

London life was not only work and finding new jobs since my return from my internment in Canada. I have already given a report about my Fire Service activities during the War for which I was awarded the Civil Defence Medal by the British Government after the end of the War. Equally important for me was the involvement with Scientific Films, but about these below. [Title 38]

Here I want to tell how by chance I met new friends and how they remained life-long dear to me. Sue Donahue was a very close friend to me for the rest of her short life and through her I met Frankie Reidy. Her father, like Sue's, was an eminent Harley Street specialist, living at 148 Harley Street. Frankie was an outstanding beauty and later married Michael Powell, the famous film Director of *49th Parallel*, *The Red Shoes* and *Colonel Blimp*. When I told Frankie that I was going to Sheffield to finish my Ph D, she told me "You must call on Bridget Jackson at Claycross, she is a lovely woman".

This was in the summer of 1939, just before the outbreak of the war, and having written to Bridget she phoned me and told me to come over to Claycross from Sheffield by train on a Sunday Morning. At the station there she was, a formidable lady, even then, and in full ATS (Auxiliary Territorial Service) uniform. I had never seen a lady in uniform before, a uniform I should become very familiar with later, as my wife also served in the Army before we married.

Bridget was an action lady. She had come to meet me in a small van and told me that she had to collect a number of uniforms and that I was to help her. We drove round, I loaded ATS uniforms into the van, unloaded them again at other places and finally we drove to her home for lunch. Claycross Hall was a very large home indeed, overlooking numerous factories. I soon learnt that these were coal mines and steel works belonging to her family. As a chemistry student of Sheffield University her father could easily understand who and what I was, and her parents and brothers made me very welcome.

Later on, these Sunday luncheons at Claycross Hall were the one and only real pleasure while I was in Sheffield finishing my Ph D research at the University. At the outbreak of the War Bridget was mobilised, rose quickly to the rank of Brigadier General and took up headquarters in Leeds, being in charge of all ATS women soldiers in the North of England, in fact she became O.C.N.C. (Officer in Charge, Northern Command). As such she had an Adjutant, Rosamond, later the Viscountess Hanworth, and this was the beginning of another more intimate, life-long, friendship with her and David, her husband.