

What was the Kindertransport?

- Before World War Two, **10,000 children came to Britain** from across Europe in search of a safer life.
- The children then went on to **live with new families** across Britain some eventually moving to different countries across the world.
- Many stayed in a **holiday camp in Harwich and Dovercourt** before they found their new families. This camp was called **Warner's Dovercourt Holiday Camp** and was the first part of their journey adjusting to living in a new country.
- The children in Harwich lived in **small wooden huts** and were given blankets and hot water bottles, as well as **beginners lessons in English**.
- The accommodation in Harwich was **freezing in the winter by the sea**, as many of them arrived in December.
- Children ate their meals in **dining halls** and participated in activities such as **football near Dovercourt beach**.
- The Dovercourt camp was run by **volunteers** from across the country and everyone helped where they could.
- It was at this camp that the children met their new families and soon **moved to their new homes**.



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Object Sheet

- **1** – A picture of Leslie Brent aged 10 , before coming to Britain on the Kindertransport
- **2** – A picture of Leslie Brent’s father, Arthur Baruch who died during World War Two
- **3** – A travel visa for Leslie Brent so he could go on the Kindertransport
- **4** – A picture of some boys on the first Kindertransport train, with Leslie Brent circled
- **5** – A picture of Leslie Brent serving as a soldier in Italy in 1946
- **6** – A suitcase similar to those that the Kindertransport children would’ve used
- **7** – A picture of Leslie Brent with his colleague, Peter Madawar, who he worked with and helped to win a Nobel Prize in medicine
- **8** – A picture of Leslie Brent age 80
- **9** – A picture of Leslie Brent with Lord Alfred Dubs campaigning for modern refugees
- **10** – A picture of Leslie Brent with the Kindertransport statue in London Liverpool Street Station
- **11** – A picture of Leslie Brent with his grandson, Oscar

- **12** – A luggage tag that showed information about the children on the Kindertransport and was worn around their necks
- **13** – The front cover of Leslie Brent’s autobiography, ‘Sunday’s Child? A Memoir’ with a picture of him on the front
- **14** – A picture of a Jewish boy eating a meal at the Dovercourt Warner’s Holiday Camp
- **15** – A picture of the entrance to the Dovercourt Warner’s Holiday Camp
- **16** – A postcard much like those that Kindertransport children would’ve sent home to their families
- **17** – A quote from Leslie Brent about arriving in Harwich
- **18** – A quote from Leslie Brent about how he worried about his future
- **19** – A quote from Leslie Brent about his first night in Britain
- **20** – A quote from Leslie Brent about the generosity of Britain

YOUR TASK

We want you to use the objects you’ve been given to create your own exhibition about the Kindertransport, and the story of Leslie Brent.

You can only use up to 10 objects so think about which objects are best to use in order to tell the story.

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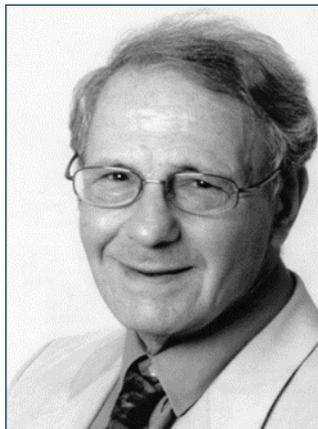
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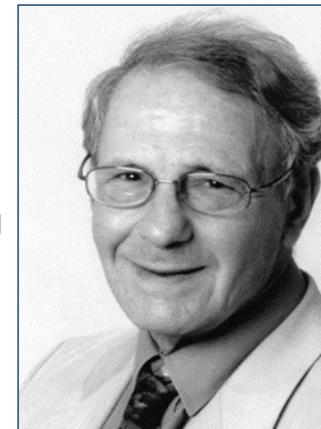
Leslie Brent

- Leslie Brent was born on **5 July 1925** in Köslin, Germany.
- When the **discrimination against Jewish children** was made official in Germany by law under the Nazi regime, and after experiencing antisemitism at school, Leslie was sent to the **Jewish Orphanage** in Pankow, Berlin.
- **Life in the orphanage was difficult** for Leslie, as he went from being part of a small family to being one of many at the orphanage.
- He travelled on the **first Kindertransport** and arrived at **Harwich** on 2 December 1938.
- Leslie stayed in the Dovercourt Warner's Holiday Camp along with many children on the Kindertransport before finding his new home.
- Leslie spent **three weeks in the holiday camp** before going to a German-Jewish boarding school.
- Leslie **lost his parents and siblings** during the Holocaust.
- He **joined the British forces** from 1944 to 1947.
- After the army he **studied at Birmingham University**, and then became a student at University College London under Peter Medawar **who was awarded a Nobel Prize for medicine**.
- When he retired, Leslie started to **campaign for modern day refugees** and wrote an **autobiography** to tell the story of what happened to him on the Kindertransport and how this affected his life.



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Hella Pick

- Hella Pick was born on **24th April 1929** in **Vienna, Austria**.
- Hella was put onto a Kindertransport in **March 1939** after the Nazis took over Austria.
- Hella's **mother joined her in Britain** three months later.
- She went to school in the Lake District and **learned English**. She **refused to speak German** for a long time, not even to her mother.
- In 1948, Hella **became a British citizen and she no longer felt herself to be a refugee**.
- Hella studied at the **London School of Economics**.
- She worked for the **Guardian newspaper** as a journalist and had a very **successful career in journalism**.
- In 2000, Hella was awarded a **CBE for her work in journalism**, which is an award given to people by the Queen.
- Hella **visits Austria regularly**, and calls it her '**home away from home**'
- Hella has also **written books** about her childhood.
- She now **attends many events as a Kindertransport child**, and talks about how the Kindertransport affected her in life.



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Keywords

- **Antisemitism**— discrimination against Jewish people because of their ethnicity and/or religion
- **Curator** — someone who cares for historical objects and chooses objects for exhibitions
- **Discrimination**— being unfair to someone because of something about themselves that they cannot change such as the colour of their skin, their age or their religion
- **Exhibition** — a display of objects about a subject
- **Holocaust**— this word is used to explain the mass killing of Jewish people and other groups during World War Two under the Nazi regime
- **Interpretation** — the way that each person sees things differently
- **Kindertransport**— the journey of 10,000 children from across Europe to safety in Britain
- **Nazi**— the political party during WW2 that was lead by Adolf Hitler who's actions were anti-Semites / someone who was a member of the Nazi party
- **Nobel Prize**— prizes given out to people who have done very special work that has had a big impact on the world
- **Orphanage**— somewhere that children who don't have families can stay and be looked after
- **Prejudice**— when someone already has a negative opinion about someone based on something about themselves that they cannot change (like discrimination)
- **Refugee**— someone who is forced to leave their home to live somewhere safer
- **Shoah**—another word sometimes used to describe what happened during World War Two (another word for the Holocaust)
- **Sponsor**— someone who pays money towards the cost of something. People who sponsored the Kindertransport children paid money towards the cost of them living in Britain

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