

Lilian Joan Hall
English War Bride
Letitia
April 26, 1946

CANADA'S IMMIGRATION MUSEUM
PIER 21



I recall arriving in London on April 25, 1946, at our assembly point; only to be told the crew of S.S. Letitia had gone on strike for a day - so home I go to my family for that 24 hours - only to face parting from my family a second time!! We had on board, two Matrons caring for our special needs. At this time the show "Arsenic and Old Lace" was running in London and so we nicknamed these two very efficient ladies after the show, one on night duty, the other on day duty. Our 5th day on board was "Easter Sunday" when my tummy received delicious cream cakes (the first in years). When I was sick that night, the Matron insisted "seasickness" while I insisted "too many cream cakes".

My husband met me right at "Pier 21" a fond farewell to four new made friends all travelling further across Canada and a promise we all would keep in touch every Christmas, which we have done from 1946 to 1997. (we 3 remaining - 2 passed away.) I arrived to our home in Lunenburg in 1946, my home ever since. My late husband and I have enjoyed many wonderful trips back to England, "You can take the 'gal' out of England but you can't take England out of the 'gal'".