.
4. Working full time again + at the end of 1989 moving from the N.H.S. to the private sector.
The Eighties

To me the 80s was the decade of the grandchildren '84 '88 + '89. It was also the decade of redundancy '83 and '86. The first time I thought I would not work again, but I found out that if you are not choosy and prepared to work, there is always a job available. At the moment it seems possible that it is on the cards again. In the 80s I became a capitalist with NFC shares and used some of my unearned rewards to become a home owner. I also bought my first ever brand new car.

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1) Thatcher + Thatchersm
2) Britain + the World
3) Britain at War
   i) Falklands
   ii) Northern Ire
4) Miners Strickens
5) Employment tech

6) Community, Nation, Race
   i) Riots
7) Family Values
8) Culture
   i) 1985

9) End up a meeting
   Back
Observing the 1980s

Buying clothes - for me this is a chore which I put off as long as possible and in fact get over very quickly. I usually go without knowing what I have bought and get very rapidly despondent when I can’t get it. Fortunately this has brought some maintenance and I think I have saved money by buying clothes more carefully than have my neighbours. This could be called a prudent practice. It is more important for clothes to be functional than fashionable.

I find it difficult enough buying clothes for myself. I don’t need to attempt to buy clothes for other people. I would even prefer my wife to take over. This has never happened, but if it does not happen to her, rely on my neighbour. When it comes to colours, I seem to stick to blues, greys, the safe colours. I suppose, good must admit to preferring a little chart although pastel shades and odd. I do not like striped shirts now, however on me or anyone else.

If I will buy all my clothes locally if I can. If I want to buy a shirt, I can’t get it in town. I don’t get clothes as well in town, because they have certain sizes and don’t usually come through with my size. This is a problem in the local shops. Of course.

So a shirt in my wardrobe is my favourite suit and this was a woolen one. I don’t have many suits or shirts. I don’t need many expensive clothes. I can’t remember that I spent over money with a Russia that had bought some years ago for savings. There are a few things I don’t feel comfortable in and I wouldn’t wear them. This can be awkward and in some cases people can be very big and I don’t think I would make anything other than non-commitments three days.

Reading “Sunday Express” and get in touch through the letters pages. I see young children with educational things in hand which they have in a shirt. The creation of a further have a great

Winter Breakdown 1984

1. I have 150 known relatives who have offspring and cousins. My cousins and sisters that I know do nothing about.

We have contact with a few in America, coming to visit and some cold emails or letters. These ever here, we see a few times a year. We don’t see them on a regular basis as everybody works on in engaged in something that cannot keep her left for a long time any doing now.

We visit the locals at “Clare” Randalstown most often. Mrs. G. is my mother’s sister. She has five children who are all grown up and (one) are a similar age to my brother and myself. George the eldest has a wife from Kilmore and they have three children. Margaret is married to an Englishman and she lives in Nendrum. Sean B. is Margaret’s sister and is married to a man from Cavan who works in a bank. Sean works in the bank too but not at the same place. Donnie and Fred, their brother and sister live at home. Fred does not go further than work most often and he keeps race horses.

Donnie works in Derry and has his own car. My uncle, Andy, Mrs. B. is brother, visits every Saturday. He works for his brother James and used formerly for my

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