Steven Skelley (SS) in conversation with Rita Britton (RB) recorded on 14/02/25

[00:00:00 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[My name is Steven Skelley, and I'm the Community Heritage Curator for Barnsley Museums. It's a lovely Valentine's Day in 2025, with Rita Britton, fashion designer Barnsley Icon, owner of Pollyanna, and she's kindly agreed to have a chat with us today, we're here in her studio on a very, very cold day.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:00:26 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Can I ask, where were you born? And what did your parents do?](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:00:29 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[I was born in Barnsley.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:00:31 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[I was born in a house in Honeywell Lane. I was four years old when I met my dad because he was in the Second World War.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:00:42 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[So Mum was pregnant when Dad went off and I was 4 when I met him.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:00:49 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Before that, he had been a bus driver.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:00:51 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And then when he came back from the war, he went to work for Redfern National Glass.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:00:58 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[But Mum was illiterate, she couldn't read or write because when she was young she was in a wheelchair and she couldn't make it into school. And in thosethefamily was so poor. Can't think about it now, you know?](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:01:13 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[So it’s important that we all get educated, but then it wasn't because there was plenty of manual work around. Gran worked as a cleaning lady, and she was also.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[The dinner lady, because they lived with my gran.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[There was a great community spirit, you know, there was that whole thing of you didn't run out of sugar, you didn't run out of bread.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:01:42 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Because everybody knew everybody else.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[Everybody should have a Gran like her in their life like my gran.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:01:53 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[She delivered babies because they did, you know, the community looked after their own and she would deliver babies. And she also did something called.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:02:07 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Laying them out so when they died, Gran would go and wash them down and put their.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:02:15 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[You know, they're laying out clothes on and everything, so in some respects she was kind of like the mother figure of the old community. When any of them had got any problems, had come to her house at six, she had a cup of tea with them.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:02:32 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Talk out the problems. The other job that she had was what they called a knocker upper. Have you heard of that before? Knocker upper. She had a long stick.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:02:44 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[A cane steak with a little brass knob on the end of it, and her job was to go and knock the bedroom window of the miners and then they will come to the window and they’d shout, “okay, Gran, it's ok I'm up”](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:02:59 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[That was her job to make sure that they didn't sleep through and miss that shift, so she'd all sorts of little jobs that she was amazing. I have seen her. She kept look, you see, look, you see, you've set me off.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:03:13 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[No, it's OK.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:03:14 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And I could talk about.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[The women in my life, in fact, when I got freedom of the](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[Borough. I dedicated it to the women in my life.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[Would make me what I am](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[Heavily influenced by the women around you, the matriarch.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[Yes, very much so.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[And well, you know, I find this is a theme in in Barnsley going back kind of you know well to year dot but lots of strong women held this town together and men but it you know you're obviously very proud of women's history and heritage and heritage in Barnsley.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[Very much so. I mean I can't. It's very difficult if there's any weakness creeping into me, it soon gets pushed out.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:04:07 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[For instance, you know even dealing with things like I can remember my Gran kept pigs. She kept pigs, and she kept hens, and she kept ducks, so we were never, ever, ever short of food.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[And she would exchange that with a guy that lived next door at one who grew vegetables. But in the house where I lived.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[If generations look back now we didn't have a kitchen.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[It was the backroom, but no cooking was done in there because the front room had a black lead fireplace and that's where you lived and all the cooking was done in that oven on the black lead fireplace.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[But my Gran would hang the dead pig in the backroom and she would first of all soap Peter it the tin bath](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:05:00 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[and then on Fridays, we got bathed in the tin bath.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:05:05 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[But this skills that you know helping people grieve and.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:05:12 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Wonderfully respectful matriarch of the community, helping mothers and families. But then these practical skills that people don't really have today. You know, juggling all these different, you know, to survive.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[Yeah, we had it. I'm not sure you know, maybe it's an elderly person's thing to say. We've not really progressed.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[Can you tell me anything about the fashions that people were, especially women? You know, the clothing at that time?](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[Yeah. I mean, Mum always loved clothes. Mum was wonderful, but she was incredibly attractive.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:05:51 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[She and God lover, she was vain. She was vain, she was, she was vain and she and she used to go. There was a shop in the arcade called Olive Gowns.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:06:08 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And she would teeter up there. My mum, my dad was a great savoury. Tried desperately to save, but that was against the background of my mother wanting to go and buy clothes.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:06:21 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And and she did. She dressed incredibly well.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:06:25 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And amongst all her sisters, because she had sisters and she had brothers. She was known for it, but she did possibly spend more money on clothes than she should do, but she wasn't the real reason that I went into clothing.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:06:42 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[It’s difficult now if you weren't there to realise.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

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[It was the really the middle to the end of the 60s and that was the start of the youth revolution. If you like. We were kicking against all.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:07:03 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Austerity that the last generation had gone through. You know, rationing books. I mean, I can remember.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:07:12 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[At one of my grands neighbours always run down and and run into my gran's and said they've got bananas in the co-op and that was I mean, now we're just going to have these bananas there and, you know, avocados had never heard of avocados before. I mean, I found out my granddad.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:07:31 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Who was married to my gran but god lover she kicked him out when](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:07:35 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[My mum was one of twins, the youngest twins. Her mum was 15. Her twin had died and my Gran had had enough of my granddad boozing his money and never bringing any money home. There was no money for food etc](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:07:54 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[So she booted him out, you know? But then when we looked, the poor old devil not only had fought in the First World War, he fought in the Boer War.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:08:06 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[So you know, it probably got that. What do they call it post traumatic stress.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:08:12 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Fighting in two.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:08:14 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[vicious wars and and you know. And then you think there's no wonder it drank and gambled. And you know, Gran kicked him out. But you learned afterwards.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:08:29 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[That, you know, these were the times that they lived in.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:08:33 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[The poverty to fight in two wars and come back to the same kind of poverty that they've gone off to war for.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:08:46 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[It breaks my heart because there was no breaking out of that. So when my generation came along, it was almost like.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:08:59 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[We're not taking any of this. You know, we're going to do it our way and you know, I mean, I still remember my dad's saying words to me like you're not getting on a bus with that on you. But, you know, you know, you're not going out showing your backside. You're not going on the Athersley bus with that on.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:09:18 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And you know, but we were the revolutionary](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:09:21 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Lot we were it. You know, we were The Rolling Stones. We were the bands we rock and rolled. We did it all. We think we did it all.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:09:33 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[We broke the mould and so it was the start of.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:09:40 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[The boutiques because the big stores weren't into it. You know none of them not Harrads, not Selfridges. None of it were into the youth fashion.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:09:52 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Because they hadn’t cottoned on to that. So we got in there on the youth fashion.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:09:58 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And that was when I opened the first. The first Pollyanna in shambles St.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:10:02 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[All of a sudden we've got people like Mary Quant.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:10:08 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[We'd got. I remember opening being at the paper mill and opening a copy of the mirror and the model in there. I thought, God, I just want to look like it. I want to look like a it was Twiggy.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:10:23 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And she was a twig. It was Vidal Sassoon. You know, my hair was incredibly.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:10:30 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Curly and frizzy. And it drove me mad because everything was this assumed, bob.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:10:38 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[That crisp cut Bob and there was Twiggy, you know, with these thin little legs sticking out of a tiny little miniskirt.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:10:49 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Just what I wanted to look like.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:10:51 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[So you worked in the paper mill.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:10:52 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[For a while.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:10:53 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Not just a while, I've worked there for 9 years.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:10:57 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Nine years of my life.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:10:59 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[What was it like working there?](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:11:01 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Fantastic.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:11:03 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[It was, you know, you. You wish you could decry it. But I couldn't because it was a great place to be. Halfway through it it when I first went to work there, it was called Yorkshire Paper Mill.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:11:18 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And when I look back at it now, when I look at the history of it.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:11:23 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[As Yorkshire Paper Mill, there was an hierarchy. You know there was, there was the management and there was the middle role.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:11:31 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And then there were the workers](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:11:34 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And at that point sometime but not very often, we will go on strike and if we went on strike sometimes had no idea why we were going on strike, but it just relieved the boredom](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:11:46 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[So it was so working. There was absolutely great. And then I've been there for about 9 years and the opportunity came. I remember going to London, I went.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:12:02 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[I took the shop in shambles St, which was I think it was. I can't remember if I'm honestly it was 4 LB a week or £4.00 a month and the first buying job I had.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:12:15 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Was with Mary Quant and I had left the paper mill, but on a week or two weeks before I left, slipped down a wooden staircase outside that was covered in snow and had broken my ankle](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:12:36 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And but I had to get to London. You know what Is there a difference in mentality now? I had to get to London and my dad was working nights and he came in. He got home.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:12:51 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[At 6:30 in the morning, I got into the car. He then drove me to London.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:12:57 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[I did my buying job in London.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:13:01 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[he pulled into a side street and had a nap in the car. Then he drove me back home and then he went on to work. I mean, what a bloke. What a bloke he was. And that was my first buying job and my first buying job was with Mary Quant.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:13:18 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And I can remember sitting at a table like this and they served lunch and the models came out with their long legs and the little not on a catwalk. They just come out standing in front of you.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:13:31 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And I can remember thinking, you know that looking at the food that they were serving](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:13:36 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Oh God, what would my gran say to this? They must be so poor. They were cucumber sandwiches with a crust.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:13:45 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[I looked at them, I thought, oh, they must be really tight from one of these.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:13:53 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Anyway, that set me on the track, the learning track, that was, that was where we started. That was a full.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:14:02 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Time educational process after that.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:14:06 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[So you, you, you open Pollyana, I think if I remember right, I think 1967.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:14:10 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Yeah, about then.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:14:12 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Why did you decide to open the shop when? Where did you learn to sew?](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:14:16 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[I didn't. I didn't learn to sew, and even now I've got people that can do it far better than I can. I'm an ideas person.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:14:27 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[I'm not.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:14:29 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[For some reason, and God hopes that it stays.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:14:35 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[I can. I can pick up a trend just as it's emerging and an the secret of it is to pick that trend up and turn it into a commercial way of doing things. But as I said to you earlier.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:14:52 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Part of 50% about the clothes that we produce is they are produced for longevity and that comes with the textiles that they are made in, which are.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:15:06 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Possibly more passionate about the textiles and what I found out about leading on to textiles is I have more in common with the textile producers than I do the fashion designers.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:15:21 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Really more in common. If I go to one of the biggest fairs of textiles in Paris and when I walk in there, it's like being home because they're not fashion people.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:15:35 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[They are engineers, they know what they're talking about. They can look at this and tell you everything about it, almost where the wool comes from or whatever. They are not fashion people, they are engineers.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:15:50 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And I'd find that I have more in common with them than I than I do with a lot of the fashion people.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:15:57 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And there's that real passion you have for artisans, crafts, people, kind of the the the product that is made and made locally in Yorkshire. You've always championed.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:16:10 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Oh yeah. I mean, I think.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:16:14 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[That we've got.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:16:17 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Incredible people. I mean, I'm working with someone at the moment who lives in London, who is South American and we are doing a shirt range for him. And so you pull together. I mean, I was in](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:16:32 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Menorca and one of the people who designs.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:16:37 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Jewellery for Yoji Yamamoto rang up to see if she could call round and see me. She wasn't trying to sell me anything. She lives there. She's South American. But because she couldn't because the sample she got. She's got to show in Paris in March.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:16:54 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[But just making contact.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:16:58 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And you know, and she's an artisan. She makes these incredible pieces of jewellery.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:17:04 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And like Oscar, when he's talking about his shirts and where he's buying the fabrics from and it's a getting together of likeminded people, but you don't find many of them sitting next to youon the front row of the fashion show with a pair of sunglasses on, that's not. That's not where you get.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:17:26 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Your, your, your, your passion.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:17:29 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[But there were some designers that I thought were incredible. I mean, I started.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:17:37 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Mary Quant.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:17:41 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[She was amazing. Was Mary Quant She was another one that was more like an artisan and passionate about. She was a bit like a headmistress. She was fantastic. And then.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:17:59 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Ben Delisi was and is still a great mate of mine and ISI Miyake. I remember being introduced to Issey.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:18:11 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And the Japanese culture is very different. We're dealt with three that's come to gas on and isimiyaki and yojimoto and the and the Japanese culture was very, very different. The Japanese had only moved into Paris in the 1980s.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:18:28 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And I can remember there was a guy called Tardisan who](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:18:36 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Was Isimiaki's right hand man and tardisan](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:18:41 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Brought Issey across the showroom to meet me and he said Mrs Britton, this is isimiaki and I was just telling him that you have one of the most beautiful shops in Britain and you know when you open your mouth and you think I wish I wasn't saying this.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:18:58 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And I said to him.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:19:01 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[I'll bet tardy Sam says that to all the women.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:19:08 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And to be honest with you, is it just threw his head back and absolutely creased with laughing? I thought, thank God he understood my British sense of humour, which I.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:19:21 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Thought because it was Japanese, I didn't realise that that he would, but he had worked in Paris for a long time before Rick, our Cobo, and Yoshi Yamamoto moved to Paris. But he was just a lovely divine man, and he was also.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:19:35 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Telling me that when they dropped the bomb.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:19:40 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[He was cycling to school. He was seven years old and he still walked with a limp.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:19:46 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[From the injuries of the bomb and then and then, he said to me that.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:19:53 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[He took his mother four years to die from the injuries that she'd sustained when they dropped the bomb.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:20:00 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[But he still walked with a limp, but he said, you know, I'm not bitter about it. And I thought, how can you say that? How can you say you are not bitter, but he wasn't? He was a gentleman.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:20:15 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[But a love it was never, never, ever. The London lot that you learn from.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:20:23 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[It wasn't. It was. I mean, I can remember saying to my husband when the country decided that we were going to come out of Europe.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:20:31 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[A lot of times I have more in common with some of the young people that I met in the showrooms in Paris.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:20:42 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Than some of the young people that I would meet here and they might be anything that might be French, they might be Japanese.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:20:52 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[They could be from all over, but they.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:20:56 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[There were always, I mean, they all spoke perfect English.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:21:03 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[But they were always incredibly knowledgeable that not only about the clothes, they were incredibly knowledgeable about the arts.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:21:13 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Can you tell me a little bit about when the shop first opened? What were people's reactions to it? Who were your customers? And when did you know I'm on to something here.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:21:24 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Funnily enough.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:21:27 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[All our clients were from Barnsley.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:21:30 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Because we didn't have the M1 you know, the young kids were earning money and they’ve got disposable incomes. And so, you know, I can remember there was one girl.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:21:45 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Came into the shop and said the day before her and her husband had been in there was a pub called the Fitz,](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:21:52 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[It's now derelict and shut down and but at that point it was, they all went.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:21:59 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Near the Canister Company, The Tin ‘Oyle](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:22:01 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[That's right. That's that's it. And it was called the Fitz and all the young trendies went in there and I can remember coming in and saying to me well.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:22:13 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[I can't remember another half and I should do it. We went in there yesterday for a drink and every woman in there was dressed in your](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:22:22 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Your clobber. That was a buzzword then clobber.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:22:30 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And yeah, and because we also then and this was a little later, we dealt with Jeff Banks because he did run a company called clobber.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:22:47 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[So yeah, this is the shop ran for quite a long time. Over the decades, all of my 5 aunties were in all of all of your outfits for their nights out.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:22:57 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Well, like I said, everybody, all the lasses in Barnsley would.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:23:01 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Come In to me.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:23:03 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[It was especially it was a place that they we’re proud of, that Barnsley had.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:23:07 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Bansley always are proud of their own.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:23:09 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[A boutique and you know, and then you know, you get, you get now you get meadowhalls and places like that. But the boutique is is is really where it all started.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:23:19 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Yeah. And they were proud and they were proud of you because Barnsley.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:23:27 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[In some respects, people.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:23:30 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Would almost sneer at it in somebody's face. I mean, you know, we do the Barnsley bag now, which I can't even show you it today because we're sold out.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:23:41 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[But they're not laughing at us anymore. They're not laughing. The town is smart.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:23:49 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[People here.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:23:52 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Have got up from all the](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:23:55 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Degradation all the closing the mines. You know, the Thatcher years and they pulled themselves up by their boots. And I think people respect Barnsley.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:24:06 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[For It now.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:24:07 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[What clothes do you like? But when I, when I've seen your clothes, they're beautiful. But they're functional as well](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:24:13 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Well, they're very functional. They've got to be functional.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:24:17 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[What you're making is they're not, they're not throw away their their quality. You keep them, they're key pieces and it's like that mixture that seems to be really important.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Yeah. And it's just it's, you know, it's a it's about.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:24:31 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[It's about the quality and yes, they are sold a red cashmere scarf that went all the way across those windows there.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:24:42 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[You can put your clothes away.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:24:45 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Your winter clothes from us in the wardrobe.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:24:49 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[When summer hits and then you can get your summer wardrobe our and wear that and then when you go back in and you take your winter clothes out, it's like seeing an old friend again.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:25:01 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[You know, every time I get up and I've wrapped that coat around.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:25:04 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Myself went into restaurants in Barcelona and they were all cold and I got that wrapped round my legs like a blanket.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:25:15 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Oh, you know, every one of those, there's only one company we deal with which is called Shabaya. That is Japanese and they are amazing. I mean, they're, they're, I sold a coat yesterday.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:25:30 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[That was a mixture of you wouldn't believe the mix. It was a mixture of cashmere.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:25:36 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And linen.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:25:38 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[I mean, you would. You'd appreciate it because you're in the arts world, but the out, you know, daring to mix those and create a tweed effect with cashmere and linen. Unbelievable.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:25:52 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Beautiful.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:25:54 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[But but it is as much the textiles.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:26:00 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[That g me on to do things with them. It's like having an old library like if you were. If you loved Shakespeare and you looked across, then you thought everyone of those a first edition, Shakespeare's.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:26:15 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Oh yeah. I'll go to see the play and I'll go and watch the play and I will decide whether actor so and so is good at his job. But first of all, you start with the Shakespearean ones.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:26:29 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[So you you appreciate the materiality, the making of them. They take a lot of work and energy to make good cloth, doesn’t it? I guess does that stem back to you working in a factory and seeing that what goes into kind of producing quality things?](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:26:32 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Yeah. I mean, one of the things that.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:26:47 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[That I that I insist we do as well is everyone of our garments which is lined, is lined in pure silk. It's not a synthetic, it is pure silk. So most of them tend to be.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:27:03 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Wool. Cashmere. Linen. Silk.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:27:07 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[All biodegradable. If you go into, but then you know I've got women.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:27:12 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[That I've got one woman who was going to buy the kharki coat, like my grey one because she's got the grey one, but her daughter wants that. So she's going to let her have that. She's going to buy the Khaki one so their kids want to wear my clothes.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:27:29 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And like I say, you know, the biggest compliment I got was from my son when he said I've never known a woman travel with his little luggage as you do.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:27:37 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[And yet my client there was just being on a cruise was telling me how people walked up to her and said, you know, you look amazing.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:27:46 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[But she's not. You know, everything rolls.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:27:49 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[up and Stuffs in a bag.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:27:50 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[It still works for you as well as it being beautiful.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:27:53 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Yeah, but you put it on and you forget it.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:27:55 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Yeah. Thank you so much for.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:27:57 RB](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Oh, I've enjoyed it or wouldn't enjoy talking about themselves.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[00:28:00 SS](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)

[Oh, it's great. I love a natter especially a natter about Barnsley. It's past and present and your fantastic career. Thank you very much.](https://barnsleycouncil-my.sharepoint.com/personal/michaelhardy2_barnsley_gov_uk/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/Rita%20Britton%20Oral%20History%20v2.mp3)