

## **Transcript o Frida Morrison interview wi James George Addison o Cullen, Moray**

**Frieda Morrison:** James George Addison loves the sea. He wis born in 1929 an spent maist o his warkin life as a fisherman fishin aa aroon the coast. An fae his hoose in Cullen luikin ower the bay he telt me mair aboot his life warkin oan the boats.

**James George Addison:** Ah left the school at fowerteen an ma first job was at the sawmill at Tochineal peelin pit prop. Ah was dyin tae get awa tae sea. Then Ah goat awa in ma faither's Sienner 'The Procure' as cook at fowerteen, cookin fer five lads. An we warked oot o Cullen an landit at Portnockie quite a lot. That time wis moistly forty fifiers, sea knitters, sma forty fit wi five oar crew. If the drifters had aa been commandeered bi the Admiralty the anes that were left, an they were awaa sae it wis maistly forty fifiers. We fished oot o Aiberdeen, Lybster, Wick an first o aa we went wis Campbeltown an Campbeltown was ma favourite.

**Frieda Morrison:** Sae fat fish were ye fishin fir at that time?

**James George Addison:** Fite fish ken, haddocks, ony fite fish. Ah went tae the herrin aifter that lik fan Ah left that boat 'The Procure' Ah went in a steam drifter ca'd 'The Deveron Side' as fireman. Noo fireman wis quite a different joab fae cookin.

**Frieda Morrison:** Noo ye didna hae fancy gadgets oan the boats fan ye first startit sae how did ye ken hoo far doon the bottom wis, how deep the watter wis?

**James George Addison:** Oh well fan I first startit oan that Procure we'd tae use fat they call the lead line tae see if there wis sand at the bottom or rock. An there was a hole in the bottom o the lead that ye fullid o grease an the lead line wis marked in fathoms sae ye dropped the lead an if it was sand fan ye picked up the lead an see the sand at the bottom ye kent it wis soft. If it was clean it wis rock.

**Frieda Morrison:** Sae ye widnae fish there, ye widnae fish oan the rock...

**James George Addison:** No, ye widnae fish oan the rock, ye'd hae fished oan the sand.

Fan I cam bak frae the war ma faither already [hurt] his back an they goat a boat built at Aravan's in Peterhead, 'The Cairngorm'. That wis fishin for fite fish. Then we fished fae Shetland aroond tae East coast o Scotland, West coast an Ah was there until 1958 fan me an mi brither-in-law goat a 70 fit Sienner built at Jones' in Buckie an she was called 'The Valiant' an wis registered in Aiberdeen. Her number wis A466. An Ah was there, we were pairtners until about 1980 an went awaa bak tae the herrin, tae the Purse Sienners oan 'The Coronella'.

**Frieda Morrison:** An yer wife wis involved as weel wasn't she?

**James George Addison:** Aye she wis a guttin quine in the 50s. Herrin at that time, the quines did a harder joab than the men did. We jist went tae the see an catch the herrin. Oh I admire the quines that went tae the fishin because they were a hard lot an did a great joab an a hard joab.

**Frieda Morrison:** Lik aa fishermen ye will hae haed yer share o sadness as weel...

**James George Addison:** Oh yaa, sadly sadly. A've seen an believe me it's the warst thing tae experience an tae see. Tae see a pal or ane yer crew ower a side. Oan a day like this jist noo Frieda, flat calm nae a breath o ween an he fell ower side at a crucial crucial time fan the net wis jist gaein awaa. Sadly he wis lost. An as Ah say the cook fae Findochty jumped ower the side tae try an get haud o him an jist as he goat tae him, he wis doon, he went doon. Never forget that an A'm noo ninety year auld an coont masel sae lucky fan ye see youngsters taen awaa at that age. Unbelievable.

**Frieda Morrison:** Dae ye miss the sea?

**James George Addison:** Oh aye withoot a doot. Ma only chance tae gae tae sea noo is in a ferry an Ah like a trip fan there's a ferry involved!

Oh I wid nivver lik tae bae awaa fae the sea. Every mornin Ah see the sea in aa its moods. Ah can see it oan a bonnie day an Ah can see it in a hoolie. Ah wid nivver lik tae bae awaa fae the sea.