Nesseby / Unjárga, Norway

"...I have to go to new places..."

Jearahallan Samuel Mathisen

Sámmol orru Rissebávttis, smávva giláš Unjárggas. Son lea 92 jagi boaris ja barggai Pasvik Kraft nammasaš el-rávdnjefitnodagas. Son lei maiddái mearraguolásteaddji moanat jagi dassái. Son lea dál ealáhagas ja ruovttus son eanaš gollada áiggi. Son lea maiddái viđa rávisolbmo áhčči ja áddján viđa mánáidmánáide. Mun jerren iehčan ádjás soames gažaldaga ja dás oainnát su vástádusaid:

— Mo lea dálkkádat rievdan manjimuš jagiid?
"Dolin ledje geasit ja dálvvit veahážčoaskásat go odne, Odne lea arvat bivvalat dálvvit ja arvat lieggasat geasit. Giđđat leat eanet dulvvit go ovdal."

— Mo ledje áigodagat du nuorravuođa beivviid?
"Dalle eai lean nu guhkes geasit go dál. Ja iige lean nu báhkka olgun. Dálvvit lávejedje leat hui garra buollašat."

Interview with Samuel Mathisen

Samuel lives in a little place called Grasbakken in Nesseby. He is 92 years old and worked at the power plant named Pasvik Kraft. He also was a fisherman for many years. He's now a pensioner and he spends most of the time at home. He is also a father to five adults and grandfather to five grandchildren. I ask my grandfather some questions and here are his answers:

— How has the climate changed over the last years?
"Before it was a little bit colder at the summer and winter. Now it's much milder in the winter and warmer in the summer. In the spring there are many more floods."

— How were the seasons when you were young?
"Then the summer didn't last that as long as now. And it wasn't so hot outside. And in the winter it was very cold."

— Marit-Sofie Mathisen

© Arvid Henriksen

Interview with Sigrid Persen

— What's your name, and how old are you?
"My name is Sigrid Persen, and I'm 79 years old."

— Have you noticed any climate change in the area where you live?
"Yes. It has been bad and there are less berries, for example blueberry, cloudberry and crowberry. Now I have to go to new places because the tree-worm came. Almost all the trees have been dead the last 7 years."

— Have you noticed anything with the animals?
"New birds. This year I didn't see snow buntings. And previous years there was so much snow that the moose came down to the houses."

— Has climate change affected you in any way?
"Yes, the berries, I always used to pick a lot of berries, but this year I haven't picked anything because there is no more berries close to my home. I don't drive a car, so I can't get to where the berries are. And I also have a problem with the Pale November Moth because it has eaten up my flowers and bushes in the garden."

— Anette Henriksen

© Arvid Henriksen

Portraits of Resilience is part of the Many Strong Voices Programme. It illustrates in a personal way what climate change means to young people in the Arctic and helps communities create their own visual archive of the changes they are experiencing. More @ www.manystrongvoices.org