

Inge Hack - transcriptions

Clip 1

Interviewer: You said just now, your friend, that's another story. Can you tell me about that?

IH: Erica? Yes, well we're still friendly to this day. Our parents were very friendly. I think my mother was friendly with Erica's mother even before she was married because I think she might have come from Fürth, and they came to, they left Germany in about 19..., possibly '36, I couldn't be sure.

And first they went to Italy and then they came to England, and they settled in Cardiff where there was a small estate, an in..., what we now would call an industrial estate.

And if, if they were...if the, the Jewish employees—and they were mainly refugees and a lot from Nuremberg—started their factories again and employed so many English people, they were allowed, they were given permission—whether they got a grant as well I wouldn't be sure—but they were given permission to start their factories, and my Erica's father had a small factory. They made little comb cases. You know, those comb and mirror cases? You know, that sort of thing.

And when things got bad after, after Crystal Night, Erica's mother, with Erica, went around the Jewish community in Cardiff and asked if they, anybody, would be prepared to take a little girl of 12 until the parents could come out and collect her.

And this lady, Mrs Gordon, Edith Gordon, who was 60 at the time—and I was a dreadfully spoiled child—she said “Yes”, she would. So, when I did come with a Kindertransport a few months later I already had someone to go to.

So, in a way she saved my life because if I hadn't had a sponsor, I might not have got on the Kindertransport.

Clip 2

IH: This is Grandma Gordon, the wonderful, kind lady who took on this little, German refugee girl.

Interviewer: And when was it taken?

IH: And that would have been taken in, I imagine '39, 1939.

Interviewer: And where?

IH: In Cardiff, by a professional photographer.