**Renia Simmonds**

Hello, my name is Renia and I've lived in Hove since 1961.

I was sitting at home with my friends watching, well we all were, mum, dad and me and my friend, watching the Eurovision Song Contest as we always did, and still do. And at the end of it all, I said to Dad, 'can we go down? Can you take us down to, I want to get their autographs' 'Of course dear!'

He drove us down but in those days, you could just park up the road. I got all their autographs, Olivia Newton John was crying her eyes out. I can't remember... second did she come? She didn't win, but she was the British entry. Very, very pretty - more so in real life, but very, very upset.

But of course they weren't famous. They weren't known, ABBA, they were brand new, just appeared out of nowhere. Although they'd been famous in Sweden for quite some time. And the girls had these quite tight satin, like knickerbockers, and they sort of stopped at the boot. And they were bright blue.

One was blue, one was white. Yeah. That to a 70, early 70s... I wasn't a teenager, I was 22, they were strange outfits. I mean, we've all been through the hippy days of the 60s, but this wasn't like 70s outfits and it wasn't like a hippie 60s outfits. This was attention seeking outfits.

I felt they were going to be big. They've got my attention.