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Speaker 1: [00:00](#) What is your name?

Speaker 2: [00:01](#) What is my name? [inaudible] on it. 1937

Speaker 1: [00:09](#) Whoa.

Speaker 2: [00:10](#) In London. Stepney

Speaker 1: [00:13](#) what did your parents do for a living?

Speaker 2: [00:16](#) They ran a shop in Brixton.

Speaker 1: [00:19](#) What your other local area was like before, before the war started

Speaker 2: [00:25](#) very busy and I was only little girl so I don't really know very much, but I've been told it was a very busy area. It was in petticoat lane, so there was lots and lots and lots of shops.

Speaker 1: [00:39](#) Okay. How did your family feel when the war was declared?

Speaker 2: [00:44](#) I really don't know because I was so small.

Speaker 1: [00:48](#) Uh, what was it like to live in London when the war broke out?

Speaker 2: [00:52](#) I remember, I don't remember, but I remember my sister and my parents told me that there was a rage wall, um, bombing and we had to go very quickly to the air raid shelters.

Speaker 1: [01:05](#) Okay. What did your parents do during the war?

Speaker 2: [01:09](#) My father used to come up on the train and he had a shop in Brixton market, so he, that's what he did all week, all the way through the war.

Speaker 1: [01:19](#) How did your family prefer prepare for the law?

Speaker 2: [01:24](#) I don't really know to be quite honest. That one I can't answer.

Speaker 1: [01:29](#) In what ways did your life change when the war broke out?

Speaker 2: [01:36](#) Mmm. We were running backwards and forth to different places because we weren't evacuated. We went as a family and where we used to go, there was no room, so we used to stay

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and then have to go home again. So it was all very, very different and very difficult.

- Speaker 1: [01:57](#) Okay. Um, how did the food [inaudible] affect you?
- Speaker 2: [02:03](#) How did the shortages, it didn't affect us at all because, um, uh, we lived in the countryside and we had food.
- Speaker 1: [02:12](#) Okay. Uh, tell us about a new experience of booming you faced.
- Speaker 2: [02:18](#) I only remember bombing when I was a little bit older when we were like weighted as a family. I remember bombing bombs coming over and we hiding in a shelter and it was horrible. It really was horrible and very, very frightening.
- Speaker 1: [02:38](#) Okay. Um, how did you feel when the, how did you feel, uh, found out why you were going to be evacuated?
- Speaker 2: [02:52](#) I was only a little girl. I was only three and a half so I really didn't know very much and we, we've actually actuated as a family. We went as a family. How did you feel when your parent, tell us about the things you took
- Speaker 1: [03:10](#) wifi.
- Speaker 2: [03:13](#) Well we are Jewish and I remember my mum parents saying that my mother took some pots and pans and her silver candlesticks that we have to light on Friday nights. The Sabbath behind. I think they left everything, you know, they just went with the clothes and my clothes and the Sabbath candles. There was nothing else, you know, the bombing did come. So they went very quickly. Tell us about your journey. Apparently we went through one place. We went to Cheshire, me back and him share where we were. Went as family, we've evacuated and there was a man ability officer that we had to go to who would tell you where to go and there wasn't any room. So one we walked around, apparently we walked around there out and knocking on doors to find out where we could stay for the night. And one lady took pity on us and let us stay for four weeks in one room. That's four of us. My mom, my dad, myself, my sister in one room, no window for four weeks, and my parents said we've had enough and went back to London. Who were you about?
- Speaker 2: [04:51](#) Tell us about the place you have actually. Oh, it was wonderful. As I say, I was on your little girl, but we, when we know that

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this, the second time we went to trash him and back and him share the gentleman, debilitating officers said, I've got news for you. We thought we'd see you again. Go and knock at the door number 26 [inaudible] street and we date and the gentleman opened the door and he had, we walked into a room from the steps right into the room, the house. It was no electricity. Now I hope Walter just the tap and outside low, freezing cold, but it was lovely and I shared a bedroom, a bedroom with my parents and my sister had her own little tiny room and we were there. Right. So out the wall. Okay. What were your first

- Speaker 1: [05:58](#) impressions?
- Speaker 2: [06:02](#) I don't really know because I was so young.
- Speaker 1: [06:05](#) Okay. Okay. Before you ask the next question, um, describe that you've done that. How different was it from where you came from?
- Speaker 2: [06:33](#) Well, we came from the East end with lots and lots and lots of shops and lots and lots and lots of people to the countryside where there were cows and horses. I'd never seen a cow in my life. I didn't know anything. Shall, I'll tell you a funny story, right? I asked my mom because where we lived, we could see cows from our window and I said to the cows when they go to sleep, did I lay on their backs with their feet in the air? Cause I didn't know. I thought it, they, you know, you lie on your back, don't you lie on your side. So that's how I knew. And he was completely different to me cause it was the countryside and it was lovely. I grew up in the countryside and learned a hell of a lot.
- Speaker 1: [07:17](#) Okay. Um,
- Speaker 2: [07:20](#) what was life, how we treated in bioterrorism in your area? Very well. Extremely well. Um, yes, obviously. Yeah, we wish we've integrated and it was lovely. Nobody was nasty to us.
- Speaker 1: [07:44](#) Okay. And what was school like?
- Speaker 2: [07:50](#) Not very good. I didn't like school. I went to a private school that was horrible. It was really, really horrible and bullied it and it was all verbal. And then I went from an ordinary school and I loved it. He was great. I've really enjoyed it being bullied. I'm sorry. I don't know why I was being bullied. Maybe I was a little bit bigger than the others or Tapia than the others, but I was

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just bullied. Even the teachers were nasty and bullying. Really bullying. Okay. Tell us some of your experiences in the countryside. We used to go mushroom picking. I used to go strawberry picking, but there was never any strawberries to come home cause I'd eaten them all. I had, yeah. Um, the gentleman that we lived with used to work, um, he was a made, um, did a post and they were, we actually lived in the, where we, and I used to say to my uncle, Harry, please don't go to work.

Speaker 2: [08:59](#) Take me on a picnic. Not picnic, a picnic. So I used to go over and say, I'm sorry I can't come to work. I've got to take the little girl out. So that's what I used to do. Also, there was a, um, if I could describe it, I'll come in where you used to shoe hoses and they put the, take the things off and put the shoes on the hose. And I loved the smell of it and I would always, always wait. Always. They used to find me there. I cause I liked the smell of it and I used to like the bellows and all it lovely. So I love the countryside and I had a great time.

Speaker 1: [09:41](#) Okay. Um, that's, that's uh, um, tell us about any more virtuous sins you experienced during the mall.

Speaker 2: [09:59](#) No, not really. It was such as only the ones we went as a family and stayed there from three, from three years old, three and a half. And she like came home when I was eight. And what a shock when I came home. What a shock. Describe your journey home. Well, we S um,

Speaker 2: [10:25](#) again, it was very, very hard for, from the countryside, which was lovely and quiet and a wonderful childhood. So an area that was very, very busy, but I loved her. I absolutely loved it. It took a while for my sister and myself to climatize because it was so different. And you saw bomb sites and things that you never ever knew. It was all focused in the countryside. You didn't say, I didn't say it, but when you came back there was empty shit, you know, houses just all knocked down and, and kept Bree everywhere. It was a shock, but I liked the area and I loved it. I love living there.

Speaker 1: [11:11](#) Okay. How did you feel leaving? How did you feel coming back to

Speaker 2: [11:19](#) sad. Very sad. But then you get used to it. You're a child and you, you climatize

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- Speaker 1: [11:27](#) okay. How had London,
- Speaker 2: [11:31](#) Oh my goodness. Ah, very much so. In all ways. There isn't the closeness, the people, people chatting to each other. People went in each other's houses. Your door was never locked. Never, never locked. Children could play in the street. I never play. I played in the street. I was how I met my husband. He was a little boy next door and we used to play on mommy's and daddy's on the bomb site. But there's nothing like that now. That's how it's changed.
- Speaker 1: [12:12](#) Okay. Um, how did you celebrate me day?
- Speaker 2: [12:19](#) Um, we would all sing. There was a monuments at the end of the road and everybody went to this monument. I remember people bringing out food and we were dancing and singing to the early hours of the morning. It was absolutely wonderful. That I do remember.
- Speaker 1: [12:44](#) Did you S S that doesn't, um, looking back, how did the experience of being VACU change your life?
- Speaker 2: [12:59](#) It did because it, because of different religions and different people, it made me think of different things and how to cope in my life and how people can live together. Doesn't matter who you are, what you are, you can live together in peace.
- Speaker 1: [13:21](#) Okay. Well are your strongest memories from [inaudible]?  
Whoa.
- Speaker 2: [13:29](#) Um, my strongest memory. It's funny because there was a pretend, um, I don't quite know how to explain it to describe it, but there was a pretend that the Germans were coming and it was a like per 10 thing and I was in, in bed and I looked out the window and I had them all these men dressed up as Germans, DRI, jumping over the wall. And that frightened the life out of me. It really did. And that was hard. That's some of the experiences cause I was quite young.
- Speaker 1: [14:10](#) Uh, is there anything we haven't covered that you'd like to tell us?
- Speaker 2: [14:14](#) No, not really. You think you've copied it all? You've done very, very well. I hope I've done enough. I wasn't paying attention, but could you tell us why you were evacuated as a phone? Um, yes. My, I think it was my, I heard my parents took us to, we

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were supposed to be, although I was quite young, we were supposed to be facu waited just my sister and myself. And I think my mother took us to the station and say, right, no, I'm not doing it. If we go, we all go together and took us home.