

Name	Peggy Troll
Relationship to NN	friend
Interviewer	Charlie Lambert
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Dur Part 2	12'20
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Note: this is not a verbatim transcript, but a guide to what topics were discussed. For quoting purposes, the original audio should be consulted.

PART TWO

After the will things settled down.

Norman went to see Matt Simpson in Liverpool, then went to Ulverston. He had had a medical test – everything was fine. He did an annual lecture for Matt Simpson and Professor (Ron) Barnes, this time he phoned to ask me to bring him home. I drove to Liverpool and brought him back. He was finding it very difficult to breathe, was agitated and anxious. I called a doctor. He went into hospital – Millom overnight and then to Whitehaven. His lungs packed up. He was put on a ventilator for a month before he died.

3 mins 00:

I used to go every day to Whitehaven, but didn't get there in time when he died. David Scott from Carlisle was there. I got there two minutes too late. I knew he was dying.

3 mins 45:

What was the reaction in Millom?

Tremendous. I was surprised. David Scott came to see me. He was lovely. Later they moved to Chichester.

4 mins 42:

What would Norman have made of the fact that people are still reading and discovering him 30 years after he died?

He would be delighted. He had a lot to offer. He was frustrated that he couldn't get through to people he wanted to get through to. But now it's the manual workers who come out with long quotes! Frustrating.

6 mins 15:

Norman and Millom?

Millom was his rock. He wouldn't have been a poet without Millom. I don't think he would ever have been a poet without living in Millom. It was his territory. He wouldn't have thrived in London.

7 mins 26:

How did the Norman Nicholson Society begin?

I always had it in my mind that you couldn't do anything like this till 20 years from his death. Then Wendy Bracegirdle and Mandy Penellum had the idea of a Society. It was just what I wanted. We pooled our resources and got in touch with people. There was a Creative Writing course taking place with Antoinette Fawcett, she didn't know a lot about Norman Nicholson but she got very interested. We got 60 people and it took off from there in 2006.

You were the first Chair. What was that like?

Great. I was nervous, but it was good.

10 mins 25:

Where do you think we are as a Society now?

We are tremendously ahead. We have come so far. Unbelievable. The House Project is going to be the icing on the cake. I am sorry I will never see it.

Norman wrote that he didn't like 'literary shrines'! How can we avoid the house becoming the sort of place he would have hated?

Keep on doing the events that we do. Keep it as local as possible and people will catch on. People will feel they've got a place where they can enjoy something they haven't enjoyed before.

(end of audio part two)