

# Dorris pens tribute to No. 1 idol

Biography  
celebrates  
life of star pal

By **EILEEN SMITH**

A DEVOTED fan of Nelson Eddy has just finished writing a book on the late American singer and film star of the 40s and 50s.

Dorris Braithwaite, of Daisy Hill, Westhoughton, has been a life-long admirer of the star who is perhaps better known for his singing partnership with Jeanette McDonald.

Dorris has been working on her book "The Golden Voice of Nelson Eddy" for three years and is now trying to get it published.

A member of the Nelson Eddy Appreciation Society, Dorris, 73, corresponded with the star for many years and he even sent her food parcels during the war.

"I was only about 13 when I saw him in a film and wrote to him at the studios asking for his autograph," said Dorris, who lives at Daisy Hill.

### Thrilled

"He answered my letter and each time I wrote to him he used to write back telling me about his films and what he was going to be doing next and answered any queries I had.

"He thought that if people were good enough to write to him then the least he could do was to reply," said Dorris.

Over the years she received quite a few letters and Christmas cards right up until the late 1950s.

"He also sent me parcels of tea and sugar during the war.

"I was thrilled to bits because tea and sugar were rather scarce at the time."

Dorris lost touch with him when he started performing in night clubs which led to appearances in Australia. "I last wrote to him in 1962 and he died in 1967".

Dorris has become friends with fans all over the world who have been clamouring to know when the book is going to be published.

"I have had several letters from publishers but so far no-one is prepared to take the risk," says Dorris.

She started writing about 12 years ago after the death of her husband and found it

● When I'm calling you . . . Dorris with her book and some of her correspondence with the star. (Ref: C2972/11)

helped to get the grief out of her system.

She joined a writer's club and has had two books published locally. Dorris and her friend Vee Entwistle recently had some of their poems including in a book by another Westhoughton writer Tom Shaw. The two women also give poetry readings and recite short stories to local pensioners' clubs.



● Nelson Eddy . . . sent food parcels to Dorris during the war