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- \* Details: from Dorris (Doris) Braithwaite to Annette Kuhn
- \* Notes: This transcription has rendered the original text as written, including all spelling and grammatical errors. Part of continued communication with Dorris Braithwaite, who also took part in two interviews.

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May 7<sup>th</sup> 2001

MRS D BRAITHWAITE  
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
WESTHOUGHTON  
BOLTON  
LANCS  
BL5 [redacted]

Dear Annette,

Just found a letter from you on doing some sorting out. In it you said to keep in touch and as I also discovered an envelope addressed to you; decided to write a few lines to see how you are doing; and what project you may be on now?

Vee and I often talk about the lunch we had in Bolton at the French! café. She still goes into fits of laughter at me trying to eat mussels with a knife and fork! I've not had any since.

Well, time passes and we are not doing so much writing, and our health is not so good. I shall be 80 yrs old next birthday and Val seventy six!! We are old codgers, but can scarcely believe it as our minds are still active.

Vee has had poems in My Weekly and pieces in the Evening News over various subjects. I too have had poems in My Weekly and also an article on Nelson Eddy for which I received £50!! Also many letters asking for my book, so I am having a reprint.

I am attending the N.E.A.S. [Nelson Eddy Appreciation Society] Meeting at Blackpool on Saturday, as it would have been Nelson's hundredth birthday in June.

We think that now is the time to finish the club. It's nice to receive the magazines every three months and to meet when we can and talk of the old days. So us oldies, we had the best years. Life wasn't so hectic, people were kinder, we had the countryside to wander in and the fields and woods were safer. Children miss such a lot today. They are not free to enjoy the simple things. I took my youngest grandson for a walk to a small pond near me. We saw swans with their young and men & boys fishing. We climbed the hill and he was able to run around and explore. We talked to people. Coming back we collected blackberries to make a pie. When we reached home, he said "Grandma, this is the best day of my life!! I was so happy to see his smiling face and know he'd enjoyed it more than playing on his Play Station.

Well, it's a beautiful May morning and takes me back to first meeting my husband, one lovely day in May.

I wish you all the best, and especially happiness in the simple things of life.

Vee will join me in this.

Yours very sincerely

Dorris Braithwaite