

Evelyn and Lesley Cribbett

Bolt's shop.

Evelyn: She had everything, if she didn't have it in the shop she'd get it the next day and if you went in and she was in a good mood she'd say, 'Would you like an apple?', if you said, 'Yes', you'd take the biggest one there!

They had two shops, is that right?

Lesley: Yes, they had the one down here on the corner and they had one up nearly opposite the school which used to be a hardware shop.

So the one down here was the grocery shop?

Evelyn: Well everything.

Lesley: Grocery, drapery, fuel, paraffin, oil and everything, didn't they? Coal.

Evelyn: And they used to take it all out with the bread and that in the van, deliver bread and stuff with paraffin and coal they used to put in the van, didn't do us any harm did it?

So tell me about the shops in Princetown, we've talked about Bolts, what else was there?

Evelyn: There was Sampson's the butchers, Charlie Sampson, up by the Plume, that little store in the Plume.

And there was Finch's was there?

Evelyn: There was top and bottom Finch, the main shop was bottom Finch's, well then they'd take a lot of the stuff to top Finch's and again that was a clothing place wasn't it? But yes, it was lovely and they used to have sweets up there and it smelt gorgeous as you passed the shop, that's where Venville House is now, and it used to smell beautiful passing that shop.

Lesley: That was before I left school, I used to work for Sampson's, during the War, at the ration time Tuesday was go round with corned beef, I think it was about two ounces a person, Thursday was the eggs, I think it was only a couple of eggs or so you were allowed a week, and the weekend joint was Saturday, I was paid one shilling and sixpence delivery a week.