

Dorothy Crosby was born in 1930. Her great grandfather was John Brown who walked to Doncaster in 1866 to start an apprenticeship. He later had 3 sons and 3 daughters, one of whom became the mother of Dorothy Crosby. The Brown family used to holiday in Scarborough, staying in Norwood Street. In 1948, Dorothy, aged 17, moved to Scarborough and started work at Bernard Deans Music Shop in St Thomas Street. She worked 9 hour days and had to stand all day long. They sold a lot of sheet music in the summer but it was very quiet in the winter. Dorothy then worked for Appleton and Arundale Motors on the switchboard plugging in the 3 or 4 telephone extension cords to different phones. Dorothy worked for Rowntrees aged 21, she earned £3 10 shillings a week. She went to dances where the women had to wait at the side until asked to dance. She often went to the pictures on a Saturday and Sunday night.

Dorothy did the wages at "Quartons" using a "Ready Reckoner". The cash was collected from the bank by 2 male employees and counted out into brown wage packets for distribution to the 13 different offices in Hull, Filey, Bridlington etc. In 1961, Dorothy worked at the Arcadia and Futurist box office. She later moved to Harrogate and worked in a girls' school. Eventually she moved back to York working in a furniture shop run by a Jewish man, Isaac Wolfson. He sold a suite for £100 on HP but it only cost £33 to make. In 1973, Dorothy came back to Scarborough to help her mother and worked as box office manager until her retirement in 2003. She remembers the big shows such as the Beatles in 1964, the Rolling Stones in 1966 and Johnny Mathis. Cilla Black also came and in those days they used to do 2 shows a night! Dorothy feels Scarborough has lost a lot of its old buildings which had great charm such as the Pavilion Hotel and parts of the old town.