



1. Mary Bedford, Lingen, Herefordshire 2017
Full Frame Digital Photograph

Christopher Preece

Grain Bursary Application

Work Examples

www.christopherprece.com

Mary lives in a remote part of North Herefordshire near the Welsh border.

She still runs a small holding with pigs, chickens, ducks and geese.

The mill cottage was provided for her and her husband when they married in the 1950s by her father.



2. Mary Bedford, Lingen, Herefordshire 2017
Full Frame Digital Photograph



3. Mary Bedford, Lingen, Herefordshire 2017
Full Frame Digital Photograph

'Oh yeh I'm very lonely here, I'm very lonely here, 'cos I'm here on my own you see, and I hate the Winter nights 'cos they get so long and I'm not a television fan at all. I read but I can only read for so long, my eyes gets tired.'

Mary Bedford 2017



4. Ken Childs, Leominster Herefordshire 2018
Full Frame Digital Photograph

'I don't know why you want to record me Chris, I haven't really done anything in my life'

Ken Childs 2018

Ken went on to tell me about being a child during WW2; when a German Bomber crashed in the fields behind his grannies cottage, and when he dropped the fish and chip bowl after a bomb was dropped near Leominster.

Ken lives on his own now. A father of three boys, his two remaining sons live in nearby towns. His eldest passed away after a long illness.



**6. Ken Childs, Leominster Herefordshire 2018
Full Frame Digital Photograph**



**5. Ken Childs, Leominster, Herefordshire 2018
Full Frame Digital Photograph**



7. Alec Haines, Leominster, Herefordshire 2017
Full Frame Digital Photograph

**'I love Leominster, I love my
Leominster'**

Alec Haines 2017

**Alec was mayor of Leominster for
many years. He passed away in 2018
at the age of 97.**

**He was living on his own when these
photos were taken. His neighbours,
friends and daughter enabled him to
live in his own home, almost until he
died.**

He lost his son a few years ago.



8. Alec Haines, Leominster, Herefordshire 2017
Full Frame Digital Photograph



9. Alec Haines, Leominster, Herefordshire 2017
Full Frame Digital Photograph



10. Alec Haines, Leominster, Herefordshire 2017
Full Frame Digital Photograph

These images were taken over a period of about two years in conjunction with audio interviews of each of the subjects.

The Alec Haines photos were made during an audio visual project that I was commissioned to do for Grange Court in Leominster that was funded by the Heritage Lottery.

Called Faces and Voices of Leominster it has it's own website:

www.facesandvoices.org.uk

He is well known in the town. Due to his age his memory wasn't what it was. However I asked him to read some passages from a book that he had written about the town and his life, which he took great pleasure in doing.

Mary Bedford is a lady that I met when walking in North Herefordshire as some footpaths run through her small-holding. She always wants to chat and pass the time of day and often comes out of her cottage when I approach it.

Ken Childs is the father of a school friend. He was bemused that I wanted to photograph and record him and was convinced that he had nothing to say of interest.

What they have in common is that they live on their own, and have all been bereaved by the death of a child.

Since doing this work I have found more and more people who want or their friends and family want me to photograph and record.

For me the fascination is that you never really know what they are going to say into the microphone or how they will present in front of the camera.

As much as I'm interested in them I am interested also in their belongings and their homes. I like to capture the context and show how people live.

Alongside this I make and edit audio recordings that are a little like a long conversation about their lives.

Christopher Preece
January 2019

www.christopherprece.com