

Rosaleen: Still campaigning

[Belfast, Northern Ireland]

[Rosaleen blows whistle]

Rosaleen: Now that'll quieten you! Right we're starting the bingo... 4 and 5, 45.

I received the MBE from the Queen in 1995, for community work.

All the eights, 88.

I got involved with the senior citizens. I go to a lot of meetings with them.

We have been up to Stormont on a couple of occasions.

I didn't have an easy life coming up myself. So maybe it's to make up to other people for what I missed myself.

Right Alice, just £2 today love. Yeah.

Well, my nickname? Rottweiler. No matter what people came to me about

I was like a dog with a bone, I didn't let it go. I am still a Rottweiler.

[Fuel poverty is a major problem in Northern Ireland.]

Woman 1: People are afraid to keep their heating on as long as necessary because of the big bills that are coming in. It's as simple as that. And electricity too. You're afraid to use your washing machine too often or anything because the electricity and the heating has just got beyond pensioners.

Woman 2: Day and night I have to keep mine going and that's costing me a fortune.

Woman 1: Nobody could afford that on a pension. You couldn't afford it.

Rosaleen: And it is too an awful worry to people and I mean they are killing people with the worries.

[In 2011, the winter fuel payment was cut by £50 for pensioners under 80. And by £100 for those over 80.]

Woman 1: I try to keep it on for a couple of hours and then turn it off for a couple of hours and turn it on again, that's the best I can do. And I'm afraid of the bill coming in, to tell you the God's truth, I'm afraid of it coming in.

Rosaleen: With this type of weather you need heat and Helen she's over 80 and now they have taken £100 off her this year.

Helen: And I can't afford it but I have to keep it on – my pension mostly it goes on the heating.

Rosaleen: And we need to start fighting now.

Woman 3: *[off camera]* I think we need to do it now because if this weather gets any colder we'll not be around next year for to do anything and we'll all be dead.

Rosaleen: Maybe that's what they want.

[Since the making of this film, the Northern Ireland Assembly has introduced a one-off payment of £100 for some low income pensioners. Northern Ireland still has the highest levels of fuel poverty in the UK.]

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