

AV2 Evelyn Forbes unedited interview

Track 1: [00.29.01]. Introduction by Harry King [HK] summarising Evalyn Forbes [EF] life and polar connections. [00.04.00] Description of early life in Cambridge then Egypt and on to New Zealand where she went to school and then University at Victoria College to study natural sciences with a focus on geology and botany. [00.06.55] Description of drawing fossils in the basement of the New Zealand Field Survey and geological field work with her father. [00.08.07] Return to Cambridge in 1935 with mention of Mrs Henry Cadbury, meeting Frank Debenham, Francis Drake, Betty Kewsick and [Jimmy Inglis-Moore?]. [00.09.41] Description of difficulties finding geological fieldwork including travels to India, to stay with aunt and uncle, and on to South Africa to carry out geological field work in Kimberley, 1939. [00.13.03] After a year she left and went to field work in Rhodesia [Zimbabwe] as a geologist and botanist with Dr Arnold and Neville Jones. All the men had gone to war. [00.14.10] Description of meeting miners who didn't believe she was the geologist and of the clothes she wore at work. [00.16.15] Description of meeting her husband Max Forbes [MF], district officer in Uganda. [00.18.20] Description of travels on their honeymoon following in the footsteps of Livingstone before geology was replaced with maternity and they returned to Cambridge. Memories of the botany of Rhodesia [Zimbabwe]. [00.20.30] Memories of her father Hartley Travers Ferrar [HTF] including visiting her grandmother's home in Ireland when she was little, description of HTF's early years, education and involvement on Scott's Discovery expedition, 1901. [00.24.40] EF reading from Clements Markham's private notebook of observations on her father [published in 'Antarctic Obsession']. Mention of HTF's relationship with Scott and Ferrar family history.

Track 2: [00.28.21] General comments on relationships between early Antarctic explorers. [00.02.10] HK's description of HTF's fieldwork in the Antarctic around the Ferrar Glacier where HTF found fossilised Glossopteris. [00.03.31] Anecdote about HTF finding gold which he bought back to his mother who had it made into a tiny geological hammer necklace. [00.05.02] Remark about HTF "Laying the foundations of Antarctic Geology"; mention of Edgeworth David. [00.05.45] Description of HTF returning to England in 1905; his employment by the Egyptian Geological survey; receiving the polar medal from the King [00.06.45] Discussion regarding HTF objects in the Polar museum including his polar medal and Discovery expedition silverware and tableware, all on permanent loan. [00.09.25] Memories of RSS Discovery including going on board with HTF when it was docked in Wellington, 1929-30. Mention of young Colbeck and Marr. [00.10.45] Memories of Anne Shirley's 'Discovery Dairies' book launch on board the RSS Discovery, 1968. Mention of Dell. [00.11.48] Memories of RSS Discovery in Dundee when EF visited before the ship was opened to the public. [00.12.30] Description of HTF working in Egypt, 1905-1914, surveying for Kitchener then on to New Zealand where he joined the N.Z. Mounted Rifles; fought in Palestine and undertook intelligence work in Jordan. [00.14.20] HTF married Gladys Anderson in 1909. Description of EF's childhood in New Zealand including keeping an open house for polar people and the Ferrar family's particular friends the Wilson's and Teddy Evans. [00.16.55] Description of HTF's health including migraines, scurvy and suspected appendicitis. HTF died young in his 50's from the appendicitis operation. [00.21.50] Description of EF's Aunt Mabel's friendship with Teddy Evans and anecdote about Evans engagement ring. [00.23.30] Descriptions of her friendships with Albert Armitage, who got her passage to India. [00.25.40] Memories of Isabel Rennick; Louis Bernacchi; Seaman Weller from Discovery. [00.28.00] Memories of Douglas Mawson in Wellington.

Track 3: [00.28.24]. Memories of meeting Mawson and Captain Colbeck's son onboard RSS Discovery. [00.01.16] HK discussing Oriana Wilson [OW], the widow of Edward Wilson. [00.02.45] Description of EF's friendship with OW, who she first met in New Zealand, and got to know well on her return to England when she went to live with her in Bushy preparing scrapbooks. Mention of George Seaver; OW's nieces Betty Bantoft and Eleanor Rouse; Mrs Reginald Smith; the actress Rosalind Atkinson; Cherry-Garrard and OW's nephew Michael who inherited OW's scrapbooks. [00.08.55] Memories of George Seaver who had access to OW's archive. [00.10.32] Description of EF burning all OW's papers on OW's orders. All that's left are

the quotes in Seaver's book as vetted by OW. [00.12.45] Story about 'the little owl' left to EF in OW's will. EF thought it must refer to one of Edward Wilson's paintings, however they were all left to SPRI. Years later she was chatting with Rosalind Atkinson and remembered the used to call OW's house 'the little owl'. [00.17.15] Description of life in Cambridge after their return from Africa. Mention of the Debs [Frank and Barbara Debenham], EF's children's education and MF becoming editor of the Polar Record and museum curator of the Scott Polar Research Institute [SPRI]. [00.21.56] Description of Max's appointment as British Observer to Operation Deep Freeze. Anecdote about MF having lunch under the South Pole with George J. Dufek [00.23.25] Memories of acting as hostess to visiting Polar people. [00.24.40] Description of her association with SPRI, where all her father's archives have been deposited. [00.25.51] Reflections on her life and love of travel. [00.27.40] HK Describing SPRI in 1955 when he and MF started work there.

Track 4: [00.08.11]. Memories of SPRI. Mention of Colin Bertram, Brian Roberts and Terence Armstrong. Mention of Hilda upstairs, British Glaciological Society secretary, and the Wilson watercolour's. [00.01.59] HK mentions that during Robin's Directorship they extended the building. [00.02.35] Memories of the opening of the new wing when the Fire Brigade arrived as a result of an electrical fault. HK mentions showing the Vice-Chancellor around the archives by bicycle lamp. [00.03.18] no sound. [00.06.13] blue screen to end.