



## **Jenni Michelson**

### **Volunteer Workshop Leader**

I was born in Melbourne to Jewish German refugee parents who were both born and brought up in Germany. Both sides of my family can trace their ancestry in Germany back for 450 years.

They were proud of their lives and family in Germany. When Hitler began to make laws preventing Jews from working and studying in Germany, both my parents had to abandon their jobs, families, relatives and friends, to start a new life in a new country, where Jewish people could live without fear.

They came separately to Australia in 1938 and early 1939. I have a postcard from my grandmother to my Mum sent from Auschwitz. She died in Auschwitz three days before liberation, aged 42. Most of my family were killed by the Nazis.

I became a teacher of English to Adult Migrants. I have always been involved in projects, volunteering to share and help wherever there was a need. My daughter is studying at University of NSW and she wants to work in a country where she can help to improve the quality of people's lives.

Participating in Courage to Care, I enjoy working with a team of idealists with whom I can share my passion to spread kindness and awareness and nourish tolerance and appreciation of differences.