World War II: Evacuees

Norfolk Record Office
Worksheets for

Key Stage 2 pupils





Billeting Officer Task

The job of the billeting officer is to find suitable houses with spare rooms and families who can host the evacuees. Can you help them?

Evacuee families have been arriving all over Norfolk including locally here in Winfarthing. A list of local families and their spare rooms has already been completed. Can you help send families to the right household with enough space and the right hosts?

You complete this task by matching the name of the evacuees with the houses on the spreadsheet.

Think about what you need to consider in order to place everyone successfully.

What do you think the host families and the evacuees would have been thinking during this process?



You can see some contemporary footage of a billeting officer from the East Anglian Film Archive – <u>Pathe Gazette: Youngest Women Billeting Officer</u>. She talks about some of the problems getting locals to accept evacuees in Huntingdon.

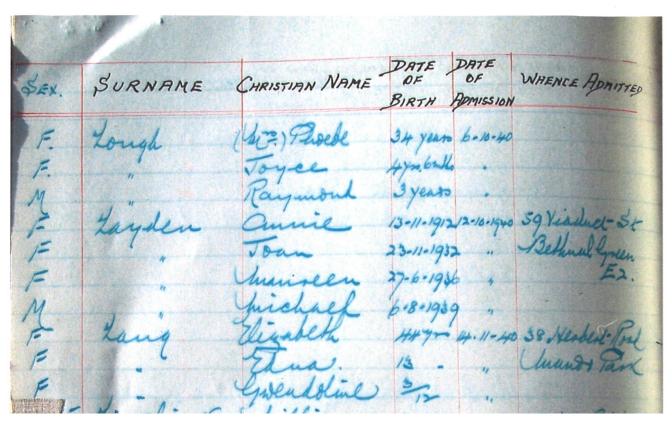


Evacuee families from London, 1941

Sex	Surname	Christian Name	Age
F	Leiland	Bessie	36
F	Leiland	Beryl	2 months
F	Lynch	Mary	29
F	Lynch	Maureen	New born
F	Lester	Agnes	39
F	Lester	Rosemarie	1 +3 months
F	Lester	Lillian	5
F	Lester	Agnes	12
М	Lester	John	14

Sex	Surname	Christian Name	Age
F	Lough	Phoebe	34
F	Lough	Joyce	4 +6 months
М	Lough	Raymond	3
F	Layden	Annie	28
F	Layden	Joan	8
F	Layden	Maureen	4
М	Layden	Michael	10 months
F	Lancasker	Harriett	55
М	Lancasker	Raymond	13
F	Lancasker	Doris	11

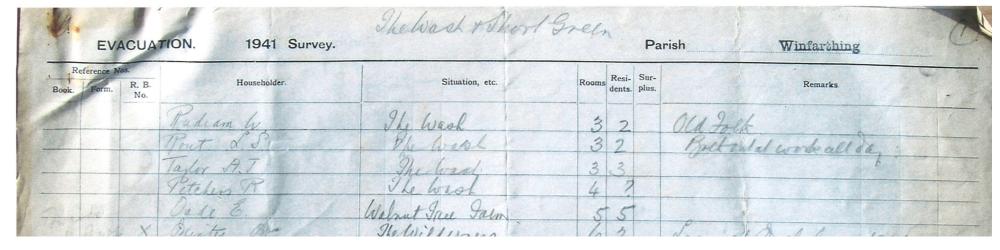
Sex	Surname	Christian Name	Age
F	Lang	Elizabeth	44
F	Lang	Edna	13
F	Lang	Gwendoline	3 months
F	Lisschinsky	Millie	32
F	Lisschinsky	Rhoda	4
F	Lisschinsky	Nita	5
F	Landley	May	42
F	Landley	Betty	14
М	Landley	Donald	8
F	Lucas	Marie	15
М	Lucas	George	2



Did you know?

It wasn't just children who were evacuated. Mothers often went with their children. The elderly and disabled were also moved. If schools were evacuated the teachers and other helpers went with them. Hackney Downs school moved to King's Lynn and shared premises with the King Edward VII school.

1941 Evacuation Survey Parish of Winfarthing The Wash and Short Green area



Householder	House/ Road Name	Rooms	Rooms in use	Rooms left	Remarks	Family to be placed there
William Rudiam	The Wash	3	1	2	Old Folk	
Leonard Rout	The Wash	3	1	2	Both out at work all day	
Adam Taylor	The Wash	3	2	1		
Robert Pitchers	The Wash	4	3	1		
Edward Dade	Walnut Tree Farm	5	4	1		
Mrs Minter	The Wilderness	6	2	4	Leaving at Christmas 1942	
Mrs Myhill	General Stores	5	2	3	Busy people	
Gavin Bond	Shop House, Short Green	3	2	1		
James Munford	The Poplars	4	2	2		
John Garnham	Short Green	2	1	1	Man lives alone- out at work all day	
Mrs Clare Munford	Short Green	2	1	1		
Benjamin Wood	Overbridge	6	2	4	Rooms reserved for Civil Defence Workers	
Edward Orford	Old Oak	6	3	3	Public House	
Ezra Munford	Chapel Cottage, Short Green	2	1	1		
William Bareham	Chapel Cottage, Short Green	3	2	1		
Walter Gardiner	Short Green	4	2	2		
Robert Punt	Short Green				Most unsuitable house	
Henry Lanchester	Short Green	3	2	1		
Arthur Kemp	Furze Farm, Short Green	4	3	1		
Edmund Morle	Short Green	6	3	3	Relatives in London	
Miss Eva Morley	Short Green	2	1	1		



Evacuee letter task

Over the next three pages is a transcription of a letter held in the archives. It is from Ursula, a young evacuee to her parents. Read it carefully and learn about her experiences.

After the letter there are six questions.

Write your answers in the space provided.

Then check your answers on the final page.



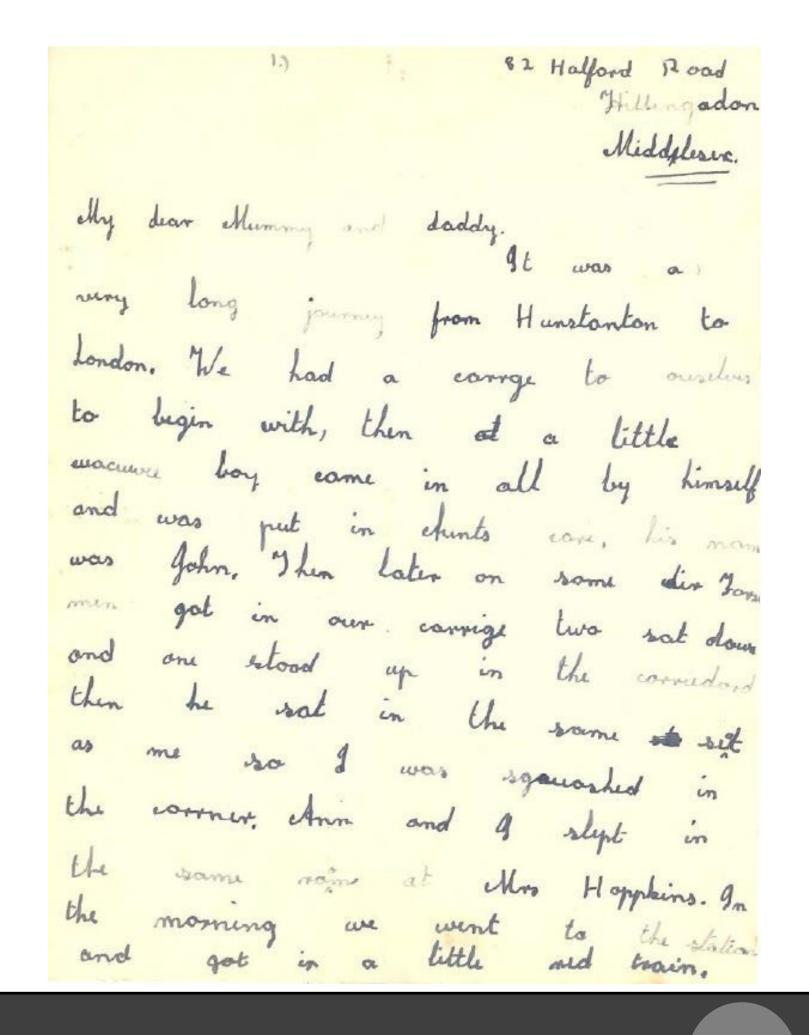
1.) 82 Halford Road Hillingdon

My Dear Mummy and Daddy,

Middlesex

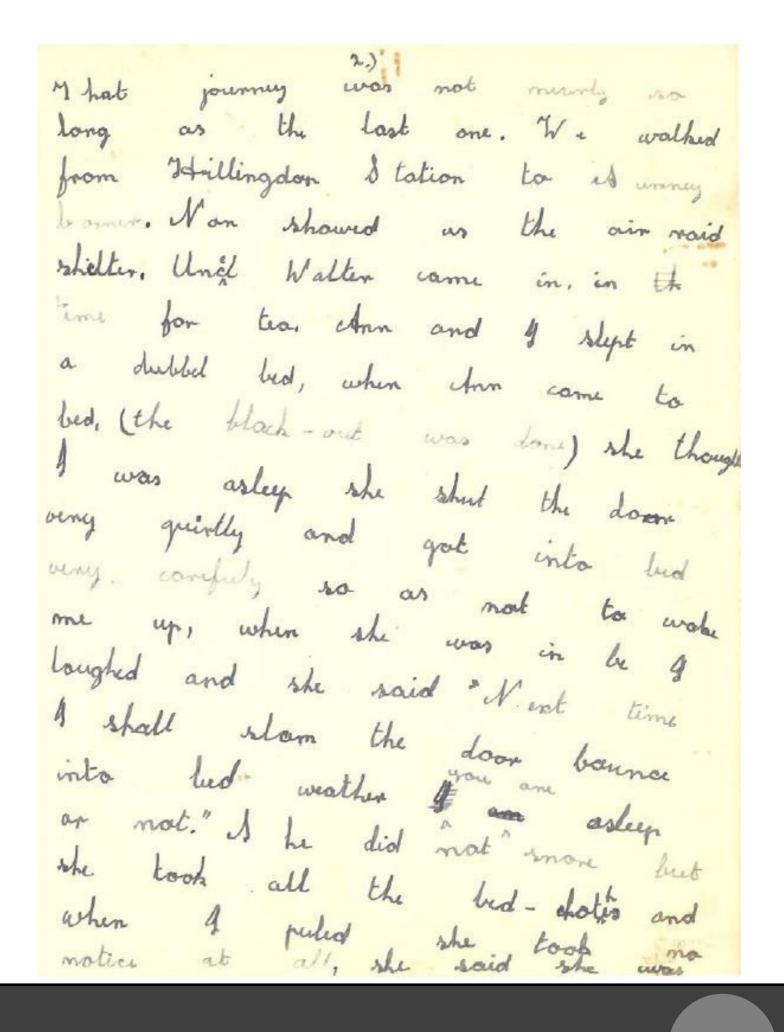
It was a

very long journey from Hunstanton to London. We had a carriage to ourselves to begin with, then a little evacuee boy came in all by himself and was put in Aunt's care, his name was John. Then later on some Air Force men got in our carriage two sat down and one stood up in the corridor then he sat in the same seat as me so I was squashed in the corner. Ann and I slept in the same room at Mrs Hoppkins. In the morning we went to the station and got in a little red train.



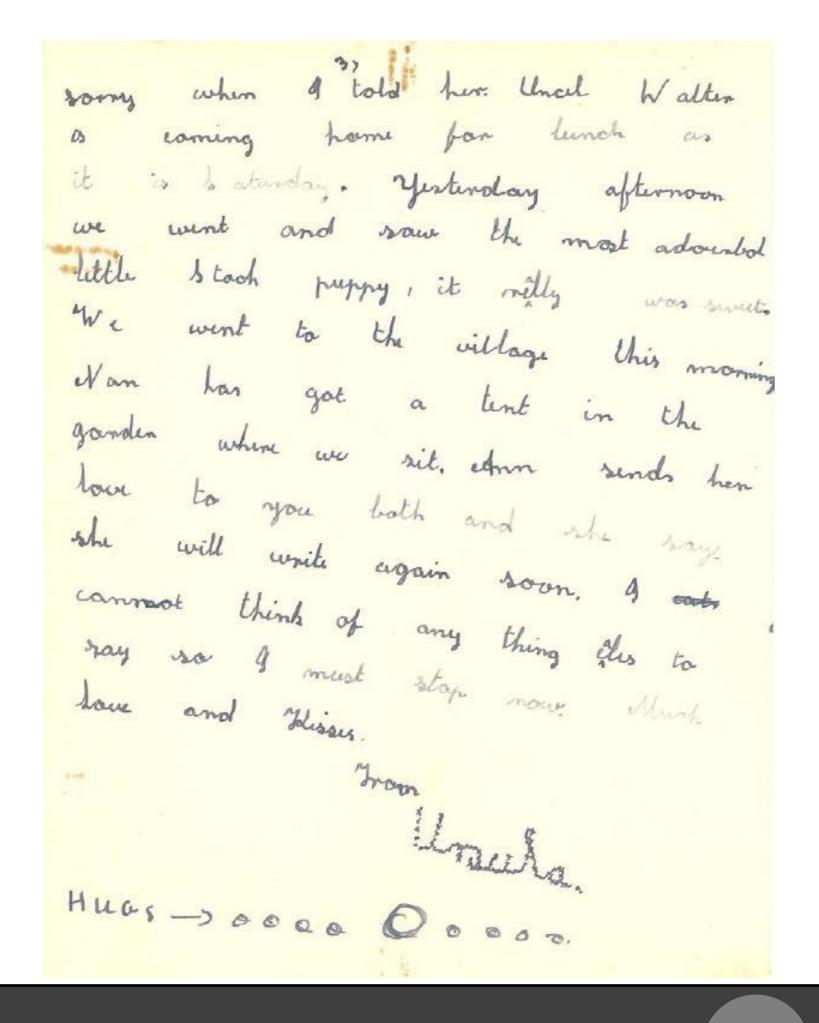


That journey was not nearly so long as the last one. We walked From Hillingdon Station to Sunny Barns. Nan showed us the air raid shelter, Uncle Walter came in, in time for tea. Ann and I slept in a double bed, when Ann came to bed (the black-out was down) she thought I was asleep she shut the door very quietly and got into bed very carefully, so as not to wake me up, when she was in bed I laughed and she said "Next time I shall slam the door bounce Into bed whether you are asleep or not". She did not snore but she took all the bed clothes and When I pulled she took no notice at all, she said she was





sorry when I told her. Uncle Walter is coming home for lunch as it is Saturday. Yesterday afternoon we went and saw the most adorable little scotch puppy, it really was sweet. We went to the village this morning Nan has got a tent in the garden where we sit. Ann sends her love to you both and she says she will write again soon. I cannot think of anything else to say so I must stop now. Much love and kisses from Ursula Hugs →ooooOoooo







- A. Where had Ursula started her journey and where was she going?
- B. Why do you think she had to move?
- C. Who did Ursula meet while she was travelling?
- D. Who was looking after Ursula while she was evacuated?
- E. Who did Ursula share a bed with?
- F. How do you think Ursula is feeling?



A. Where had Ursula started her journey and where was she going?

She started in Hunstanton and was going to Hillingdon in Middlesex

B. Why do you think she had to move?

East Anglia was considered in danger of invasion so children were evacuated away from the coast

C. Who did Ursula meet while she was travelling?

Another evacuee called John and RAF men

D. Who was looking after Ursula while she was evacuated?

Nan and Uncle Walter

E. Who did Ursula share a bed with?

Ann

F. How do you think Ursula is feeling?

Is she sad and missing home or lonely?

Is she happy to be with family?

Does she feel safer in the countryside?

