

Eileen Aedy nee
Orton
English War Bride
Empire Brent
December 1946



My name is Eileen Aedy nee Orton and I came to Canada in December 1946 on the Empire Brent landing in Halifax. It was quite an eventful journey with several delays. Sailing from Liverpool, we no sooner left the dock than we collided with a cattle boat. The boat sank with the loss of some of the cattle. A large hole was torn in the bow of our ship, and we were towed back to dock and sent home for two weeks while the bow was repaired. It took ten days to sail from Liverpool to Halifax and another day to disembark and board the train. The second day in the train we were held up for eight hours outside of Rimouski owing to a derailment of a cattle train ahead of us! Brides were dropped off at various stations along the way and my destination was Toronto.

I have lived in various parts of southern Ontario and in Mississauga for the past 22 years. My husband's name is John and he is originally from Saskatchewan, although his family is mostly from Surrey, England. We have a son and daughter and three grandchildren. I grew up in Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey.