



Commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day 2023
Liverpool Town Hall



Mr Zigi Shipper, BEM
1930 – 2023

Holocaust Memorial Day

*Learning from genocide
- for a better future*

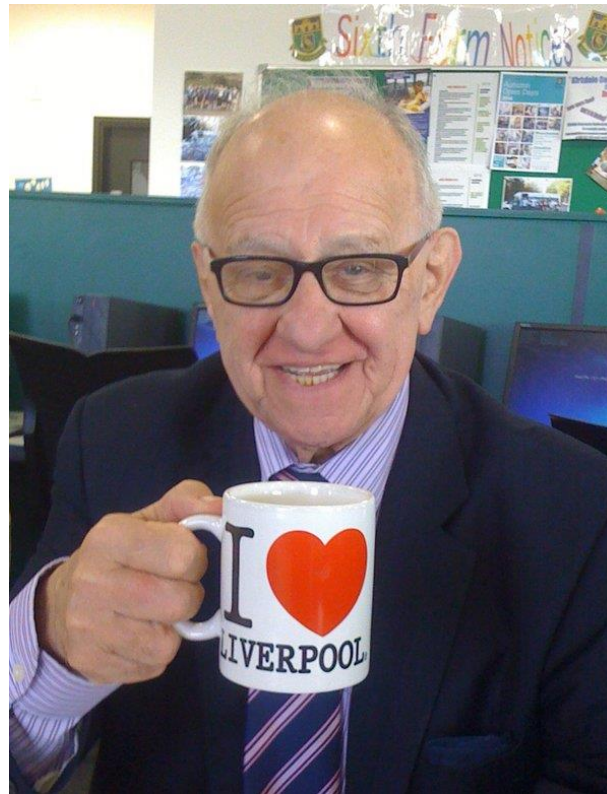


May his memory
be a blessing

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“Do Not Hate”

Holocaust Memorial Day

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**Holocaust
Memorial Day**

*Learning from genocide
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During November 2022 students from Alsop High School were privileged to participate in the Lessons from Auschwitz programme organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust.

We experienced at first hand the horrors of the **Genocide** which occurred in Nazi occupied Europe.



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GENOCIDE refers to violent crimes committed against groups with the intent to destroy the existence of the group.

GENOCIDE is an act out of the ordinary that disturbs the natural order of things, hijacking ordinary places and their original purpose.



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At Auschwitz - Birkenau
we saw ordinary things:

- Buildings
- Clothes
- Suitcases
- Human hair
- Shoes
- Glasses



However, these were no
ordinary objects.

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We were reminded we **ALL** can
make decisions to:

- Challenge prejudice
- Stand up to hatred
- Speak out against persecution



Ordinary people
have choices.



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This morning let us consider:

- ❑ Ordinary people who let genocide happen
- ❑ Ordinary people who actively perpetrated genocide
- ❑ Ordinary people who were persecuted

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Dr Martin Stern MBE, a Holocaust survivor recalls:

"As a five year old, I could stand at the edge of the clearing where the trains were being loaded. People like sardines in those wooden trucks. And the people loading them in - they were railway men, they didn't look terribly different from the railway men who check my tickets these days - they looked like ordinary people."

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Abe Leson recalls:

"Two hundred Lithuanian railway workers murdered more than 60 Jewish men in August 1941, shooting them into a pit that had been dug by Russian prisoners of war."

"The railway workers deliberately placed large motors near the pit so that the noise of the shooting wouldn't be heard by other Jews who were being kept nearby."

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Léon Bronchart was a French railway worker who assisted his Jewish neighbours by hiding a Jew and for refusing to drive a train containing political prisoners.

Marcel Hoffman was one of 24 French railway workers who helped save Jewish children from deportation in September 1942.

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Jean Louis Mazimpaka, a survivor
in Rwanda, recalls:

'When the killing started, to be honest, everyone was involved. Our neighbours, friends, but we didn't know the killings were to the extent of what happened.'

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Kemal Pervanić, survivor, Bosnia writes:

"People may think that they have nothing to do with my story. It may sound too hard to believe but this doesn't happen to strangers who live far away. I'm just an ordinary person. These terrible things can happen to people like us."



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Sir Nicholas Winton, rescued 669 children from the Holocaust.

He said:

"Why are you making such a big deal out of it? I just helped a little; I was in the right place at the right time."

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We are all ordinary people who can be extraordinary in our actions.

We can all make decisions to challenge prejudice, stand up to hatred, to speak out against persecution.

We **ALL** have a part to play to stop hatred and create safe communities for **ALL**.

Ordinary people
have choices.



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ALL

We are ordinary people

We will be extraordinary in our actions.

We will challenge prejudice

We will stand up to hatred

We will speak out against persecution

**Ordinary people
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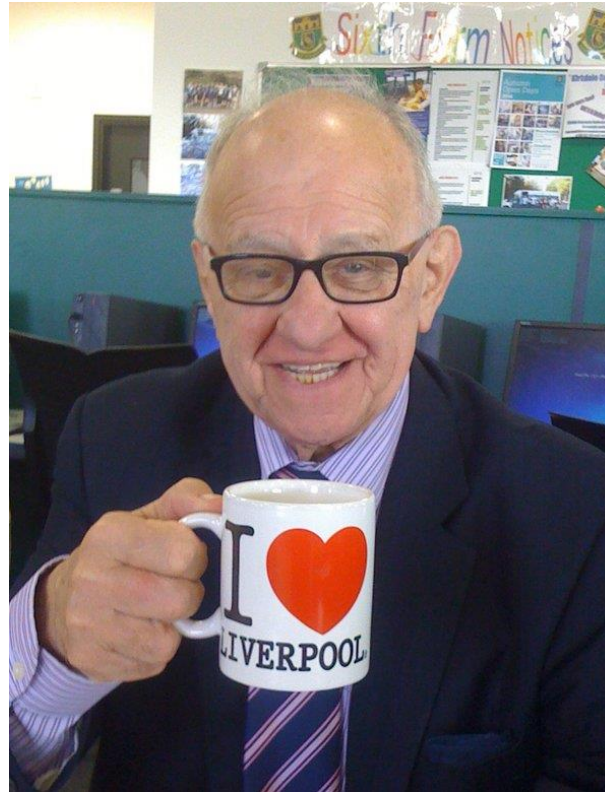


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