

Anne Frank

Here are some facts about Anne Frank, the famous young Jewish diarist who was tragically killed during the Holocaust.

Anne was born on 12th June 1929 in Frankfurt, Germany.

Her father was called Otto and her mother was called Edith. She had an older sister called Margot.

Anne's family was "liberal Jews". They didn't live in a Jewish-only community and they didn't strictly follow all of the Jewish customs.

Following the elections in Germany of 1933, which were won by the Nazi Party led by Adolf Hitler, the Franks moved to Amsterdam in order to escape the anti-Semitic (anti-Jewish) feelings that were being promoted by the Nazis.

In Amsterdam, Anne started to develop a love of reading and writing.

In May 1940, the Netherlands was invaded by Germany. Local laws made to discriminate against the Jewish population. Anne and her sister had to leave the school they were attending and transfer to a Jewish-only school. Anne's father, Otto, had to transfer his shares in the companies he owned to Johannes Koleman (a non-Jewish Dutch citizen), to avoid having his businesses confiscated.

Anne celebrated her 13th birthday on 12th June 1942. One of her presents was a red and white autograph book. Anne decided to use it as a diary and she started to write in it straight away. Many of her early entries are focused on the everyday things that happened in her life, but she does discuss how the German occupation of the Netherlands had a severe impact on her.

