



Jaqueline Hick was born in 1946 in Castlegate where she still lives today. Her grandfather, Alfred Lancaster Sanderson, was a ship's carpenter and known locally as "Sandy". Jackie remembers as a small girl going to the harbour with him to mend boats in her wellies. The family purchased the house in Castlegate in 1906. One of her uncles was a baker in Longwestgate, another, a superintendent at the children's corner near the Spa. Her father was a postman and every day her mother went out shopping for fresh food and cooked. They did grow their own veg in the garden but meat was rationed. The Market Halls had live chicks and produce from local farms. Wash day involved heating up lots of hot water in a boiler and agitating the washing with a dolly stick. They had an outside toilet until the 1960's and bath time involved a wooden tub in front of the fire, which was lit everyday even in summer. The front room of the house was the parlour and was only used for Sunday best or guests.

Community life was vibrant and the children all played together. The family never locked their doors and often sat on the front steps and talked with neighbours. People were always addressed by their surnames. There were many small local shops and a pub, all of which have now been turned into houses or holiday homes.

Jackie went to Friarage School but did not really enjoy it. She often wandered home at break times to get away. In fact, as children they were allowed to wander about the town or beach unsupervised. As a teenager she even took a neighbour's baby out in a pram. The girls always had clean dresses which were sometimes held out at the harbour to collect herring from the fishermen. Otherwise they went fishing with a line or picked bits of tar out the road and made balls. In winter they tobogganed down the steep street. Sometimes they ate sugar butter sandwiches and on New Years eve they would go to Boot's Corner (near Heron Foods) to hear the town band play.

Jackie remembers their first television which was brought in 1953 for the Queen's Coronation. At 15 she left school and did an apprenticeship as a hairdresser at Marshall and Snellgrove. They had some very posh customers including Mrs Sam Smith, of brewery fame. They had 11 cubicles and 25 staff. One girl was responsible for the warm shampoo and oil, another for towels. Her boss was very strict and they could only leave when Ms Graves had said goodnight to them. They had to look smart and by the end of a long week on their feet they had earned 28 shillings.

Jackie said the 1960's were a great time. She organised groups from the Wimpey cafe to hire a bus and go to see the Rolling Stones at the Spa in Bridlington. The bus cost £7 to hire. Sunday night was often spent at the Odeon cinema followed by the Wimpey (now Rendezvous Café). The Beatles came to the Futurist but could hardly be heard above the screaming fans.

Jackie said the community has changed a great deal, she used to know who lived in every house but now neighbours hardly see each other from one month to the next.