



Bob Taylor is a member of the Old Scarborians. He left the school in 1928 and they used to play hockey on the sands. 3 members played for Yorkshire.

When Bob was 7, his mother brought him a season ticket for the cricket club so she knew where he was fater school. He was coached by David Hunter and opened the batting for the A team. He once scored 84 runs.

When Bob was 14 his father wanted him to leave school and learn a trade in banking or the railway (they were the best for pensions). Bob's father was a baker and his grandfather an undertaker. But Bob was fortunate enough to get into the school and join in with the 300 other boys there. Bob liked sport and preffered that to doing his homework.

Bob remembers when the Valley Bridge was being widend and a crane fell down. Fortunately it fell parallel to the road rather than back onto their classroom!

On leaving school Bob got a job with the Shell oil company and was taught to drive. There was a depot near St James Church and the fuel and oils came in by train, not road tanker as now. The tanks were 30 feet by 9 feet and held 3000 gallons a piece. Workers would go to different garages to persuade them to use and sell Shell. He was once driving a tanker full of fuel when a German aircraft started dropping bombs. Bob was in the RAF on ground crew during the war and one of their last jobs was to break up 53 Hoser gliders that had not been used.

After the war, the Shell company went through many changes and eventually Bob joined a small company distributing fuels and oils. They used to serve John Armstrong who had a boatyard on Quay Street. He would fill up the 50 gallon drums on handcarts that were wheeled out to boats on the pier. After 10 years he left and joined "Rays Bakers". He spent many happy years there until his retirement.

Bob remembers how busy Scarborough used to be especially when the factories in York sent all their workers over on holiday. The railway sidings off Prospect Mount Road were full of carriages and engines stoking up ready to take them home.

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