

Disclaimer

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Statue of Unsung WWII Hero Unveiled

A statue of Trevor Chadwick, an unsung hero of the Second World War, has been **unveiled** in his hometown.

Trevor Chadwick, along with a group of six others, rescued 669 Jewish children from Czechoslovakia before WWII broke out.

The group's heroic efforts went **unacknowledged** for many years. This is until the wife of Sir Nicholas Winton found a scrapbook of his from the time. Sir Nicholas had been one of the six that worked with Trevor. Once



Illustration: The statue of Trevor Chadwick.

children escape. This put him at great personal risk.

It was also Trevor who had the responsibility of deciding who was to be saved. He then had to organise their travel and the paperwork that each child required to enter Britain.

The Trevor Chadwick Memorial Trust say that they want to 'ensure that Trevor Chadwick is never forgotten' and that 'his achievement is permanently displayed in a public place in his home town of Swanage.'

The life-size, bronze statue is of Chadwick holding the hand of a young child while holding a toddler in his arms.

Trevor's grandchildren and Sir Nicholas Winton's son were there to witness it being unveiled.

What was Kindertransport?

- In German, 'kinder' means children. 'Kindertransport' was the name given to the rescue effort to remove children from danger after the Nazis invaded countries across Europe.
- Between November 1938 and September 1939, 10,000 children aged between 5 and 17 were rescued.

Sir Nicholas' wife found out what he had done, she shared his story on television.

Sadly, the others had died long before then and were never publicly acknowledged for their efforts.

In 2003, Sir Nicholas was awarded a knighthood for his role in the Kindertransports. He had been responsible for organising the efforts in Britain, finding families willing to take in a child and who were also willing to pay £50 to sponsor them.

He too has a statue **commemorating** his heroic efforts.

Sir Nicholas Winton claimed that it was Trevor Chadwick who was the "real hero".

Trevor remained in Czechoslovakia and dealt with members of the **Gestapo** in order to help the

Glossary

unveiled	To take a cover off a statue or painting to reveal it.
unacknowledged	To not be recognised or praised for your actions.
commemorating	Reminding people of an important person or event from history.
Gestapo	Nazi Germany secret police.

Questions

1. Look at the paragraph beginning: **Trevor remained in Czechoslovakia...** Find and copy a synonym for 'aid'.
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2. Give the meaning of the phrase 'unsung hero' as it is used in this sentence: **A statue of Trevor Chadwick, an unsung hero of the Second World War, has been unveiled in his hometown.**

3. Which of the following facts are **not** mentioned in the article? (**tick two**)

Trevor Chadwick was a school teacher.

The statue is made of bronze.

The statue weighs 800lbs.

British families willing to sponsor a refugee had to pay £50.

4. How many children in total escaped as part of the Kindertransport mission?
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5. Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in. One has been done for you.

Sir Nicholas Winton was awarded a knighthood.

1 Trevor Chadwick helped 669 children escape Czechoslovakia.

A statue of Trevor Chadwick has been unveiled.

Sir Nicholas Winton's wife found his scrapbook.

6. Summarise the key information in the article using 15 words or fewer.
been added as an example.
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