

## Transcript of Audio Clip with Pat Field

I was evacuated in June of 1940, which I think was the second wave of evacuation because I was told that the King had said we had to go out of London [laughs]. I was quite looking forward to it until the actual morning when I can remember sitting on a table in this basement flat in Kidbrooke Park Road and thinking, you know, 'I don't want to go' and they were trying to persuade me. So I think we, I think we had to meet at Fossdene School and we got on buses. I said goodbye to our parents and we went to a railway station, I don't know, it could have been Deptford, it could have been New Cross, and got on a train. Then we must have got on a long-distance train to North Devon but I don't think parents knew where the children were going. I think that was a secret, you know, for sort of wartime sake. I went with a class from the school and a friend that I already knew from my class, Erica, and I remember we sat in the – it was the village school hall – and the people who came to choose you or take an evacuee. This lady chose Erica and myself which was nice so we were together. We went to their farmhouse and really it was quite an experience being on a farm. I've got quite a few photographs; they're a bit faded now. But it was, you know, we were able to – they used to put us on the carthorses because I think in the school holidays they didn't know what to do with us, you know. Their children were grown up<sup>1</sup>. But they had this son and he was very, very patient with us and very nice. So we used to sit on these carthorses, even out in the field when they were working, you know. We did some picking up of the potatoes in the sort of built up mounts. We went along and we helped with that.

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<sup>1</sup> 5 min