Myra was not willing to be recorded but as someone who lived in the village all her life it is important to include the notes about her family in the village transcribed during the interview and agreed by Myra. This extract describes her family and what it was like to be a child in the village in the 1940s. Sadly she passed away within a few weeks of giving the interview.

“My parents were Alfred and Daisy Cook and I was born on 8th May, 1941 in a cottage on Gateforth Lane. The cottage on Gateforth Lane was located just before the turning into ‘The Cottages’ just off Gateforth Lane. A bungalow now occupies this site. The cottage was two bedroomed, with an outside toilet and no bathroom. To have a bath we used a tin bath in the kitchen.

My two brothers were Gerald, who was the oldest, and David who was younger than me and my sister Dorothy was the youngest child of the family. My Mother lived in the village all her life and her parents, William and Blanche Howcroft lived on East View, Station Road when I was small. I had three Uncles, Tom, Roger and Cecil. Uncle Tom was killed in the Second World War and his name is on the war memorial in the Church. Uncle Roger and Uncle Cecil moved out of the village when they got married.

Grandad was a joiner and did the carving on the altar in Hambleton Church. My grandparents also ran and worked in the Fish & Chip Shop on the main road. This was located at the east end of the stone cottages before the turning into Gateforth Lane. The fish was brought to the Fish Shop by trolley from Hambleton Railway Station.

My Mum did the school dinners and cleaned the school. She later worked at the Owl Country Club when it was a private club.

Grandad, Grandma and Mum were in the Church Choir and Grandma and Mum ran the Sunday School. Grandma also ran the Girls Brigade and during the war Grandad was in the Home Guard. Mum also took part in the Shows that were put on for the villagers.

The family moved to Chapel Street when the house was built in the mid 1940’s. which had what was considered all ‘mod cons’, with a complete bathroom upstairs. It was much larger than the cottage on Gateforth Lane. I have lived in this house for seventy years. Dad grew vegetables in the large back garden. The outhouses included a toilet, a coal-house and a shed. The pantry had a ‘cold slab’ to keep food cold and washing was done in a copper with the water pressed out by a wringing machine. There were no electrical appliances when my family first moved into our new house.

As a child I played with friends, generally in the street, playing hop-scotch, whip and top and hide and seek. I attended Sunday School and went on the very popular Sunday School trips to Bridlington or Scarborough. I was a member of the Girls Brigade and my sister and I went to Ballet and Tap dancing lessons in Selby run by Miss Vanda Dyke. We sometimes went to the cinema, The Ritz, in Selby and before we had a television we listened to the radio. There were annual race days, where children and adults had races such as three-legged races, egg and spoon races. These race-days were held down Gateforth Lane, past the Vicarage. Mrs Ostler who lived at Greystones on Chapel Street held Garden Fetes annually to raise funds for the Church. There was a football team and a cricket team, my brother David played in the football team and the cricket was played down Common Lane on what is now the Orchard Drive/Kingston Drive estate.”