

Christine Mary Hanna née Failes

22 January 1928 – 12 November 2020

Memorial 15 August 2022

Narration by her son, Christopher "Chad" Hanna



1

Mother & Pop honeymooned in France in October 1926 after a quiet wedding in London

"Mabs" French
Correspondent
for Bank



"Fred" Farmer
Lieutenant in
WW1



2

Birth – 22nd January 1922

Her grandmother wrote to Christine's mother

Dearest Thabi Feb 3rd 22
 I'm so glad you and Wally & Lila
 are getting out so well good. You will
 soon be running about again at last
 Christine Mary So you think
 when does nurse
 let you get up. on Sunday perhaps

Henry Davidson Fry's 1907 book, *Maternity*: "She should not sit up in a chair until the top of the womb has descended into the pelvic cavity — from the tenth to the fourteenth day."

3



Baptised at Castle Rising Church

4



5



6

St Josephs Convent School, Kings Lynn

- Christine was at the Kings Lynn St Joseph's convent school from 1934-1939,
- And then at the Hunstanton Convent School for a two terms.
- *No photos yet*



7

Luton and WW2, 1940-1945

- Arrived April 1940, rented 105, Ashburnham Road near to the St Marie Convent School in Rothesay Road
- Christine's father had a job in the offices at Commer Cars
- He was also an Air Raid Warden with a bike.
- Christine played tennis (well) with Ruth in Wardown Park
- After leaving the convent, Christine went to Art school at Park Square, Luton.
- Towards the end of the war she reluctantly took a job as a hairdresser but had to give it up after 10 months because of dermatitis on her hands.



8



Commer cars, Luton in WW2

- Building the Commer Superpoise Q4 3-ton for the army
- Fred, now 55 was employed in the office.



9

Patrick John Hanna in WW2

- In July 1944, this photo was stamped by the police at Mildenhall in Suffolk.
- The assumption is that Pat was working at RAF Mildenhall, the headquarters of No. 3 Group Bomber Command.
- Probably also at RAF Lakenheath
- Living in Brook St., Luton Feb 1946



10



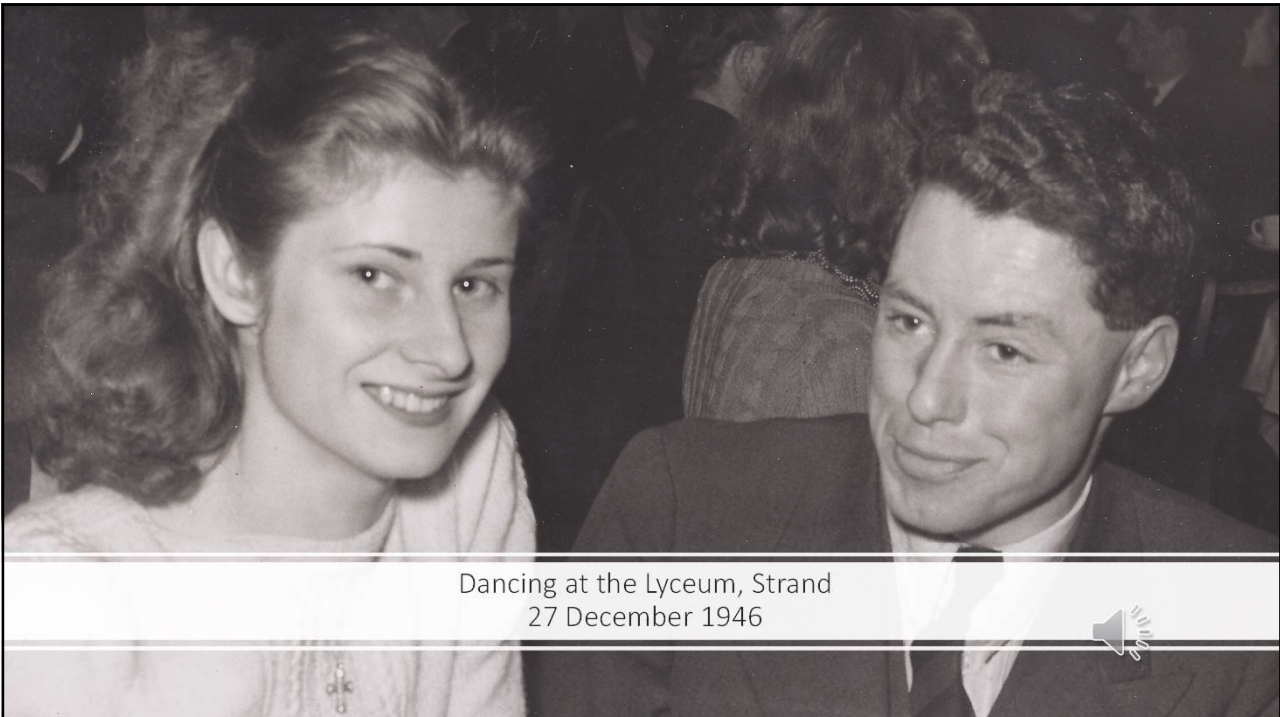
Pat with his twin brother Andy
Pat is the serious one ;-)

11

Art in South Kensington 1945-1950

- Christine went to lodge with a Mrs Jessie Hood, and Miss Kate Aylett at 144 Bedford Road, Clapham, London SW4
- She enjoyed working in an art studio in South Kensington making props for the theatre, including a plaster-casting, lot of work with paper mâché, and a head(!) for Michael Redgrave as Macbeth at the Aldwych Theatre in 1947, amongst many other items.
- Christine met her future husband, Patrick Hanna at ballroom dancing classes in Rothesay Road, Luton in 1945 while he was on a contract with George Wimpey at Vauxhall.
- On April 27th 1947, Pat left for 3 years on a contract in Kuwait

12



Dancing at the Lyceum, Strand
27 December 1946

13

144 Bedford Road, Clapham, London SW

**1949 Electoral Register
Bedford Road S.W.4**

190	Richardson, Caroline J.	146
191	Failes, Christine M.	144
192	Hood, Jessie	144
193	Pond, Edith M.	144
194	Pond, Bessie G.	144
195	Aylett, Kate	144
196	Dodkins, Eileen J.	144

Even numbers rebuilt



14

Courses taken by Patrick Hanna

- Dutton Speedwords (a form of shorthand)
- General Civil Engineering while at Gainsborough, Lincolnshire and Witchampton, Wimborne, Dorset (jan 44)
- Engineering Science while at East Ham in 1947



15

Pat in Kuwait

- After vaccination in March, Pat arrived in Ahmadi, Kuwait on 28th April 1947 ready to start work the next day as an Engineer with the Kuwait Oil Company for three years, subject to 3 months notice.
- The salary was £600 per annum with free accommodation and messing, and additional £96 per annum while in Kuwait.
- **“in the initial period the accommodation will be necessarily somewhat austere.”**
- Contract ended 29th April 1950 but repatriated on or about 1st March.



16



Return Home

- Pat arrived back in London via Rome in the afternoon of 5th March BOAC Argonaut to be met by Christine who wanted to put her side of the story.



17



Married at last, 27th July 1950

- Followed by a Honeymoon based in Killarney, Ireland – Pat obtained a driving permit especially.



18

Pat to Syria – to build another nest egg

- Contract started 28th August 1950 as Chief of Party
- Christmas 1950 trip from Homs, Syria to Jericho, Bethlehem and Jerusalem, including midnight mass at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

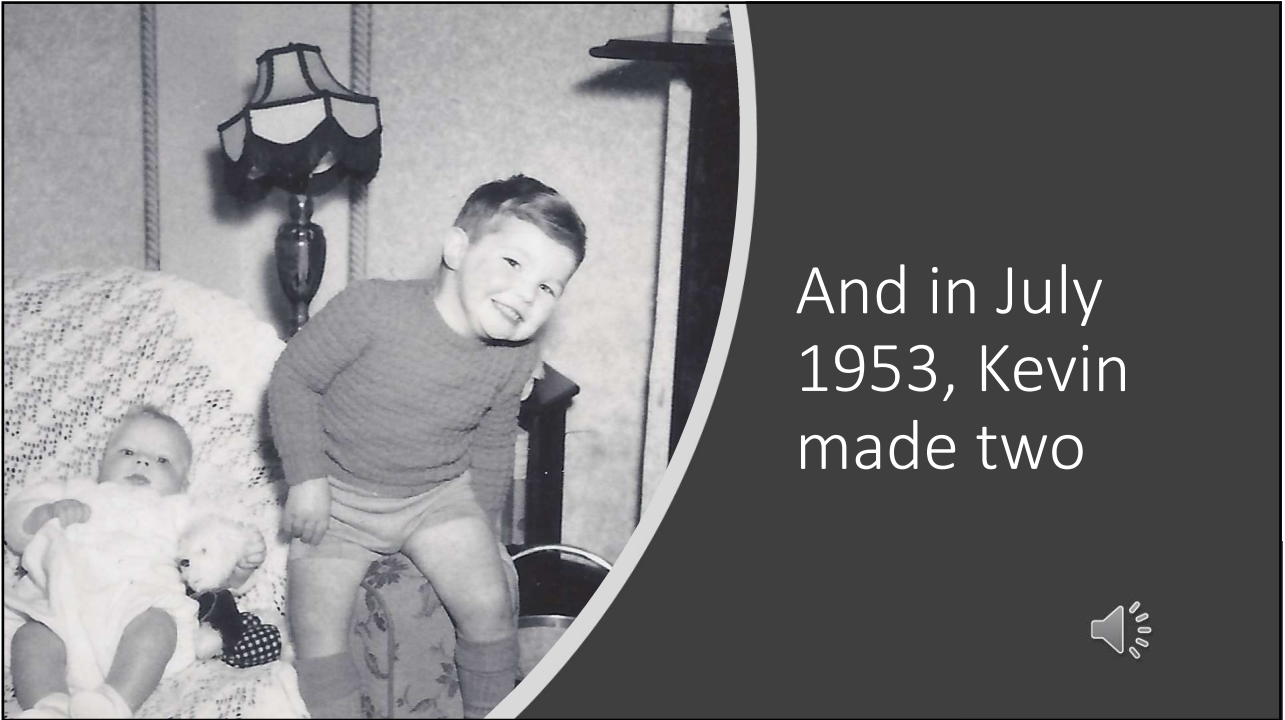


19

Pat's sister, Lilly and daughter, Philomena with Christine and Christopher in June 1951



20



21



22

Christine and three kids at the beach



23

And Teresa Christine arrived in 1961

More photos needed for 1960-1990



24

The early seventies was a troubled time.

Pat died March 1973
Buried at the Vale Cemetery, Luton



Mother and Pop died
Buried at Castle Rising, Norfolk



25



Eventually children married – Christopher in 1975

26



27



28



Kept in touch with Pat's nephews and nieces - 2009

29



One of many birthday gatherings – 82 this time

30



And grand-children married after hen parties, etcetera.

31



With great-grandson Alex Walker



32



Not feeling up
to much on
88th birthday!



33

Holiday in Madeira, July 2007

- Sliding down a mountain with Elaine



34

With her family for her 90th Birthday at her childhood home (now a hotel)



35



A kind, compassionate lady – we miss you.

36