

- Speaker 1 This is Alison Brennan conducting an interview for The Hello Campers project at the BFI London 22nd of May 2023. Going start just by asking you your name.
- Speaker 2 My name's Astrid Englezou
- Speaker 1 And can you tell me why you were. It was pretty uncomfortable what year?
- Speaker 2 I was born in 1961
- Speaker 1 One, 1961
- Speaker 2 So I'm 61.
- Speaker 1 And where.
- Speaker 2 Was born, actually the London Hospital in White Chapel, and we actually lived in Philpot Street of Commercial Road, which was down the road from the London Hospital.
- Speaker 1 So very vivid and very near.
- Speaker 2 Yes.
- Speaker 1 Tell us what you remember about your parents holidays, what you had to do. Oh, sorry. I should have asked you what your parents do for a living.
- Speaker 2 Well, my mum actually was a secretary and before she met my dad, actually, she did try to run a little agency for secretaries, and she married my dad and some of her clients, kind of. They folded. So then she took up work because they lived in Commercial Road. They very near the city. So she always had secretarial work in the city, permanent and then temping.
- Speaker 2 And my dad did a number of why is it white collar office type jobs? He was the first for b t for quite a while, and then he was made redundant. I think before that he'd done a variety of jobs. He was actually at one point a £10 pom before he'd met my mum. He met my mum in 1960 or something.
- Speaker 2 Before that he'd been an office boy, then he'd done something else and he went to Australia for a few years but came back and so and then went after he married my mum. He, he was a telegrapher then. His last job actually was as a warder in the British Museum.
- Speaker 1 Did he say.
- Speaker 2 Yes, the British Museum. You know, one of the guys, if you're lost, they tell you where to go. We had a funny story about that, that when he on the first day they gave him a map of the British Museum and say, if you go.
- Speaker 1 To this such a vast place.
- Speaker 2 Yes, exactly.
- Speaker 1 Can you tell us about the holidays that your parents and your grandparents had?

Speaker 2 Yes, I did. When they met my dad, I don't know very much about. But my mum, she was one of ten children. And the impression I got, actually, I was actually more things came to mind while we were talking before. Generally, I thought they went for days out. She was one of, say, one of ten children. So a big family, not very well-off, but I think to remember now, photos, I think they may have gone to the seaside, may be stayed somewhere in a hotel for a few days with her brothers and sisters when she was older.

Speaker 2 But I'm you know, I'm not that clear on that. But I don't think they never went abroad and I don't think they went for a week or more than a week. It was probably just a few days by this, you know, the seaside. The seaside resorts in the UK.

Speaker 1 Seaside especially.

Speaker 2 Yes. Yes.

Speaker 1 And can you tell us about your holidays, trips to holiday?

Speaker 2 Oh, yes. So my I don't actually remember. I only know it because from fairy tales, but I think we first went to Butlins in Clacton and I was about three because I have photos from I don't remember that. But we went to a few holiday camps after that, Bognor Regis, Barry Island and Minehead and Minehead. I think we went several times and it was I really enjoyed it because at home both my parents worked.

Speaker 2 So, you know, I didn't see them. I saw them in the evenings after school, shall we say, when I came home. But they were more stressed with life. So on holiday they, they had a really nice time. My mum didn't have to do any cooking or cleaning. I remember it was a really nice atmosphere and going to Butlin's was, you know, we stayed in the chalets and we had the communion breakfasts.

Speaker 2 I think we often, although I do remember doing swimming and also going in for beauty pageants and things that they had. Then we went out for walks, especially Minehead during the day because it had such lovely scenery and would come back in the evening for probably our meal and then watch the shows and some ballroom dancing as well.

Speaker 2 I used to do it.

Speaker 1 My mum used it as well.

Speaker 2 Yeah, we've got my dad actually wasn't much of a dancer so I would so we would go to this big room where they would play pool music and me and my mum would dance together.

Speaker 1 So it's lovely to see you get into trouble.

Speaker 2 Well, we didn't drive, so. And I can't remember, but we must have gone by train. Yeah, and I was, and I don't know whether at the train station we then walked to the holiday camp or maybe there was a coach later on. I can't quite remember how near they were, but it would have been by public transport.

Speaker 1 What was it like when you got here?

Speaker 2 Yes. You know, like, I can't really remember that much detail, but I do remember the chalets. I really like the chalets. They were in one room. I was like in a bunk bed, and we

had a little toilet sink. I moved on, pack our stuff, and once we've done that, we'd go and explore the camp.

Speaker 1 Were the communal missiles. So no.

Speaker 2 I think the showers were communal because I'm trying to remember I've got this one image in my mind of the room with the bunk bed, my mum's bed in the wardrobe, and then next door was the toilet. I think it's just a toilet in a sink. So there must have been communal showers and I can't remember them, but they must've been strong.

Speaker 1 It's nice. And then mold same.

Speaker 2 You know.

Speaker 1 You know it's a nice.

Speaker 2 Yes. I took me it's about the same. We didn't have quite well we lived in a flat in East London and she was in the council house. It was privately rented because rent was quite reasonable. Then and it was quite spacious. But it was we had hot and cold running water. The heat. We didn't have central heating. I don't know how many people did, and we didn't have a washing machine, but I didn't notice much difference when we went to to Butlins.

Speaker 2 Maybe it might have seemed a little bit more Spartan, but not very much. It was one thing actually, you know, it's more I remember looking at some photos, there's greenery outside the chalet and they were trees, whereas I lived in Iceland and it was a bit concrete of a concrete jungle. So that was a nice thing. There was a lot of greenery around.

Speaker 1 The surrounding, the.

Speaker 2 Surrounding compared to home.

Speaker 1 I didn't do remember to wash washing clothes. I tell.

Speaker 2 Oh gosh, I don't remember that. I think there were probably laundries. I don't know if we used to. Maybe my mum went off, but I don't.

Speaker 1 Remember why you visit.

Speaker 2 Unless we we took all our washing back home because we would only go for a week so.

Speaker 1 And so you would e Well your mum wasn't teaching cooking, you were going.

Speaker 2 Yeah. So, so we, we didn't go self-catering so my mum didn't have to cook or anything so, so we all went out together. She didn't have to stay behind to do anything so she liked the.

Speaker 1 German people coming round clean.

Speaker 2 I don't remember but I think there was some someone I, my mum definitely didn't do it. I don't think.

Speaker 1 And can you tell us a bit about the restaurant? Was it false?

Speaker 2 You know, I have an image of when we went to breakfast I'd say we'd be woken up in our Charlotte by the big boom, first or second service, and we'd go down to the to me at the time, because I was little, it seemed a massive cafeteria and yes, I'm lost about with the different ethnicities. But to me it seemed it was like a sea of white people, only white people, but it seemed very large and we'd queue up for our breakfast, sit down to eat on a long I think it was a long table and there'd be other people that we didn't know, you know, sitting next to us.

Speaker 1 And what was, what was the food like was a tasty.

Speaker 2 I think so I think I probably had I can't you know, I can't remember the food I think probably had cornflakes or something in the morning and I can't remember the evening food, but I'm imagining if even if we'd gone out during the day, you do come back and had had something. But I think it was a vague maybe the sort of English food, you know, no fishing, fish and chips, maybe and rice and things.

Speaker 2 Peas.

Speaker 1 And we started talking to him. We did talk and was a really international code.

Speaker 2 Not that I remember. There may have been, but I don't remember.

Speaker 1 You said that it doesn't stay with other people we three friendly and would you talk to them and I.

Speaker 2 Think sort of maybe slightly, but I don't remember that in detail.

Speaker 1 So asking the questions anyway. Yeah. Yeah, I should be asking. So what was the atmosphere like generally at mealtimes?

Speaker 2 Um, it was fine. It was just I can't remember really the atmosphere. We just got our food sat down. I think we didn't I don't remember interacting greatly. We actually had the people on the table, so we just chatted amongst ourselves.

Speaker 1 Something like you mentioned it or.

Speaker 2 I suppose, I suppose it was in retrospect it was, it was a little regimented, but I quite like it. I sang it to my dad had been in the R.A.F. during the Second World War a and so maybe he, he liked that side of it as well, being a bit regimented.

Speaker 1 What was regimented balance it the way you know.

Speaker 2 Yes, we it was, it was a bit like school dinners, you know you'd, you would line up, get your food, sit at a table just as you did in school. Actually. And also the the serving times, you know, there was first serving or second serving. So you had to turn out. There wasn't any leeway really, I think. Well, we always got there on time.

Speaker 1 But what about if you were late, late comers?

Speaker 2 I don't know what happened to latecomers. My dad was always punctual.

- Speaker 1 But after breakfast, what sort of activities would available people for your time? Well.
- Speaker 2 The ones that were probably not the ones that I loved to swimming the swimming pool and table tennis. My dad taught me to play table tennis that those are the main activities. I never went to a creche or anything. I think because I was an only child, I just my parents took me around with them and I think sometimes during the day we actually did leave the camp, especially in Minehead, to have a little walk and we would come back later and maybe I've got pictures of myself of being in a beauty pageant, which probably I don't think they would do that now, but, you know, little girls lined up with the number and things
- Speaker 2 like that. And we and that was about eight or nine. So and they had a, you know, funfair and things, but picture on some fun things.
- Speaker 1 And did you get to it and then take to the bottom You've done.
- Speaker 2 No, no, just my dad. We just played for fun. So it's nice to spend time with my dad because at home he was working a lot, so my relaxation time.
- Speaker 1 Was about to be. Yeah, okay. And what about things like games and spoken about competition and music, all those things for the day?
- Speaker 2 Yes, well, we would do the same. We went sometimes to do the ballroom dancing or whether we're playing ballroom type music with my mum. So I would dance with her. I didn't really going for organized. I've had other people too for organized sports, and I didn't. I suppose maybe because I was a bit younger.
- Speaker 1 And how different the things you did everyday saw what you did in the normal time outside school.
- Speaker 2 Yeah, I suppose the, the swimming was, you know, we did have swimming at school but it was, I mean once a week or something. So that was really nice to be able to go swimming every day, you know, if I'd wanted. And also the, you know, the beauty pageants or entering these type of competitions was quite fun because I didn't have a chance to do that.
- Speaker 2 I did go to an after-school club when I lived at home, but that's because my parents were working. So yeah, it was just seemed quite different, you know, to what I did at home. Normally, more opportunities for fun.
- Speaker 1 What she didn't enjoy swimming.
- Speaker 2 The swimming, the swimming was my favourite. Now.
- Speaker 1 And how much did you go out from the time you were saying you like cleaning?
- Speaker 2 Yes. My parents like to sort of explore a little bit, so I can't remember whether it was every day that we would go out after breakfast for a few hours, have lunch out properly, and then come back or, you know, maybe it was every other day, but I can't remember. I do remember one time we did we Minehead we went from and we found and it was a little town or little village and my mum had decided we went to a pub that she got quite tipsy.

- Speaker 2 You know, it's really embarrassed looking out on the right side.
- Speaker 1 How would you describe the general atmosphere? Because she walked around.
- Speaker 2 The general upset. Everyone seemed quite happy, really. You know, people running around, kids running around, always things to do. You know, I do actually remember now, Red coats were about the place. If you need to toss in something which we never seem to need to, but generally it's fun. It was happy. People were free, I think felt free to do what they wanted to do, which was different from their normal lives.
- Speaker 1 Probably you. You felt free, but there were quite a lot of it. Activities?
- Speaker 2 Yes. Free. Free in the sense to choose, you know, to choose to do activities. You could do them or not do them. And so being having the activities available to you on the spot was really nice. I you know, you didn't have to travel anywhere to do anything.
- Speaker 1 But you didn't have to You could you could do, you could.
- Speaker 2 Do. Yes.
- Speaker 1 And you didn't.
- Speaker 2 Know? No, there was no compulsion. No compulsion.
- Speaker 1 So only like we went outside. Outside, perhaps in the mornings and then came back?
- Speaker 2 Yes, I think so. I think that's what we did tell. I then think you spoke to I think crazy go, you know, small, crazy, go to do that.
- Speaker 1 But do you enjoy it? Yes.
- Speaker 2 Yes. As well.
- Speaker 1 And how would you know what's going on each day?
- Speaker 2 I don't know how we know. I suppose my parents knew. I don't know if they would given if we just walked into the centre and saw what was on what was happening. We did. There were shows every night and maybe we just turned up at the theatre, as it were, but I'm not quite sure they must have published a timetable.
- Speaker 1 I imagine the moon came over the channel.
- Speaker 2 They are in the war. We're vaguely we're not out of memory in the morning. You know, there'd be a lot of people for service, for breakfast or second service for breakfast, and we'd know we'd get up, get ready, walk them to breakfast. I thought that was quite nice, actually, at the time.
- Speaker 1 And do you remember in particular any songs or announcements?
- Speaker 2 Um, you know, we took about the Senate. I can't remember really. I'm sure they could play songs, but I can't. I mean, I do have memories of songs from the sixties now, but my mum often played the radio at home, so maybe it's from the radio. Or maybe I also heard them at Butlins, but I can't be sure.

- Speaker 2 The main thing is that I do remember waking up to the sound of a big boom, a bit like Heidi. Hi.
- Speaker 1 You were saying that it was a very special time with your parents, let's say. Generally, how did the atmosphere become different from being in your community?
- Speaker 2 Yeah, I suppose.
- Speaker 1 Well.
- Speaker 2 I suppose I saw my parents more as with my parents more in the camp, whereas, you know, at home, when I saw my parents in the evening after school and things, so I think everything was just more relaxed on holiday. But I think that's often the way you.
- Speaker 1 You listen about your mother getting a bit silly.
- Speaker 2 Oh yeah.
- Speaker 1 Did you sort of observe the grown ups? Probably nothing reported a lot.
- Speaker 2 The grown ups. So my other grown ups, I don't I can't remember. They probably can't remember. My parents generally didn't drink a lot so that's why my mum got tiddly. Didn't take much to make a playlist.
- Speaker 1 Yeah. Is there any are there any particular moments that really stick out for me? Like what? Your holiday is in particular incidents you remember?
- Speaker 2 Yeah.
- Speaker 1 The movies all looked so happy looking.
- Speaker 2 Yeah, that one. There was the one about my mum and I. I can't really remember. One year, actually, my dad couldn't come and my mum's friend came and that was also a really nice holiday. They were very good friends and I remember them sitting by the pool while I was swimming. That was very nice. And the they've got pictures of the beauty pageants.
- Speaker 2 I can't really remember now. Just it was it was a fun time, really. The overall memories.
- Speaker 1 Of the old way. When your last trip to when you were a student.
- Speaker 2 Yes. Well, I think probably we started going when I was about three. So it's 1964 and maybe we stopped going. I think in the early seventies, we started going abroad. Maybe holidays abroad became cheaper. I don't know. So maybe I was about nine or ten the last the last holiday.
- Speaker 1 And can you remember seeing things They genuinely had become quite memorable, Either the shoes or.
- Speaker 2 And yeah, actually the shows were very good. My mum loved the dancing and the musicals. I remember there was one show with the comedian Freddy Stahl, but my my dad was scandalized because he scored it in his in his show. So that stood out. But

generally the shows were fantastic. You know, the dancers are very good and really nice music.

Speaker 1 Sounds wonderful, and I'm sure maybe I just missed the joke. This one. We didn't come.

Speaker 2 Out and say that Bognor Regis Clacton, Barry and Minehead. I think we went twice. And so that's five to.

Speaker 1 12 white spirits. Yes, I think you saying that perhaps you didn't socialize that much of labour. So do you live.

Speaker 2 With the other people? And we've. No, we didn't really. We were sort of a threesome, I suppose. It sounds a bit younger. My parents. Yeah, we didn't really socialites, but we were friendly with our neighbours, I think in the English Channel. But we, we didn't spend a lot of time with other, with other families. We did our own thing.

Speaker 2 To me.

Speaker 1 Any word? Immigration, you.

Speaker 2 Know, was never put in the crash? No, not that I remember. I took me back to my mom, told me that when we did go to Clacton, I looked a bit unwell and when we got home it turned out that I had measles. So some of the photos I looked at.

Speaker 1 And so that's yeah. Did you find your mum or dad much more approachable or empathy. Well anyway.

Speaker 2 But yeah, yeah, yeah, probably. And they were around more, you know, just nice. Not so busy or not busy with work and life here at home.

Speaker 1 Would you say. How was it when you got home? Did that have an impact that you'd been away bright or nothing. Things went with the rest of the family or what was it? Did you come back feeling very refreshed and did it have an impact in those months? Yeah. How was that?

Speaker 2 But it was I can't remember really how it was my parents, I felt very relaxed. Although I was sad to come home, I think, you know, it was I would have probably wanted the holidays to carry on, but I'm sure my parents probably felt refreshed just fine because I think they probably would have. Presumably they didn't can't remember.

Speaker 1 What did you notice about the other guests at the club? Did you notice presumably? No, not a lot of sense in terms of reps. They were because in parts of the UK, yes. I mean, kind of atmosphere generally between the people.

Speaker 2 Yeah, I think mainly I remember it was mainly we say white people and I can't remember. See, my dad is also from Manchester, so we had a little bit of my best family, but I can't remember the, the accents of the other, the diversity, particularly well.

Speaker 1 Would you say that generally you noticed families mixing a lot of or were they keeping to the include.

Speaker 2 It's difficult to say. I, I remember seeing children running around and families but whether they were they become as a family group or whether they'd met on holiday



and were mixing, I didn't I didn't know. But people generally it was a jolly place to be, you know, people were friendly, were friendly, seemed happy.

Speaker 1 And how did you find Stone?

Speaker 2 Yeah, they and they cycle. I don't remember interacting very much with the staff, but I do remember the the red coats in their uniform and I think they were if we ever ask them anything, they're always quite helpful. They always seemed glamorous, actually. I think to me that certainly they would seem quite glamorous in their uniforms. And then I think some of them did the shows as well, so you could recognize them.

Speaker 1 And say that you went to quality control as slaves and just the experience of this. But can you tell us?

Speaker 2 So when I had my son was two, so I was about 35 when I was pregnant with my daughter, but with my husband and my son to I can't remember. I think it was Bognor Regis. And so they didn't seem to the accommodation, it seemed to have changed slightly. So this would be 96, 1996, and we chose this middling accommodation which was different to the chalet type, and it was kind of in the block, and I was quite disappointed because it wasn't that clean and I was bearing in mind I was pregnant.

Speaker 2 The mattresses found them so lumpy. So we look, we, we sort of took off the sheets and it had 1960 in March with, oh my God, surely not to my husband took the mattress to somewhere else you could take it and got another one that said 1961.

Speaker 2 So we had to remember all of this. I mean, we had put loads of towels on the matches to try and flatten out. So when I went as a child, I didn't notice anything like that. Maybe because it's much newer or expectations were low, I don't know but going, but so that was a bit of a disappointment. We wish we'd gone for the higher and that my son really liked it though he b so we took him to a show.

Speaker 2 He was too, and he went up on stage. I remember and he was wearing dungarees and he wanted to take them off and at the same time he was holding the compared, given him the microphone and he wouldn't give it back. He was singing into the microphone. So that was really cute. You might remember.

Speaker 1 And you have you pictures of that.

Speaker 2 We didn't have any pictures. I don't think that's right.

Speaker 1 That when it was. Did you stop being political? When did.

Speaker 2 I. Well, when I was younger, Yeah. I think I don't know exactly. We seemed to go abroad a bit more. We went to Holland one year. We went to Italy a couple of years. So maybe I think it's my parents decision actually. So maybe holidays abroad became more for, I imagine in the sixties, maybe they just went affordable.

Speaker 2 And people I think most people I knew went on holiday in the UK in the sixties. It wasn't a holiday camp, it would be caravan or something else, you know, something by the seaside would be done to coast.

Speaker 1 And then it became a bit more food.

Speaker 2 I presume. So in the seventies.

Speaker 1 When you look back and say, you know, what does your holidays that to me.

Speaker 2 Oh, they're happy times, actually. And I remember them fondly because it was happy times and I had time with my parents and we just seemed to have a really nice time together. So it's nice, nice memories to remember. Actually, my parents, they both died last year, so it's nice. They were 97, so it's nice to remember the old times with them or observing.

Speaker 2 Oh, that's okay. Thank you. Yes, definitely. Definitely.

Speaker 1 There's just a few more questions which are a bit more when they did way is do you remember your parents saying, well, it cost a lot or it was a stretch to say goodbye to you.

Speaker 2 Then that they never really I don't remember them talking about it explicitly, but we were very well-off, so I presume it was they chose it because it was within their budget, you know, relative to what they earned. They wouldn't have earned an awful lot. But it must have been reasonable enough. But I never heard them talking about it explicitly.

Speaker 1 You go, Is it possible they saved?

Speaker 2 Yes, I imagine they did. They would have saved up during the year for that. They like saving.

Speaker 1 I do. Is did you get the impression that it was all in or it was paid for then have to worry once they go.

Speaker 2 Yeah, no, I think that's it. So you think everything's paid for all the activities, all the food. But we must have had if we went out, we must have had some money to pay for lunch outside but so I don't know whether we had it all in. We must have had maybe breakfast and dinner and everything else. Everything was paid for.

Speaker 2 So I think that was a relief. You didn't have to always find money to pay for some things, but activities and things you could do anything you wanted free. I mean, we're not quite free. You had paid for it, but.

Speaker 1 We didn't have to worry. Yeah.

Speaker 2 Yeah.

Speaker 1 And do you remember how people just what they did, they love special, or did you have a special holiday clients?

Speaker 2 I think I did have some summer dresses that my aunt had made because she was a seamstress. Because we often went in the summer holiday. So hopefully the I always remember the weather being quite good. And my mother, I tell you, if she had, I think she probably had work clothes. So she probably used had holiday dresses for the holiday clothes for the holiday.

Speaker 1 Did you when you looked around mortality to see people just.

- Speaker 2 I to remember, I think it was sixties fashions. Obviously I can't remember things like because a lot of people, especially the children when they were running around everybody went in the pool of children running around in the swimming costumes, you know, And it was nice whether they drawn from the swimming pool to somewhere else maybe.
- Speaker 1 And that's like you were lucky with the weather.
- Speaker 2 Yes. Yes, I remember it that way. But might not be true.
- Speaker 1 To I wonder whether people dressed up in the evening when they went out.
- Speaker 2 Yeah, I can't remember, to be honest. I think my parents or see my dad would always wear a jacket and my mum probably had something a bit smarter to wear. I can't remember any other people. They wore.
- Speaker 1 And when you got home, how were your friends when you told them about political? What did they think about it?
- Speaker 2 Yeah, they. They seemed quite interested, my friends. I don't remember. I think one friend went to Pontins. Remember thing. Another friend had a caravan or people went to the seaside. Not everyone went to quality counts, but they were interested to know, spoke about.
- Speaker 1 When you say half the mood, so was it.
- Speaker 2 Well seemed to me a minority. But I went from where I was from but I didn't know difficult. So I didn't. How many people lectured to holiday camps in those periods? Probably quite a lot. But I as I say, my friends went to the over the winter holiday camps. It seemed to be more unusual.
- Speaker 1 But so then my love to go to landlady's.
- Speaker 2 Yes. Yeah. Car caravans or something by the sea like by the seaside and depending on what they could afford, I suppose.
- Speaker 1 How did you feel? People looked at me feel. Was it a feeling of Olympic? You wish they could? I might.
- Speaker 2 I don't remember, but no, I can't remember that. I don't remember people feeling envious at the time. I can't remember.
- Speaker 1 Did you notice a difference between the different camps in the atmosphere? How would you compare them? Butlins. Although yes.
- Speaker 2 I think we, we must have like mind had more because we went there twice. I think I too might want to book me twice as well. Clacton We went one side which I don't really remember but I've, I think there were differences within the camps. They were similar as well. So I think one of the things probably my parents liked because you knew what you were going to get, because probably the blueprint for one camp was, I imagine, similar to the you know, they all had swimming pools in the activities and the chalets.

Speaker 2 So it was just a matter of going to a different location, which probably my parents, because they would go out we would go out during the day to explore the local scenery. But the camps themselves, I think, were similar, quite similar. I don't know if that's true. That's what I remember.

Speaker 1 Things that that's been really interesting. Paul, Thank you. Let us remove the questions. I had a yearning to be quiet. Could you describe the shallow, the shallow that you spent out? Well.

Speaker 2 So the shallow that we stayed in, I do remember we see there was greenery outside, which is really nice. And we had our own little front door was because at the time in East London we lived in a flat. So we would go up the stairs. So I really like Max. It's almost like having a little house that opens out onto one big room which had two, I think a bunk bed and a big bed and a wardrobe in the room, maybe a table and a couple of chairs.

Speaker 2 And then next to that room was a toilet in the sink, but no shower. And so it was quite small, really, really nice. And they were they had different colours, I think on the outside, you know, your sort of colour-coded places. So, so basic, really quite basic. But I didn't feel I enjoyed it. I don't think we felt it was too basic, you know, I think we needed.

Speaker 1 What we call it's like where they of the England colours or.

Speaker 2 I think on the outside they were the outside of the.

Speaker 1 Walls.

Speaker 2 I think they were white and they may have had different colours painted at different places, maybe on poles and things inside, though I do remember it because actually there wasn't any windows to the side or the back. You only had light from the front. It did seem a bit dark inside. And the decor, I can't remember the probably the walls or why I can't remember, but it was a bit of a dark feeling mainly.

Speaker 2 So due to the lack of light. Well, the light coming in from one side only.

Speaker 1 So what about the I mean, you mentioned the new things to canteen and the guest list. A be like school. So you would actually have to go full time.

Speaker 2 Yes. Yes. That's how I remember. If that's right. That's, that's what I remember because I do. Yeah I do remember queuing up and then finding a table and sitting down with our cereal.

Speaker 2 I don't really remember waitress service, but maybe we did have meat, maybe for evening meals.

Speaker 3 All can you have any problems at night with noise from the neighbours or anything like that?

Speaker 2 So, no, not that I remember.

Speaker 3 I was quite calm in the camp and very family.

Speaker 2 Yes. Yes. Yeah. But I think they did have a system someone else was mentioning, but we never used it where, you know, your baby or your child would stay in in the chalet. And I don't think the redcoats were meant to patrol. I mean, nowadays we would be horrified, you know. But I think that was the thing. And people felt that the camp was safe.

Speaker 1 And I think we would be worried.

Speaker 2 Yes. But it was a different time that people used to leave their babies outside in the pram when they went into a shop or outside. My auntie, I remember, left her baby on the flat flats with veranda and outside. You wouldn't do that now.

Speaker 1 So could you describe the kind of the landscape is? I mean, I've seen a lot of postcards and these what I can notice with.

Speaker 2 Yes, yes.

Speaker 1 Facts and things I have, there's also like one of these and a lot of that is the land trade.

Speaker 2 Yeah.

Speaker 1 So if you never of those things just they have to move out.

Speaker 2 Yeah. I wish I could. I wish I could. I've mainly remembered the, the.

Speaker 1 Large.

Speaker 2 Dining room where we had breakfast. I remember the swimming pool. I remember walking, to be honest, I remember more from when I took my my son out, when my husband and my son, he seemed in some ways, although it seemed different to when I when I went as a as a child, but I can't remember an awful lot.

Speaker 2 I remember there were rows and rows of chalets that we would of knew we'd have to find a correct chalet coming back. I think it seemed like a vast space, especially to a young child. It it would feel very small space, which was funny to me.

Speaker 1 Would you go again now because of the weekends?

Speaker 2 Yeah. Well, no, not since when I went in 1996, I had really fond memories of Butlins and I was going. We wanted to go for a week, and a friend of mine said, Don't, go for three days. So we went in for three days. And yeah, it didn't. It wasn't as I remember, everybody seemed to have tattoos, still, different time.

Speaker 2 Yeah. So I probably wouldn't go again now, but it doesn't spoil my memories of when I was a child. I still fondly remember them.

Speaker 1 You can't take.

Speaker 2 No, definitely.

Speaker 1 Is anything else you want to say to cut.

Speaker 2 Them ten things? I think you've been very thorough. I can't think of anything really, just to think it was for its time. I think it gave families a really nice experience for a

reasonable cost and maybe it was, you know, people could go away for a while as a family and just enjoy themselves and not worry too much about finances and what they were going to do.

Speaker 2 I think that's one of the things everything, all of the activities in one place, it made things easy for people, the restaurants in one place, the entertainment, the activities. It was a really good idea at the time.

Speaker 1 Some of the food hall was in acceptance in the doorways, and it had to take a little while.

Speaker 2 No, I think there were always food halls and I think there always photos and the entertainment was in the theatre. So which was a different place as I remember it. Yeah, because I was in the theatre there. Those, you know, the properties that you would sit in in rows, whereas the food halls were tables and chairs and there was the hatch at the back.

Speaker 2 Well, this is what I remember when we got our breakfast and things.

Speaker 1 And I think.

Speaker 2 Yeah, I'm happy. I hope that was enough information, I think was always younger. It's difficult to remember everything you have, but you have an overarching feeling of what you like that you like to do. Detail can be difficult to recall and I hope you've got something for.