



## Jellicoe Water Gardens

### Oral History Project

#### Interview Transcription

Interview with:	Rodney Tucker
Role of interviewee:	Ecologist
Conducted by:	Elizabeth Warriner

Date:	7 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2015
Time:	14;30
Location:	Mayflower Avenue

Type of recorder	Tascam DR-40	Configuration	External microphones
Recording format	WAV 16bit 48k sample	Clip format	MP3
Audio File name	Rodney Tucker – Ecology Clip 071015.mp3		
Length of recording	2m 17s	File size	2.1MB
Audio clip names			

Topics covered in interview			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre Water Gardens	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Events
<input type="checkbox"/> Childhood	<input type="checkbox"/> Work	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regeneration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nature

Period covered by interview			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre 1960	<input type="checkbox"/> 1960 to 1970	<input type="checkbox"/> 1971 to 1980	<input type="checkbox"/> 1981 to 1990
<input type="checkbox"/> 1991 to 2000	<input type="checkbox"/> 2001 to 2010	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2011 to present	

Additional material	Picture of Rodney
Copyright / Clearance	Y
Interviewer's comments	Test clip has useful material about ecology and bats

Transcribed by:	Elizabeth Warriner
Date:	08/10/15

## Transcript

Subject:

As an environmental consultant I thought it would be useful to use that expertise for the benefit of the local community.

When it's finished we should see a lot more wildlife, it'll be more wildlife friendly, it'll be more.. habitat diversity - it'll be properly balanced, I mean, the key thing about it is the management of the water garden. We've done a lot of work on how much it has been used by different people, we've had the bat walk, and we found just how many bats were there, and things like that, I think, once it starts to be completed, we'll be able to get more work involved in doing that, and also in the maintenance, helping with the maintenance of what's there. I mean, what's in the bird boxes? We've got all these bird boxes up - are they being used? Somebody needs to go down and have a look, see what's in the nests, which is all part of the sort of environmental...then we can say, "oh, have you seen those? There's house sparrows up in that box," or, tree sparrows or robins, or whatever. "Come and have a look at them", you know, take people round.

Using the echo sounding device that we've got to convert the signals I think we've found about three different species (of bat) present there, and I think the bat experts have come down and said there's maybe 4 or 5. So there's quite a few. and what is interesting of course is they, they may not be living anywhere near the gardens, they could be travelling anything up to 2 or 3 miles away, but along that water course is a feeding area. It's where all the insects are. and hopefully if we improve the quality of the water flow we'll get more insects.

we obviously want plants that are going to attract the insects that will fly at the height the bats will feed at. Where they feed over the water, the problem will be that most of the um riverfly that you get breed in the gravels. unless there's a gravel area within the garden - I don't know whether we can create one at the top end by the mound - then you won't get any riverfly there because there's no breeding point. But again this is looking at biodiversity within the park itself. Are there any areas within the water flow where we need to create some sort of habitats? We're talking about putting in ..fish ladders to encourage the fish to come up, but they're not going to come up through there if there's no food for them. (laugh) if it's sterile. I don't know what those pike that they found (in the film) were feeding on. Must have been feeding on, maybe they were eating baby crayfish? There were some big black ones. But I think that's the American one, isn't it? What I would hope to see is that the actual maintenance is more wildlife friendly.

**End of clip**