

THE BLITZ: A TRAGIC STORY OF EVACUATION

Today, we're going to tell you about the Blitz. The Blitz was the bombing of British cities, mainly London, during the Second World War. It took place between September 1940 and May 1941. During that period, thousands of children were evacuated to the countryside. Some were even evacuated to the USA or Canada.

Hello! Today, we have met Lana Durant. We have asked Lana about her life during the Blitz.



[gettyimages.com.au](https://www.gettyimages.com.au) *The newspaper seller*

- **Can you tell us how old you were at the beginning of the Blitz?**

When the Blitz started, I was eight years old and today, I'm ninety years old.

- **How did you learn about the beginning of the war in September 1939?**

I learnt it in the street with the newspaper seller.

- **How did your evacuation happen?**

It was in October 1940. My mother took me to school; It was the meeting point for the evacuation. The billeting officer took me from London to a host family in Cornwall. It was very horrible because the journey by train was long. I didn't eat nor drink all the time. I had just one bag for my clothes. I had a label around the neck with my name and my address.



geo.fr *Visit of the Queen
Mother at school before
evacuation.*

-How did you live there?

-I had a new father, mother and a little brother. The house was very big and there was a big garden too. I had a bedroom on my own but the school was really horrible because the system of education was very strict.

I always felt very sad because the years were very long. I stayed there four years. I never complained because I always kept hope in my heart to see my family back in London.

What happened to you after the war ?

I came back to my real house and went back into my family. We were very happy to live together.



iwm.org *evacuation of the children.*