

Storm Stories Transcript

Julie Christie

RUTH: This is Ruth Milligan talking to Julie Christie at Cardiff Library on the 13th of September, 2007.

JULIE: On Friday the 8th of June I went to work at the library at Speers Point and then I was driving home about 5 o'clock and it was pretty wild. I didn't realise how wild it was going to get. That night I had a lot trouble sleeping cause I live right on the water and I could hear all the wave motion and so on, normally it puts me to sleep but this particular night it was more like the surf rolling in, it was just crashing and crashing and crashing. I had a really disturbed night, I, um... heard a lot of sounds that I don't normally hear, I didn't realise til the next day what they were. About 2am I got up out of bed and walked out the yard just to check things, I realised it was quite dangerous so I didn't want to be out there too long. I had a look at my husband's car and thought I might move it and then I thought well it was out in the open its probably the safest place for it to be cause we've got a lot of tall trees in around our place. Then I walked back and I walked straight past a strange boat that had pushed up in my yard and it was right up, had come up about 30 feet into the yard, I didn't even realise when I walked out because I have a few boats in the yard and here was this strange one just sitting there. I didn't know whose it was, so I went back and got a torch and had a look and I realised it was my neighbours boat. So I, my first thought was to secure it so I got the anchor chain and put that round, we've got a big fig tree there so I wrapped that round there cause the water was still lapping it and pushing it. It had actually pushed our fence open, the gates and they were right up in the yard further, that pushed them right off their hinges. So I tried to wake him up, I rapped on the door and yelled out and couldn't rouse him at all so I thought I'd better get my other neighbour to come down and just check things out to make sure things were secure and safe. So I rang them, they came down in a few minutes. There were two of them with torches and then we went back next door again to see that their place, the other side where the boat came from to make sure that that was all secured and we finally roused that neighbour. I thought he must have been out cause we made so much noise but he'd slept through the whole storm, everything, and he was only roused by our torch light and he yelled out, oh who's out there? I said Jessie, better get up, your boats at my place.