

David Herman by Julia Burton

David Herman was born in the town of Munkacs in Czechoslovakia in 1926. He was brought up in a big family in the heart of a large Jewish community. When the Nazis took control of the region, he and his family were forced first into the Munkacs ghetto and then deported to Auschwitz when David was just 16. Separated from his family, David endured the horrors of 5 concentration camps. Forced to work as a slave labourer, seriously ill and under nourished, he miraculously survived the death march and was liberated from Thereisenstadt in May 1945.

Julia Burton is David Herman's daughter. She tells the story of his life and how he and his family were affected by the Holocaust. With the help of a slide show, Julia explains what happened before, during and after the war; how David lost his parents and the majority of his family and eventually went on to build a new life in the UK with a group of orphan camp survivors known as 'The Boys'.

Since 2011, Julia has been using her father's story to educate teenagers and young adults and highlight the dangers of prejudice and anti-semitism. She has spoken at events across the UK to explain the story of "The Boys" and their work as part of the '45 Aid Society (www.45aid.org).

In 2015 Julia created the Memory Quilts – together with the '45 Aid Society - to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Liberation and to celebrate the lives and achievements of The Boys.

Julia studied Languages and Textile Design and now works as an artist and art teacher. She is married and lives in London with her husband and 3 daughters.