Transcription

"We lived in it, my step-mother, my dad and myself but they did let rooms, which was quite common. We lived in West Hampstead and then, because the council were going to do compulsory purchase, we had to move - but they didn't turn out to be council houses in the end in West Hampstead - but we moved and some of the tenants that were in West Hampstead came with us to Cricklewood. And they stayed for quite some time. But that was common.

And I'd say people were, kind of … they had their own rooms but they were friendly and you could talk to them and they would come and mix with you. And then they'd go on to better things themselves. You know, they'd save up their money to buy their flats or wherever they wanted to go to.

What used to happen, in the early '40s, '50s, '60s, Irish men, they'd get a room but they'd have to be out at, say 6 o'clock in the morning. And they wouldn't be allowed in until 8-, 9-, 10 o'clock at night. So therefore they'd go to work and they would often end up in pubs or clubs just socialising, because they had nowhere to go. You know, it's not like you get a room now and you can be in there all day or whatever - it was quite different. Although that didn't happen in our house! They were allowed in and out, whatever. But that was a fact."

Rosemary Foley was born in 1948 in London to Irish parents, and soon after returned with them to Ireland. She then moved back to Cricklewood and went to school there.

Rosemary's father worked for London Transport she remembers travelling for free travel on the trolley buses that ran down Cricklewood Broadway. When she left school, Rosemary worked in a bank near Marble Arch and used to walk all the way home on Thursday evenings for late night shopping. She remembers the Broadway was very lively and she always saw people she knew. She later moved out to Harrow with her husband Daniel, where she continued to work and raise a family.