

Courtney Heard

The effects of the flooding of the valley.

We had to have water didn't we? With so many dry summers and running out of water, in this day and age it's a ridiculous thing to run out of water in the summer.

But with the building of the dam, that whole valley being flooded, how did you feel about that?

That was a pity to flood a valley. Beforehand they were going to build it up near Black-a-tor Copse, up that way, which would have been further away, and it would have flooded another valley and all the water would have runned in by gravitation, but it's here now and people accept it. We get a lot of visitors: before the reservoir was built you could be there all day working, and you wouldn't see a soul, no one would come out there like, but now you get hundreds of people there, so the reservoir attracts a lot of people. The more that's coming here is people walking, up on the high moor.

Which people didn't used to do?

People never used to do it, you could go out there all day and you wouldn't hardly see anyone, you'd ride a horse there gathering sheep and cattle, you wouldn't see anyone, now you see quite a few people.