

Grandad's Story - Stan Still

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Blurb The story of my grandad, Stanley Still.

1. 30/09/1930 - Pre-fostering

2. ??/03/1932 - Fostered childhood

- Born
- Knows very little.

3. ??/06/1944 - Leaves School

- Leaves school on the Friday
- Starts work on the Monday at a bakery
- Mainly works on doing confectionaries
- The bakery was in Chippin Norton
- He used to cycle
- Made his bike himself by finding a frame and some wheels from down the pit
- The back wheel was bigger than the front
- When it snowed he would pick up the bike and cover it over his shoulder
- They were still rationed so they couldn't really make much, they used "telefat" which was really solid so they used to have to soften it in hot water.
- He used to be quite good at icing cakes
 - Used to cycle 5 miles every mile to Chippin Norton every morning
 - Had to be there at 7am
 - There was a big hill on the way so if it was snowing he'd have to pick the bike up and carry it
 - When he turned 18 he had to leave the bakery because he got called up for his national service.
- The woman who fostered him used to clean school
 - So on the way to work he had to stop at the school and make sure that the fire was working ok
 - Then he had to pump the water up into the tank, then it would pump around the school as central heating
- At this time Vic was in the merchant navy
 - Vic joined the merchant navy at 15
 - He was 18 months older than Grandad
 - Before he joined the merchant navy he went to work on a farm for a year.

- It was a mixed farm, used to have milking cows, and grew wheat, barley and oats.
- Most farms did very similar.
- You'd start with the barley, then the oats, then the wheat on a rotation
- It was all done manually, and a horse would pull a thing called a "binder" (harvest binder), which makes wheat sheafs.
- After the binder had been through the children follow the binder and stand up the wheat sheafs and balance them so they were stood up so that they'd dry.
- After he left the farm he used to work part time for a Russian who Kossac riding (acrobatic) riding
- Vic wanted to go off with him touring
- But his foster mother wouldn't let him go because he would be used as a slave.
- Vic went in the Merchant navy when he was 15
- He got married when he was 17
- They had three daughters, called: Valerie and then two others who live in Chicago.
- Vic's wife was called Marie.
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- Valeries is the one who he goes to visit in Oxford.
 - * The other two married two Americans who were stationed at an airbase near Oxford.
 - * They met them in Oxford.
 - * And then they married both of them and went back to America after the war.
 - * This was 18 years after the war.
 - * All three daughters were born in Kingham and then moved to Oxford.
 - * Valerie married an English bloke so she stayed.
- He joined the merchant navy when he was 15
- He was in there for two years.
- Then when he came out he had to go and do his national service.
- He then went back into the merchant navy for another year or so (post marriage)
- Marie wanted him to come out of the merchant navy because she had three daughters under 5.
- Because every time he came back from the navy, she gets pregnant.
- Then they move to Oxford because he got a job in a car factory.

- He then works in that car factory for the rest of his working life (30-65)
- At this point Grandad did not even know that he had an older brother.
 - He first met Ron when he was about 17.
 - Ron was 4 years older than Stan.
 - He was living in Guildford.
 - He knew the address somehow, presumably from when they were fostered.
 - He wrote a letter telling them that he was coming down
 - Then they met him off the train.
 - He doesn't know if his foster mum knew he had an older brother, but he doubts it.
 - But she was fine with him coming to meet them.
 - By this point Ron had got married and that was why he was living Guildford.
 - Grandad's dad was also living in Guildford.
 - But his dad didn't come to visit.
 - Grandad never met his dad.
 - * Grandad assumes that Ron grew up in East London, but he didn't sound like a cockney.
 - * Then he moves to Guildford with his dad at some point.
 - * Grandad doesn't really know what he did when left school.
 - * He was in the RAF during the war and he was an Airgunner.
 - * After the war he worked somewhere to do with the testing of concord.
 - * (Concord was being built at Bristol, then it moved to Fairford for testing) This was near Grandad so this is the bit he knows about.
- The first that he really knew about his dad was when he was in the RAF.
 - So when he was on his 48 hours off of leave.
 - And so one day when he was visiting her aunty his Dad rang the house phone.
 - So his dad said that he'd like to meet up.
 - When he hangs up his aunty says that "you don't want anything to do with him"
 - So when he gets back to camp he writes a letter to his dad saying that he doesn't see the point in meeting up, because he's a stranger, and when Grandad needed him he wasn't there, so he didn't want to meet him.
- He had an aunty in Sreatham
 - Grandad said "she was a gay old bird".
 - She used to be a dancer on the stage.
 - She was a chorus girl or something like that.
 - And she lived with this bloke, basically as a mistress.
 - She was kind of like his kept woman.
 - This guy was quite well off, but he wouldn't marry her.
 - But his two sons made sure that he never married her.
 - She used to drink a lot.
 - Whenever Grandad went down the first thing they'd do was go straight to the pub.
 - Her name was Ada, and everyone knew here in the pub so she drank a lot.
 - In the end she ended up in a mental home.
 - After Grandad was married to Whinney, police came and knocked on the door one night and said: "Do you know an Ada Still" and he said "Yes" and they said she's been taken into a hospital in Balham because she had tried to take an overdose.
 - Then later they communicated to Grandad that she'd been taken to a mental hospital down in Surrey somewhere.
 - So Grandad and Whinney went and saw in the place in Surrey.
 - She did not seem alright at all, she seemed fully out of her mind.
 - She really wanted matches. Presumably to burn either herself or the home.
 - The only way that they could get away from her was by telling her that they were going out to get some matches.
- Grandad also had an uncle called Arthur
 - Arthur lived in New York
 - He worked in the hotel business.
 - When he retired he came over to see Grandad and Whinney.
 - They were living in rooms (1952/53) in Cirencester.
 - Vic was living in Kingham.
 - Grandad used to have a moterbike, and you took Arthur to Kingham to introduce him to Vic.

4. Work pre national service

5. 30/09/1948 - National service

- He got called up when he turned 18, because everyone had to do their national service.
- The first 8 weeks you go to a camp and they give you a uniform
- You spend the first 8 weeks doing "square bashing" (marching/drill) and learning to shoot a rifle
- After 8 weeks they got sent to a new camp, (Insworth in Gloucester)
- Because he'd been a baker he got sent to the catering one (quatermaster)
- When he finished the 8 week cookery course he got posted at Watton in Norwich
- Watton was a general camp, a flying station.
- There three messes, the airman's mess, the sergeant's mess and the officer's mess.
- Everyone started in the airman's mess, then if you were and good and lucky then you could get pulled up into the officer's mess.
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- Went to a training camp somewhere
 - One night he was the duty cook
 - Thank meant that he had to be there until about 8pm at night.
 - He put meat in for about 400 men
 - And then he forgot, he should have taken it out when he went off duty at 10pm.
 - There was some guy who looked after the boilers, and he came over to Grandad's quaters.
 - This guy came over and shook him, Grandad was asleep.
 - asks if Grandad is the duty cook,
 - Grandad say's he is
 - He says you left it in
 - And when you went and checked it was about a quater of the size it should be and very burnt.
 - So he didn't sleep much that night.
 - So Stan went and had a worked in a guy who he knew in the stores.
 - He gave him two joints of the officers meat.
- This was all at about 8am in the morning.
- So Stan slipped them into the oven.
- So the sergeant asked him why he was cooking stuff at 8am.
- And Stan lies and says that he left two of them in the stores by mistake.
- So he Stan had to slice the meat really thin
- He said that the beef was that thin that he was worried it might dissolve in the gravy.
- But he got away with it
- On a Saturday night they used to go from Watton to Norwich
 - Norwich used to put on a dance at Norwich town hall.
 - One night Stan went and he met this girl, and he was dancing with this girl.
 - In those days you were always expected to walk a girl home.
 - But the girl about 2 miles away from the hall
 - The lorry used to leave between 10pm and 10:15 to take them back to camp.
 - By the time he got back to Norwich Town hall the lorry had gone.
 - So then he knew that the only way he could get back to camp was by walking.
 - He'd been walking for he doesn't know how many miles he'd been walking for, but it was about 20 miles from Norwich to Watton camp.
 - So after a while, he saw this horse.
 - He tried to catch it, he was going to try and run it back to camp.
 - But every time he got it to near a wall so that he could jump on, but every time he tried it would run away.
 - He started to walk again, but then luckily some guy in car came along, and asked where he was going, then he gave him a lift to within about a mile of the camp.
 - Then he walked back from there.
 - He made it back just in time.
 - He made it back just in time for 6:30am.
- He made friends with people because you're all sleeping in the same place basically on top of each other.
- Also you're working the same shifts so you get to know each other.

- So because they were good friends they'd all socialise together and they'd go out drinking together if they had enough money.
- Beer was only about 4pence or 6pence in those days.
- He didn't stay in touch with any of them afterwards.
- The only time he saw a couple of them was when he had to do H-reserve.
- You had to go back to some random camp for two weeks every year.
- He only had to go one year because he was working at the agricultural college in Cirencester and the bursar (head of the college) managed to get him out of it every year but one.
- Stan had to go to a place just outside Southampton.
- Stan had to go but head
- When you finished your national service, you got to keep your kit, so he hadn't seen it since he was in it.
- It properly smelled.
- One guy he met had used his trousers for working as a fireman on the railway, so his trousers were filthy.
- When he got to the camp in Southampton, they couldn't believe it. The people at the camp hadn't heard anything about them so they didn't know they were coming.
- The first thing they did was take them to the stores and give them all new uniforms.
- When he finished with the RAF, he went back to the abber in Chipping Norton.
- At that time they were making it more mechanised.
- So jobs were disappearing, but Grandad was doing all the puff pastry and icing cakes, and the layborough who was greasing tins was getting more money than Stan.
- So Stan went to the office and said that this is taking the piss.
- And they said that we can't pay you a man's wage because you're not 21 yet.
- So he said you can keep the job.
- So he went and got a job down at Kingham Hall school.
- He got a job as an under-chef/assistant-chef.

- With milk
- Without milk

- He was working at a flying base
- He used to have to put the food in for the pilots the night before at about midnight
 - He put in the
 - Without milk
- But one day he did it and

6. Post national service

- Come out of the RAF and went back to the bakery in Chipping Norton
 - The people who were greasing tins were getting paid more than he was
 - He said this taking the piss
 - And they said that they couldn't pay him a man's wage so he said they could keep their job
- Was working as an assistant chef at Kingham Hall School
- He was there for about 18 months
- It was ok.
- He was having to live with his sister because the woman who brought him up had married again and her new husband didn't want Stan around.
- So one of the big attractions of this job was that it had free accommodation.
- His sister was still living in Kingham, and she lived there all her life.
- His sister was married with a young baby.
- It wasn't very convenient living with his sister because they only had a small cottage with one bedroom and one up in the loft.
- So he goes to this boarding school near Birkhamstead
- So you went up for interview, and then he got the job.
- He was living in accommodation at the school.
- He was friendly with the rest of the staff.
- Whinney was one of about 6 waitresses.
- There were people who peeled potatoes, (Kitchen porters), a veg cook, a woman who did all the deserts.

- It was quite a big school. There were boys and girls, they were separated, boys on one side of the school, girls on the other.
- He met Nana there
 - She was a waitress in the dining room, giving the children food at each meal time.
 - After a while Stan asked Nana if she'd like to go to the pictures.
 - So they went to the cinema.
 - So most weekends they went to the cinema
 - Sometimes they got a meal or something.
- There weren't that many people worth mentioning.
- You were just one of a crowd, everyone had their own job.
 - He met Nana there
 - Learned more about cooking there
 - There was this women there who he couldn't get on with
 - He used to get this cooking journal, and he saw an advert for being a chef at the royal agricultural college in Cirencester.
 - He got the job so he ended up there
- One day he nearly burnt the place down
 - They used to cook for the children and all the teachers separately
 - He was cooking chips
 - He'd just put the chips in so he went up for a shower
 - He was over the other side in the same block of accommodation as the girls
 - The local guy who did the boilers saw the flames in the glass dome
 - Grandad comes back and the boiler man has managed to put it out.
 - Grandad said that the guy looked like he'd sprayed the fire extinguished basically everywhere but the fire, but he had got it under control
 - If that guy hadn't seen then the school would probably have burnt down
 - Also Grandad had handed in his notice so he was worried that he could end up doing time because they might think he'd done it deliberately
- Moving on
 - There was this women there who he couldn't get on with
 - She was a housekeeper, she was in charge of all the domestic women, cleaners and stuff like that.
 - She wasn't his boss, but she thought she could do anything she liked.
 - She moved him to a room that he didn't like which was right on top of the swimming pool
 - So all the noise and smell came up into the room
 - So Grandad told her what she could do with his room
 - So the next thing he knows the headmaster has sent off him.
 - So the moment he goes in he doesn't give the HM a chance to say anything
 - He says that he's breaking the terms of his contract and that in there it says he should have appropriate accommodation, and this isn't.
 - He said that she could shove her room where the monkey sticks his nuts.
 - He was always looking for jobs.
 - He used to get this cooking journal, and he saw an advert for being a chef at the royal agricultural college in Cirencester.
 - He got the job so he ended up there.
 - By the time this fight happened he'd already written to the other place, been for an interview and got the job in Cirencester.
 - This was why you were particularly worried they'd think it was deliberate.
- So Grandad moves to Cirencester for the job at the RAC.
 - The job provided accommodation.
 - The manager was a really nice guy
 - When Stan went there he told the boss that he was courting Nana in Birkhamstead.
 - So the boss said that every month he could have the Friday off and have a long weekend to go and see Nana in Birkhamstead.
 - It's over 100 miles between the two.
 - So Stan had to get a train from Ciren to London, a train from London to Watford and then a bus from Watford to Birkhamstead.
 - Stan worked at the RAC until he got married and then after that.

- So Stan Nana if she wanted to get married and she agreed.
- At that point she was still working in Birkhamstead.
- They fixed a date for the wedding and Stan went up to see her Dad to ask him if it was alright.
- Stan says that she was one of 5 sisters and he was probably glad to get rid of here (joke).
- This was the first time he'd met her dad.
- They went up for a long weekend to stay with her parents and that was when he had to ask him.
- He most of her family at that point. He met all her other sisters because they all lived in Seaham anyway.
- They got married in Seaham.
- Stan asked her where she wanted to live, Birkhamstead, Seaham or Cirencester, and she said she wanted to come to Cirencester, so they did.
- They got married in a catholic church because Nana was a catholic.
- They went to blackpool for their honey moon.
- They had blackpool pier
- They had a big dance in a big ball room. (Blackpool tower ball room)
- They would go dancing and go on the funfair, and spend time on the beach.
- Their honeymoon was 1 week.
- They couldn't afford any more.
- When they decided to get married and they were going to move to Cirencester.
- They couldn't find any houses because they couldn't afford one and also you needed to be on the waiting list for about 2 years before you got one (council house).
- They were renting a room out from an old lady.
- They had the use of the front room, bedroom and sharing the kitchen.
- This was in Cirencester, about 1 mile away from work.
- Nana wasn't allowed to live at the place he'd been living before (they had to find new digs)
- Grandad found this new place (the old lady) in the news paper.
- So he found his first two jobs and his first house in the news paper.
- You used to have all the deaths, marriages etc and rooms in the local paper.
- They live in that house for about 2 years.
- He's still working at the RAC that whole time.
- After that time they managed to rent a small cottage
 - It was a small cottage
 - It was 1 down and 2 up.
 - A living downstairs with a kitchen
 - Then there were two bedrooms upstairs, one bedroom and one attic.
 - The attic was above the bedroom (3 storied)
 - They used the attics as a spare room in case anyone came to stay. (eg her sisters)
 - They lived in that cottage for about two years
- Grandad was working on the busses at this point
 - At this point Grandad was working on the busses down in Cirencester as a conductor
 - He did that for about 18 months
 - He left the RAC because he got fed up of working weekends when Nana was off.
 - So that meant that he didn't have any time off with Nana.
 - They used to open it up in the summer for courses so he worked all year round.
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- When they were living in the cottage the lady next door's dad had a removals business, they hauled coal and also furniture.
- One night he'd come round and they were talking, and Nana's family had wanted her to move back up north because they didn't like her being so far away.
- The guy said "Are you serious about going up the north, because I've got a guy who wants to move up to newcastle and doesn't have much stuff, so if you had your stuff as well it would make it worth while"
- When they were living in the cottage Nana worked as a waitress in a restaurant.
- While they were living in that cottage Nana had Paul (insert date here)
- So they talked it over that night (moving)

- Grandad thought it would be better because all of Nana's three sisters and family (big Irish) lived up the north and so it would be better for Paul because he'd have cousins and family to grow up around.
- They decided all in that one night.
- So then they moved up two or three weeks after.
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7. Living up the north (Paul is 18 months)

- So they moved up there
- But Grandad couldn't get a job down the mines
- Nana's dad had kept saying, come up here, I'll get you a good job down the mines.
- Grandad never went down a mine because he couldn't get a job.
- They didn't want a southerner down the pit
- Those jobs were passed down father to son,
- In retrospect was pleased that he didn't go down the mines because of the conditions that they worked in and breathing in all the dust and the health conditions
- Also he avoided the carnage of Thatcher
- Jobs were hard to come-by because everyone worked down the pit
- So you saw an advert in the paper about going door to door selling vacuum cleaners.
- And you thought you'd give it a go because he had nothing else
- They were told to go in and start hoovering the carpet.
- And you'd hoover one section, then you'd dump the dirt on the carpet so that they could see the dirt and see why they needed a new hoover.
- And they also were supposed to sell this thing that sprayed water which you could use for patting and cleaning your carpet and stuff.
- So in one ladies house, Grandad spent about 90 mins in there, and hoovered all the down stairs carpet, and then she said she didn't want it.
- He kept going because it was showing how good it was.
- But then she said she didn't want it, so he turned the hoover round and used the blowing end to blow the dirt all over her.
- So she said "you'd blown dirt all over me", and he said, "Well it's your dirt Mrs" and then scarpered.
- Grandad was a Hoover salesman for about 9 months.
- He was that fed up after 9 months (about when the lady incident happened) that he went back to the centre and said you can keep your job.
- He then went and got a job on the busses up the north
- It was alright, but he wasn't happy doing it, he'd already left the busses down in Cirencester because he was fed up with it, but it was the only job he could find, so he just had to put up with it.
- When people would get on they'd tell him where they were going, and he was supposed to ring the bell when they got to that stop, but he couldn't remember all the stops, so they'd go mad if he didn't ring it.
- Also people had really strong Geordie accents so he couldn't understand what they were saying, "It was like working in a foreign country"
- When Grandad worked on the busses, when they came in, if you were on the night shift then you'd all go back to depot and then you'd have to wait for all the other busses to come in to give you a lift home.
- So they'd be waiting for an hour or so so they'd play cards.
- One night Grandad went in and they were playing 3 card brag.
- Every round everyone puts in a six pence or whatever you were playing for.
- And so at the start there were lots of people 5/6
- Then as you're playing if people are doing badly they "pack their hand", drop out.
- Grandad was one of the last two playing, so he got to the end and this guy kept bragging, but Grandad had three threes, which was the highest hand that you could have in brag.
- So they got to the end, the guys said "I'll see you then" and he had a Jack, Queen, King, which was a good hand.

- And the guy got annoyed because he was saying that "Grandad should have declared that he'd got that hand at the start, but Grandad said, no one told me any rules when I sat down so I didn't know, and he took the money"
- At the time they were living with Nana's mum and dad.
- Nana's dad used to drink a lot, he would drink a lot in the morning
- Because he'd had four daughters they'd always have to do what he said. Because he'd never had a son no-one ever challenged him.
- One night Grandad came in from work.
- And her dad would come in from work and pull a drink
- When he was drunk was the time he'd talk
- Whenever he came in his wife always had to make him dinner.
- So he came in drunk and his wife made him food as per. And then he said to Grandad "Come up and get somethign to eat" and Grandad said, "I'm alright, I've already eaten", and then one thing led to another and he started saying "Do you think you're a better man than me", and Grandad said "No I don't think I'm a better man than you, but I'm as good until you show me different". Then they nearly came to blows, and his wife was crying and Nana was upset but it all blew over.
- But from then Grandad knew that he didn't want to live there because feel comfortable.
- And every weekend when he was drunk you'd have to sit there and listen to him, you'd think from what he said that "Him and the yanks won the war"
- Nana's dad did fight in the war, but he wasn't in a fighting unit, he was in the pioneering corps because he only had one eye.
- He lost his other eye because in his younger days he went to work in Canada and that's where he lost his eye.
- He was born and bred in Seaham
- He married Nana's mum when he came back
- When grandad wasn't working he'd go to the working men's club during the week. There were four or five working men's clubs for miners in Seaham harbour, he used to go out with the other son in laws.

- At this point all of Nana's sisters were married, apart from Rose.
- He normally went out with the other son in laws.
- Every Saturday they used to have dances at one of the working men's clubs, so they would all go down.
- Women were only allowed upstairs, they weren't allowed in the bars. they were only allowed in the "Lounge".
- It sounds weird to me now, and it seemed weird to Grandad then. Because women were allowed in pubs in the south, but they weren't allowed in the North.
- The reason women weren't allowed in the bar was that it meant men didn't have to mind their language and so they could eff and blind if they wanted to.
- Going up the north was really like being in a different country.
- But when they moved up there Rose was only about 3.
- Rose is only slightly older than Paul.
- It wasn't long after that Grandad went down the north.

8. Pre car factory

- They came back, they had some friends in Cirencester, from when Nana used to work in the cafe/restaurant.
- The cook was like a second mother to Nana.
- So Grandad decided that they'd move down south and when he explained that to the cook they said you could move in with them because they'd just started renting a new council house and it had a spare bedroom.
- Then they shared the kitchen and everything else.
- Paul is about 3 at this point.
- So Paul was sleeping in the same room as Nana and Grandad.
- When Grandad left the North he was working on the busses.
- When he came south he didn't try and getting his old job back at the royal agricultural college.
- They needed loads of people for the car factory in Swindon, because they were just opening up a big building.
- So he went up to Swindon for an interview, and he managed to get the job.

- It was about a 30 minute commute to work. Grandad didn't have a car, they ran two coaches from Cirencester to the factory.
- He started working in the press shop where they would stamp out all the bonnets and rooves and stuff.
- They were living with those people, but Nana wanted a place of her own, but they didn't much money so they couldn't buy a house, so they went to the council to ask for a council house.
- The council said no because you needed to get on a waiting list and it would take a while. And because you'd left Cirencester they'd have to wait two years before they could even get on the waiting list.
- There was no guarantee how long you'd be on the list, or even if you'd get on the list in the first place. And you definitely couldn't for two years.
- Nana was getting fed up with not having a place of her own, they didn't feel that they had any privacy or anything because they were living in a place of their own.
- They were interested in buying a house, but they didn't have enough money
- So Grandad went to the building society and grandad asked if he could get a mortgage
- So they asked what type of house, and they said it was a small house. They said did it have a bathroom, and Grandad said no, but there was a small box room which could be turned into one.
- But they wouldn't loan him the money because it didn't have a bathroom, and he said "how am I supposed to buy a house with a bathroom if I can't afford a house without one"
- He decided there was no point because he couldn't put a bathroom in if he didn't own it, and he couldn't buy it if they wouldn't give him a mortgage. It was sort of a catch 22.
- It was obvious they weren't going to give him a mortgage because in those days they didn't give ordinary working class people mortgages.
- So they didn't think any more about it, but Nana was desperate to have a place of their own
- One night Grandad was having a drink in a pub and talking to a bloke, saying they wanted a place of their own but he couldn't get a mortgage
- And he said, have you tried going to the council, they are doing mortgages
- So Nana went to the council, Grandad couldn't go because he was working in Swindon, and she said that they understood they were giving mortgages.
- This lad said they were giving mortgages to this place called the "new mills" estate.
- They were doing 90% mortgages on a fixed interest rate that would never alter.
- So they went up to this estate, and it was just a building site, there were no houses built.
- And they were told they would get an offer if they were interested, and he said they would be really interested. It would be great to get a mortgage
- So anyway they went back and said they would be really interested. He said they'd get put down on a list. He said the thing was it was a fixed interest.
- The lad would have to put their name on the list, and then it would go before the houseing committee and they would decide if you'd get a mortgage
- After a few weeks they got told they'd been accepted.
- So they got to go into one of the houses
- Because, the thing was it was on a fixed interest rate which would be fixed over the whole duration of the mortgage
- They had to wait until the house was built.
- Then they got informed which one had been allocated to them
- So they went up and had a look and they were over the moon.
- It was the one of the best things which happened because they moved in when it was ready
- The good thing was that house mortgages kept going up, so friends were paying two or three times as much as they were, but because they had fixed rate mortgage they just kept on their original rate.
- He's not sure how much it was, but might have been 20 a week
- And as time went on wages went up and house prices went up
- It was the best because we bought a house and never had to pay any extra than what it had been at the start.

- The thing was Grandad worked in the car industry
- And it was a precarious time, they were out on strike every other week. You don't get paid when you're on strike
- Luckily they used to live next door to a bloke who's father owned a haulage business, so when they moved up the north this guy's dad's business took them up and brought them back.
- And when they went to bring us back they were keen to do it because he said his son (who was the driver) didn't have a mate. And Grandad said I'll go with him.
- Because Grandad did that when Grandad went to pay the bill the guy said "whenever you want a bit of work just come down the yard".
- They had a coal yard and he'd go down on a Friday and a Saturday, and they delivered coal to people's houses.
- In those days you'd have 100 weight (100 pounds)
- And they used to deliver about 4 tonnes, because that is how much you could get on the wagon
- That's 20 hundred weights
- It was heavy going
- Especially if you were delivering to a block of flats and had to carry it up 4 flights of stairs to deliver to the top one
- He also used to do furniture removal, he'd go to people's houses and help them move house.
- The thing was there was a lot of poles living on an ex-army base just outside Cirencester, and they had to move to a new estate which was being built in Swindon
- So there was quite a lot of work for furniture removal
- They'd try and do two moves in one day, which was heavy going, but the Poles were good tippers, they might give you a pound, which was a lot of money in those days.
- When we was working in the car industry you got paid by the hour, so you could never predict how much you were going to get paid each month.
- If there was no work then you'd just get paid "clocking on money"
- And clocking on money was basically nothing
- That was why at times when they were really struggling and Nana was 6 months pregnant with Michelle she had to go and get an evening job in a small cafe/restaurant
- It was an evening job so Grandad had to be home looking after Paul and then she'd go to work.
- When they moved back down from the North Nana got an evening job as a waitress at the same restaurant in Cirencester.
- Grandad stayed in the car industry for 20 years, and in that time house prices and wages went up.
- Grandad was paying 12 a month, and he was working with young lads who were paying about 100 pound a month.
- So this was where they really scored
-
- So Grandad went to the building society to see if he could get a mortgage. Because he'd seen a house for sale.
- And they asked you what type of house it was. You said it was a small house. They said did it have a bathroom you said no, but there was a small box room that could be turned into a bathroom.
- Anyway, they weren't interested in people like Grandad. Grandad only had 100, so that wasn't anywhere near enough to put down a deposit on a house.
- They just weren't interested in giving mortgages to working class people like him.
- They didn't know what they were going to do.
- One night he went for a drink and was chatting to a guy in the pub. And he said, "why don't you go and talk to the council, they are giving people mortgages".
- They council had a scheme where they were giving people mortgages, but they didn't know that.
- And they said to them "we heard that you're giving mortgages", he said yes we are.
- He said "We're building houses up near the new mills".
- Grandad says, "would we stand a chance of getting them"
- He says yes, we're giving "100percent mortgages at a fixed rate of interest"

- He said you'll have to go before the housing committy and then they'll tell you if you've got it.
- He says that you'll need to put down a deposit, of about 200. But Grandad only had 100, but it wasn't for 6-8 months, so they saved every penny that they could during that time.
- They had to wait, then fill in an application to see the committy.
- Anyway it turned out that they were accepted. They had to put down 250, they managed to save that extra 50 while they were waiting.
- When they first passed the committy they went up to have a look at it and it was just a building site.
- At the time, it was right on the edge of Cirencester with fields out back.
- So he said go up and have a look and see if you like where it's situated.
- They were over the moon, just the fact that they could get the house. It didn't matter where it was, just the fact that it was in Cirencester was amazing.
- They move into the new house about 1 year after moving back to Cirencester from the north. So at this point Paul is 4.

9. When Paul was little

- When they came back down they lived with a friend who'd just got a new council house.
- When
- They had some friends who their neighbours
- Everyone moved in on the same day, and they were their neighbours the whole time they lived with them.
- They never had an argument with them
-

10. Michelle's born (1963)

- After mum was born she met Carry at nursery
- Carry and mum were best friends all the way through school, they were inseparable, like sisters
- So because she was mum's best friend her dad Barry became Stan's best mate
- Most men in those days you spent your weekends drinking on a Saturday night, and Barry was Stan's drinking buddy.

- They were very friendly, Nana got on well with his wife
- They used to go on holiday together
- They usually used to go to Weymouth or down to Cornwall or something like that
- Barry always had old bangers
- Every time they used to go on holiday, and Stan would get a phone call to say that they'd broken down
- So Stan would have to drive down and pick them up
- And this used to happen every time they went on holiday
- After that

11. Car factory

-

12. Leaving the car industry

- When Grandad finished at the car industry he got redundancy money
- The thing was that their standard of living kept going up because wages kept going up and their mortgage stayed the same.
- They bought that house and he was paying 12 and young lads he knew in the car industry were buying houses and they were paying 100 or 200 pounds a month
- When he left the car industry he went to work for a small little firm in Cirencester
- They made the little parts for electronics
- Stan was a delivery driver, he used to deliver parts to all over, to Scotland, Wales, Norfolk
- It was the best little job he ever had
- It was a great little firm to work for, every year they used to get 20% of the profits
- It could be around 1000 a year, which was a lot of money
- Over the years Nana has Michelle, and never in their wildest dreams would they have imagined that they'd have a child who went to Cambridge
- They used to go to parents evening and they new Michelle was doing quite well but they never imagined that she'd be able to go to Cambridge
-

13. Paul's born

- They didn't meet Barry, (Carry's dad) until Michele went to nursery and they became friends.

14. Car factory

15. Mariage

- They "survived" 60 years of married life and they were lucky to have a good life, lucky to have a son who had three kids and a daughter who had three sons.
- In the end that's what life comes to.
-

16. Michelles kids

- When Alistair was born (Michelle's oldest)
- Nana and Grandad had never been on an aeroplane, so they looked up how much it would cost and then they went out to visit Michelle and Andy for 5 weeks
- It was 5 weeks of torture because the mosquitos kept biting Stan. He couldn't wait to get back
- But it was a lovely place
-

Program	Asymptotic Complexity	% of Execution Time
<i>frame_to_object_stream</i>	$\mathcal{O}(f * e * \log e)$	95.18
<i>frame_to_spikes</i>	$\mathcal{O}(f * (h * w + c * \log c))$	2.33
<i>spikes_to_frame</i>	$\mathcal{O}(f)$	0.99
<i>frame_insert_objects</i>	$\mathcal{O}(f * e_{pf} * w_p * h_p * scale^2)$	0.98
<i>frame_subsample</i>	$\mathcal{O}(f * h * w)$	0.52
<i>object_stream_stretch</i>	$\mathcal{O}(f * e_{pf} * o)$	0.00
<i>frame_highlight_objects</i>	$\mathcal{O}(f * e_{pf} * scale)$	*
<i>generate_object_stream</i>	$\mathcal{O}(f)$	*

Table 1: The complexities of the original code. Definitions:

f = number of frames

c = number of candidate spikes

$h * w = 720 * 1280 = 9.2e6$ pixels (See Section ??)

e = number of potential events during classification

e_{pf} = number of events per frame

o = oversampling factor

w_p, h_p = Width and height of the pattern

*Steps run as part of the initialisation/visualisation, not considered part of the critical application.

17.

17.1. Data Flows and Dependencies

The flow of data and its dependencies throughout the application is shown in Figure 1. In the ideal case of maximum pipelining efficiency, each process block would continuously output data. The basic implementation of the application in *standard_flow.sh* runs each step in serial and outputs the result to a file before continuing, thus there is overhead in writing to disk and a complete lack of pipelining.

17.2. Complexity Analysis & Bottlenecks

The original complexities of the programs called from *standard_flow.sh* are shown in Table 1. The majority of the total execution time is spent executing *frame_to_object_stream* and within this program, the sorting of the events (of complexity $e \log e$) dominates.

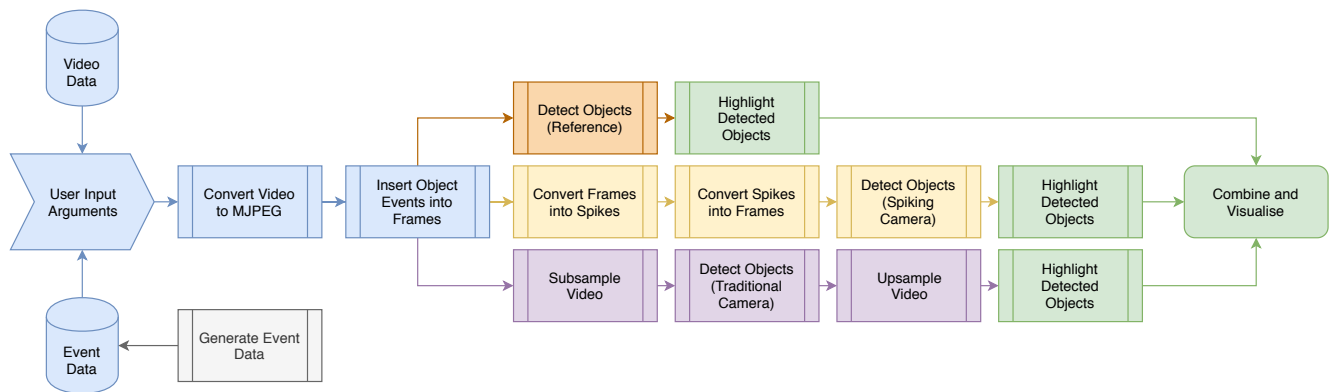


Figure 1: A representation of the complete program flow and the data dependencies.