

## Time to Think

Open University Journeys in British and Irish prisons during the years of conflict, 1972-2000

### Oral History interview clip transcript

Name of Interviewee: **Alan Sharp**

Interviewed by: **Pat Jess**

Date of interview: **23/01/2013**

#### **Important**

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this transcript, however no transcript is an exact translation of the spoken word, and this document is intended to be a guide to the original recording, not replace it.

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**Clip title:** He looked at me, and I looked at him and we both burst out laughing.

**Duration:** 00:00:40

**Clip start point in full interview:** 00:09:40

**Clip end point in full interview:** 00:10:19

**Interview identifier:** 048\_T\_01

**Description:**

Alan Sharp, Open University Associate Lecturer in History, recalls a humorous exchange with one of his students in the H Blocks (the Maze and Long Kesh Prison) while discussing a film about the French Resistance in World War II.

**Transcript:**

*Were you aware of any tensions around doing this kind of work, round the OU or did you have any misgivings about the sort of work?*

Not misgivings, but I remember I was talking one day to one of the students, we were on the French Resistance and I think it was about the time the Max Ophuls film, 'Le Chagrin et la Pitie' had just come out. And I said to this guy, "All these people seem to be a bit of oddballs. They were loners. The resistance were often on the edge of society, they weren't mainstream people" And I said, "You probably have got to be a bit of an oddball to be a resister" And he looked at me, and I looked at him and we both burst out laughing.