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* 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.

[redacted] [redacted] Westhoughton Bolton BL5 [redacted]

A member of the Nelson Eddy Appreciation

Society & Patron

<u>June 15th 2001</u>

Dear Annette,

It was really nice to hear from you, and to know you are still trying to get

your book finished. You mention the title, well, I hope you won't take this amiss, but both Vee and I think it shouldn't be just two people as you said – Fred & Ginger, – as it could easily be Nelson & Jeanette! We thought if it its (sic) not too presumptuous "The Golden Age" or "The Golden Age of Films".

The Golden Age of Cinema! It wasn't only one couple. There were so many, Hepburn & Tracy, Myrna Loy & William Powell, Bogart & Bergman.

How strange you should be revisiting 'Maytime' when you received my letter. I'm not very interested at what is on internet. A lot of it is not true, and should never have been put on.

Our club is the authentic one, and as far as I know will go on for much longer.

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I've had my book reprinted and I put a letter in "People's Friend", I've received over eighty letters from men as well as women, all asking for news of Nelson, each one feeling they were the only one wanting to hear more about him. Wishing they had known about the Society years ago. I've been busy writing letters giving our President's address. So many wish to join. All wanting videos of films and I've sold half my books already. Letters are from mostly down south, Yorkshire, Scotland, a couple from Ireland. Also Australia, Canada, America. One lady is coming over and wants to visit me to see all my memorabilia!

It just goes on. One man was so please at all I was able to tell him, he sent me a snapshot of Nelson shaking hands with a wounded serviceman in hospital when he went abroad to sing to the troops. I was thrilled as you can imagine.

The meeting went off fine, I met friends, one lady from Belgium, she always goes. I met a man named Mr Eddy! He was from Bristol and is doing research to see if he is any relation! People kept coming up to me, making themselves known. I only knew them through writing to them. Vee and I will be delighted to meet you again whenever you come to Bolton.

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The French café has closed, so we will have to look around. We don't have lunch out very often now. I'm not enjoying very good health. I suppose it's to be expected as I shall be 80 yrs old next year!! It's quite unbelievable as I feel no older than 30!!!

Vee, too is having a few problems. When you turn seventy it's all down hill! I told the doctor I wasn't having it. I'm thrilled at the moment as my youngest grandson Richard who is fifteen has a chance of going to Edinburgh University. Apparently he's the only boy in school who is going in for journalism, and his headmaster has told him about this opportunity. My son David & his wife have been in touch with the university to see what it implies. Apparently they have no boys going in for this subject, only girls. So he stands a good chance. It would be a dream realised if he could follow in my footsteps but I never had chance of a higher education, we had to leave school at 14 yrs and get a job. I was lucky I got into a photographers and learnt all about it. My son is an excellent photographer, and Mark my eldest grandson does it for a living! All my learning was from books.

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