



Anne Frank

Anne Frank was a Jewish girl living in Amsterdam in Holland. On 12th June 1942 her parents gave her a small red and white tartan diary for her 13th birthday. She named her diary 'Kitty'.

On July 6th 1942, Anne and her family had to go into hiding, for fear that they might be sent to a concentration camp by the Germans. For over 2 years, Anne wrote about her life and those of seven other people in hiding with her, including her parents and her sister. She also wrote about the war, and what her hopes were for the future.

On the 4th of August, 1944, somebody told the Germans where Anne and her family were hiding. The secret annexe where she hid was raided, and Anne and her family were caught. Anne's diary was left behind. Anne was sent to a concentration camp called Bergen Belsen, where she died.

Anne's father, Otto Frank, who had been imprisoned in a different concentration camp called Auschwitz, survived the war. After the war ended, he returned to Amsterdam, where he found Anne's diary. He decided to publish Anne's diary, in order to honour his daughter's wish to be a writer.

Extracts:

'Our little room looked very bare at first with nothing on the walls; but thanks to daddy who had brought my film star collection and picture postcards on beforehand, and with the aid of a paste-pot and brush, I have transformed the wall into one gigantic picture. This makes it look much more cheerful.'

'I've only dismal and depressing news for you today. Our many Jewish friends are being taken away by the dozen. These people are treated by the Gestapo without a shred of decency, being loaded into cattle trucks and sent to Westerbreek, the big Jewish camp in Drente.'

'Twice they rattled at the bookcase, then there was nothing, the footsteps withdrew, we were saved so far. A shiver seemed to pass from one to another, I heard someone's teeth chattering, no-one said a word.'

Questions:

1. What religion was Anne Frank?

2. Where was Anne from?

3. What present was she given for her 13th Birthday?

4. Why did Anne and her family go into hiding on the 6th July 1942?

5. Anne was caught in 1944, where was she sent?

6. Who found and published Anne's book so we could read her story today?
Why did they decide to publish the story?

7. Name three things Anne did to her wall that made the room look cheerful.

8. Find and copy the words that describe Anne's friends being treated like animals.

9. How did Anne and her family feel when they heard the footsteps going away? How do you know this?
