

The True Story ...



Baby elephant 'Sheila' in Denise Weston Austin's (known as the 'elephant angel') north Belfast backyard in 1941.





Sheila with Jack Austin, the father of her keeper Denise, and the Austins' neighbour in Belfast, John Montgomery, in the road near their home.



Sheila in the yard with Denise and Beatrice Austin.

ANIMALS SHOT

The Northern Ministry of Public Security decided, as a precautionary measure, that all dangerous animals at the Belfast Zoo should be destroyed, and the order was carried out on Saturday morning.

The raid has forged a bond of union

Extract from Irish News Monday April 21st 1941.