



# Franc Rozic

**Volunteer researcher: Dale Snow (Franc's daughter)**

## **Note to readers:**

Our research files have been compiled by a committed and diligent team of volunteer researchers.

Please be aware that while our volunteers have received training in basic research skills, they are not professional historians.

We welcome further use of our research-files (with due credit). However, we encourage you to perform your own fact-checking / research processes before relying on any of the information contained here.

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My father Franc Rozic was born on 30th July 1928 in the village of Otovec, Slovenia, Yugoslavia. He had brothers and sisters older and younger. His mother died in childbirth. He didn't go to school very much as he had to work in the vineyards and in the fields. One afternoon in 1948 he was in the curing shed where a ham was hanging and he cut a slice of ham off and his father caught him and basically kicked him out and never went home again.



He was sixteen and left with the clothes he stood up in and must have wondered what to do but eventually he walked to Italy which is 52 miles where the navy helped him to get to Plymouth, England. He went to Chaddlewood which was a camp for displaced persons. While he was there he was cooking for other displaced persons. He stayed for a while and then moved. He left Plymouth and went to another camp for displaced persons in Cruwys Morchard, near Tiverton. When he was there he would go and work for local farmers. After he had been to Cruwys Morchard camp he went to another camp for displaced persons which was on the outskirts of Tiverton called Bolham. At both of these camps he worked on local farms. After he stopped working on these camps he kept in contact with those families. My dad also lodged with a couple of families in Tiverton.

When dad got married to my mum in 23rd July 1960 he was working in Heathcoat factory.



## **Franc Rozic picture archive**

**Compiled by Community Heritage Coordinator Lizzie Mee**

Dale Snow approached Community Heritage Co-ordinator Lizzie Mee after the photo below was posted on Facebook. This is a picture of her mother and father getting married – one she hadn't seen before.

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## Yugoslav married



Mr. Frank Rosic, of Yugo-  
slavia, and Miss Fay Gard, of  
Hillside, Drayford, Crediton,  
were married at Worlington  
Methodist Church on Saturday

Dale then came into the museum to share a family archive stretching back 70 years and documenting her father's journey from Slovenia to Tiverton.

This photo shows "Frank Rosic" (an anglicised version of Franc's name, Franc Rozic) as a very young man. Franc was thrown out of home in 1948 after 'stealing' ham from the home

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larder – he was a teenager. In his young life Franc would have already experienced the brutality of both a Civil War and a World War. He walked to Italy from his home and found his way into the British Royal Navy. This photo would have been taken around that time (we think).



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We know that Franc joined the Navy as Dale still has his discharge papers. These are dated

CONTROL FORM D.2  
Kontrollblatt D.2

CERTIFICATE OF DISCHARGE  
Entlassungsschein

ALL ENTRIES WILL BE MADE IN BLOCK LATIN CAPITALS AND WILL BE MADE IN INK OR TYPE SCRIPT.

PERSONAL PARTICULARS  
Personalbeschreibung

Dieses Blatt muss in folgender Weise ausgefüllt werden:  
1. In lateinischer Druckschrift und in grossen Buchstaben  
2. Mit Tinte oder mit Schreibmaschine.

SURNAME OF HOLDER: FRANZ  
CHRISTIAN NAMES: ROZIC  
CIVIL OCCUPATION: Organisationsleiter  
HOME ADDRESS: No home address  
DATE OF BIRTH: 30-7-20  
PLACE OF BIRTH: Ustje pri Goraschem  
FAMILY STATUS: SINGLE  
NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO ARE MINORS: 0

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF THE PARTICULARS GIVEN ABOVE ARE TRUE AND THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE INSTRUCTIONS TO PERSONNEL ON DISCHARGE (CONTROL FORM D.1).

SIGNATURE OF HOLDER: [Signature]

III MEDICAL CERTIFICATE  
Ärztlicher Befund

DISTINGUISHING MARKS: [Blank]  
DISABILITY, WITH DESCRIPTION: [Blank]  
I BELIEVE THE ABOVE MARKS RELATING TO THE HOLDER ARE TRUE AND THAT HE IS NOT VERRINOUS OR SUFFERING FROM ANY INFECTIOUS OR CONTAGIOUS DISEASE.

SIGNATURE OF MEDICAL OFFICER: [Signature]  
NAME AND RANK OF MEDICAL OFFICER: [Blank]

DELETED THAT WHICH IS INAPPLICABLE

1949.

III PARTICULARS OF DISCHARGE  
Entlassungsvermerk

THE PERSON TO WHOM THE ABOVE PARTICULARS REFER WAS DISCHARGED ON (Date) 1949 FROM THE NAVY

CERTIFIED BY: H.G. Ayre  
NAME, RANK AND APPOINTMENT OF ALLIED DISCHARGING OFFICER: H.G. Ayre, Pst. District Officer

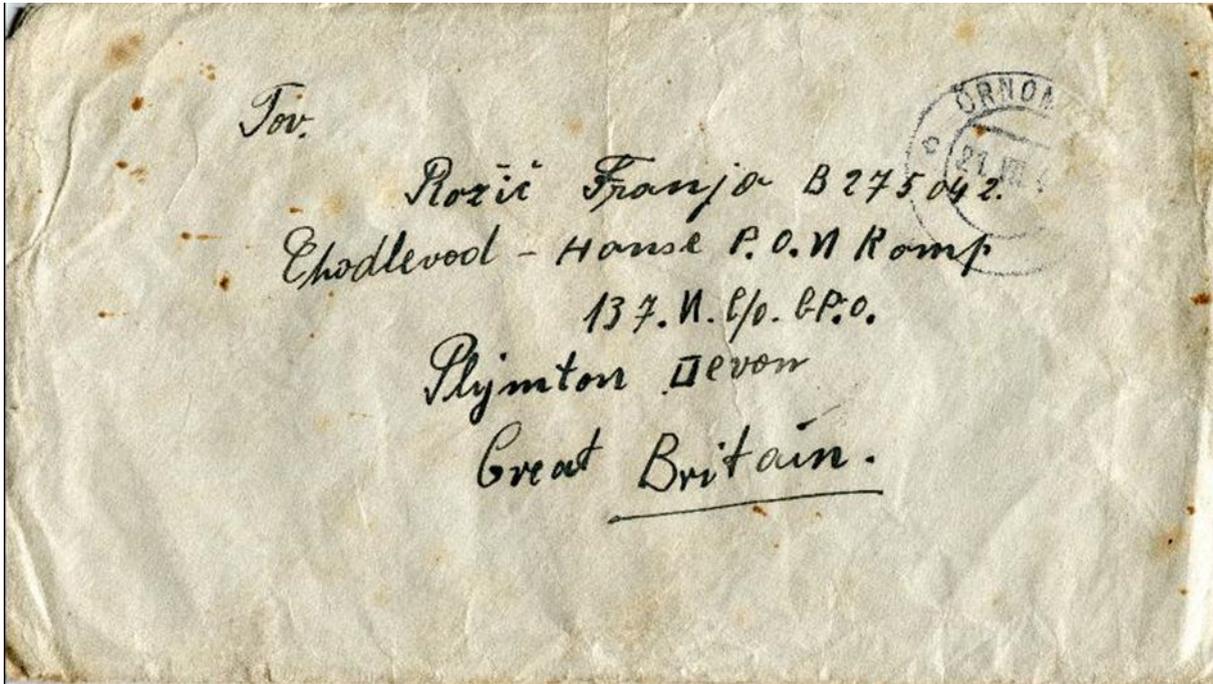
OFFICIAL EMBOSSED SEAL

DISCHARGE No. 2

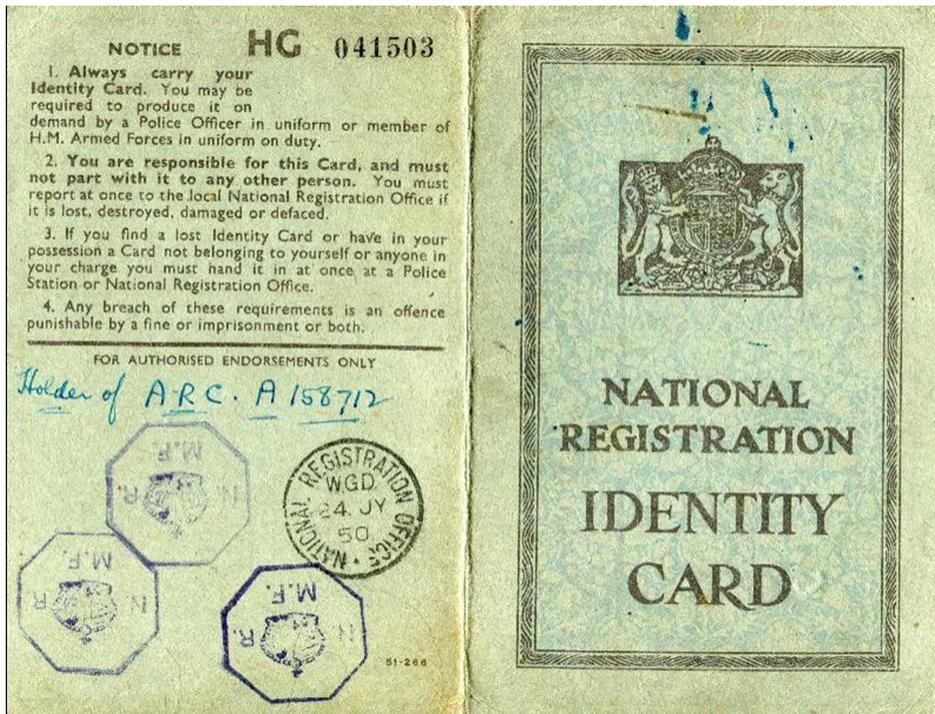
INSERT "ARMY", "NAVY", "AIR FORCE", "COMMONWEALTH" OR "RAAF" AFTER ORGANIZATION, e.g. "R.A.F.", "N.S.F.", etc.  
Wehrmachtteil oder Gliederung, der sie einst angehört, z.B. "Heer", "Kriegsmarine", "Luftwaffe", "Volkssturm", "Waffen SS", "R.A.D.", "N.S.F.K." usw.

Franc was discharged in Plymouth and was taken to a displaced persons camp that can be called 'Chaddlewood'. We know this because of the envelope below. Franc didn't speak about the camps to his family. Nor did he talk about his home in Slovenia (until much later).

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Finding our roots



Franc then went to a camp in Cruwys Morchard and finally Bolham Rd. He would have been moved according to the work that was available at the time. He would have been required to have an Identity Card (see below).





Franc settled into life at the Bolham Rd camp. He met several other 'Yugoslavs' at the camp including a man called 'Rapo' who was friendly with many of the other eastern Europeans.



Dale remembers the group spending quite a bit of time together and going to the pub, or spending time at other people's houses. Like many he worked at Heathcoat Factory (at first). Sadly he was fired (for smoking on the premises) but he found other work quickly.

This is a picture of the group of friends going on a day trip together.

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Franc married Fay and then started a family. He built his life in Tiverton. He played darts and enjoyed his car.

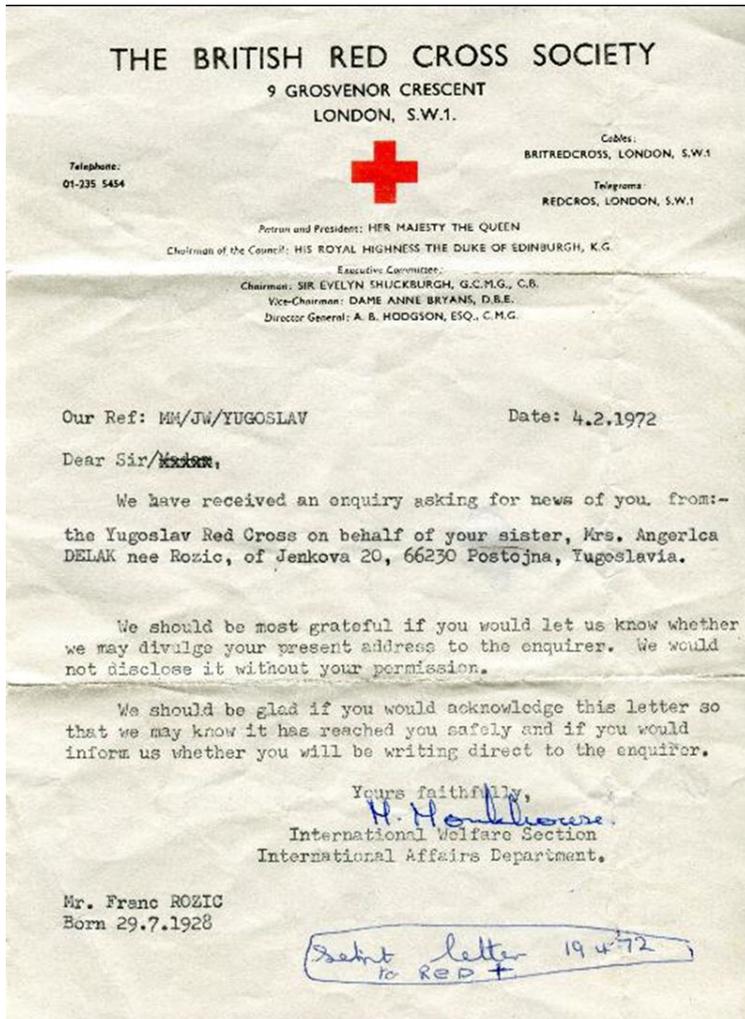
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Dale was born. He had no contact with his family in Slovenia.



In 1972 this changed as Franc and his family received a letter from the Red Cross. Franc's sister in Slovenia had been searching for Franc and the Red Cross had found him.

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This is a picture of Franc's sister.



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A photo of Dale and Franc at home in Tiverton:



Dale remembers her father being happy that his sister had got in touch. She also remembers it as a strange experience for her. This was the first time that she had been told that her father was from another country.

Prior to visiting his family, Franc registered his presence in England with a Certificate of Naturalisation. This was a way of formally declaring your residency.

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Certificate No. **ABN 010719**



**BRITISH NATIONALITY ACT 1948 SECTION 10**  
**CERTIFICATE OF NATURALISATION**

**Whereas** **Franc Rozic**

has applied to one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for a certificate of naturalisation, alleging with respect to him self the particulars set out below, and has satisfied the Secretary of State that the conditions laid down in the British Nationality Act 1948 for the grant of a certificate of naturalisation are fulfilled:

Now, therefore, the Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by the said Act of 1948, grants to the above named this certificate of naturalisation, and declares that upon taking the oath of allegiance within the time and in the manner required by the regulations made in that behalf he shall be a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies as from the date of this certificate.

In witness whereof I have hereto subscribed my name this *12<sup>th</sup>* day of *March*, 19*43*.

HOME OFFICE,  
LONDON

*T. Fitzgibbon*  
ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

**PARTICULARS RELATING TO APPLICANT**

Full Name	Franc ROZIC.
Address	13 Blackmore Road, Tiverton, Devonshire.
Place and date of birth	Otovec, Yugoslavia. 30th July 1928.
Nationality	Yugoslav.
Single, married, etc.	Married.

Home Office Reference No. R. 151798

(For Oath  
see overleaf.)

This document is Franc's Certificate of Naturalisation which he got before visiting his sister.

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The family went all together and Dale met her Dad's family for the first time. It was an emotional but generally positive trip. For more information listen to Dale's oral history or read the transcription.

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Finding our roots

### Oath of Allegiance

\*Insert  
Full Name I,\*

Franc Rozic

swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, Her Heirs and Successors, according to law.

(Signature)

*F. Rozic*

Sworn and subscribed this 15th day of MARCH 1973, before me,

(Signature)

*B. Hoyer*

State whether Justice of the Peace, Commissioner for Oaths, Notary Public or other authorised person. Justice of the Peace (Devon).

Name and Address of person before whom the oath is taken (In Block Capitals)

B. R. HOYER 106 COTTEYLANDS  
TIVERTON DEVON.

Unless otherwise indicated hereon, if the oath of allegiance is not taken within one calendar month of the date of this certificate, the certificate is of no effect.



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Franc was welcomed into Fay's family and Dale remembers a very happy home. This picture shows Fay's mother with the family.

