

Janine Webber - A Holocaust Survivor came to speak at Kendrick on Monday April 11<sup>th</sup>





Lvov ghetto in 1942



Janine was born in Lwów, Poland in 1932. Persecution of Jews in Lwów started very quickly after its German occupation in 1941. Janine and her family were forced to move to an area on the outside of town in preparation for the establishment of a ghetto. On hearing that there would be a Nazi raid one day, Janine, her mother, and her brother hid in a hole that had been dug under the wardrobe. The Nazis discovered the other members of her family and her father was shot and he and her brother were deported to a concentration camp.

Janine was moved to the ghetto and her uncle was able to find her a non-Jewish family outside of the ghetto who were prepared to hide her. She then went to live with another family with her brother but one day the Polish daughter of the family brought home an SS officer so she was forced to flee. Her brother was killed by the SS officer. She managed to find work as a shepherdess where she remained until the family she was living with learnt of her Jewish identity.

Janine's aunt had given her the name and address of a Polish man, Edek who was the caretaker of a convent in Lwów and she went to him and hid in the attic of a building where she was reunited with her aunt, uncle and 12 other Jews in hiding. Janine's aunt managed to obtain fake papers for her and she was taken to a convent.

Six months after the end of the war, Janine's aunt returned for her. Together, they left for Paris. In 1956, Janine came to England to improve her English where she met and married her husband. Today, Janine still lives in London and regularly shares her testimony with schoolchildren.

