

Pat Maguire nee
Braithewhite
English War Bride
Manchester Clipper
December 1945



Pat Maguire (born Pat Braithewhite) is a War Bride who entered Canada through the port of Saint John, New Brunswick in December of 1945. She was originally from England and sailed to Canada on the ship known as the Manchester Clipper.

Recollections

- 9 War Brides only on the Manchester Clipper, bringing back wounded troops in December 1945.
- There were American army nurses on board also – they asked Pat what she missed most during rationing. Pat said - bananas. The American nurses got off first and one of them brought back on board a bunch of bananas.
- On the 1st night Pat had settled to bed in her bunk and then a man came in and crawled in beside her! He was supposed to be on the top bunk!
- Pat took the train across Canada to Winnipeg where her husband met her.
- Silk Stockings: Stopped in Montreal overnight. Salvation Army people met them and gave Pat 1 pair of silk stockings - the lady said she had lined up at Eatons to get the first pair in Canada for these War Brides.
- In Montreal they were given a horse and buggy tour of the city.
- Pat remembers her father in law coming along when she was canning corn. She was taking one kernel of corn out of the cob at a time! He died laughing at her!
- In London Pat lived in a house with running water and electricity. In Canada, she came to a house without running water, electricity, or toilets!
- Pat remembers being at a movie 'North West Mounted Police!' Then they got out of the movie and ran for a tram - missed the tram and then

watched as the tram was bombed in front of their eyes. That same night her house was bombed and she didn't find out until later that her mother was OK.

- Peggy (Florence) Carter: Came on a Norwegian ship (Stavangs Fjord). This ship was filled with War Brides. Peggy never left her cabin because she was too sea sick.

- The Norwegian Crew hardly spoke any English.

- Peggy was very happy to disembark because the ground felt so good!

- At Peggy's first meal at the neighbours' she couldn't get over that there was no tablecloth on the table!

- Peggy and Pat remember becoming friends in Canada because they were in towns near each other in Manitoba, their husbands took the biscuits they baked out and played ball with them. Lemon pie was another hilarious story!