

Transcription

"It's very hard to find a job these days. In that time [the 1960s], because there were a lot of factories, a lot of firms ... You go and apply and wherever, you go, you'd get a job. But now it's, there's not many jobs now.

And now you have to be well educated to get a job. Now the time is for knowledge. You have to be educated. You have to educate yourself."

Mohammad Altaf was born in 1942, during the Second World War, although his own family were not affected by the war.

He finished school in Jhelum, Pakistan before coming to the UK in 1965, where he learned English in evening college. He was married in Pakistan and his wife joined him in 1966.

Mohammad first lived for five years in Blackburn before moving to London in 1971. His first two children were born in Blackburn and they had three more after moving to London. The family lived in Mora Road in Cricklewood with his wife's brother. Mohammad worked for London Transport, based in the Cricklewood Bus Garage. He worked as a conductor for a year before becoming a bus driver.

Mohammad worked for London Transport until retirement in 2010. He now able to spend few months in Pakistan each year. When he is at home in Cricklewood, he notes that many of the Irish he used to know have left the area, with many similarly moving back to Ireland.