

AV 08

CHILDHOOD GAMES

JOHN CORDON

TIME	TRANSCRIPT
00.00 – 00.09	One of things that struck me about it, that was so different from now, was that we were completely free to go out without being escorted – go out to play in the street.
00.09 – 00.19	And we could play a lot of game sin the street: football, cricket, rounders, using the trees as sort of goalposts or as the rounder bases, running round...
00.19 – 00.25	And... because there were no cars. There were only about 2 people in the road who owned cars, before the war.
00.25 – 00.44	But the other thing was that we also could get over to the local park, which was Perivale Park. Quote a large part of it, by then, they had tried to sort of cultivate and lay out, and there was a golf course and so forth, but there was a section of it near the, near Costons Lane, which was and still is pretty well uncultivated, and had lots of elm trees there.
00.44 – 01.17	One of the things I remember very vividly is about climbing trees – we seemed to spend half our life up trees, it was sort of our own, sort of, aerial world up in the trees. But the other thing is that the trees were kind of, in our childhood world, were graded in terms of difficult of climbing. And as you grew up, it became more possible to climb the more difficult trees, because you were just that much taller. So there was this kind of, err, way in which, as you grew up, your progress and your growth was sort of measured by which of the trees you could now climb that you couldn't climb before.