

Sir Nicholas Winton and the Kindertransport

Sir Nicholas Winton was a remarkable British humanitarian who organised a rescue operation that saved 669 children, most of them Jewish, from Czechoslovakia on the eve of World War II. In 1938, while working as a stockbroker, Winton visited a friend in Prague and was moved by the plight of children in refugee camps. Disturbed by the looming threat of Nazi invasion, Winton created a rescue operation from scratch. He raised funds, organised transport, and persuaded British officials to accept the children. He worked tirelessly from his hotel in Prague, arranging for trains to carry the children to London and finding foster homes for them once they arrived.

Winton's efforts went largely unrecognised until 1988 when his wife found a detailed scrapbook in their attic containing lists of the children and letters from their parents. This discovery led to greater public recognition of his work, including a knighthood. Winton's story is a powerful testament to the impact one individual can have on the lives of many and highlights the themes of courage, selflessness, and the importance of taking action in the face of injustice.

1. Who was Sir Nicholas Winton?

2. What prompted Nicholas Winton to start his rescue mission?

3. How many children did Nicholas Winton save?

4. How did the public come to recognise Nicholas Winton's efforts?

5. What are some of the key themes reflected in Nicholas Winton's humanitarian efforts?

Uses comprehension strategies to expand content knowledge.

