

Our History Topic
The Life of
Lucy Braithwaite



A piece of original research into the life of Lucy Braithwaite, who died in Hull during World War Two.
By Y10/11, Ganton Special School

Lucy was born on a farm near Leconfield in the year 1900. That is 103 years ago.

She had no brothers or sisters. Her mother and father loved her very much.

Here is a photograph of Lucy's father.



Lucy's father was a potato merchant.

Lucy's mother was a very pretty woman. Here is a photograph of her.



This photograph was taken in 1897 at William Fussey photographers in Great Thorton Street, Hull. Not many people owned a good camera in those days, so they went to a studio to have a picture taken.

Here is a photograph of Lucy's parents after they were married. This one was taken at Pettingells, 20 Savile Street, Hull.



What a handsome couple! They would have been wearing their best clothes to have their picture taken.

Lucy's was close to her parents.
Here she is with her mother.



A photographer called Harry Abba took this, but his address has been lost from the corner of the old photograph.

Lucy is wearing a pinafore over her dress and she has a ribbon in her hair, like most of the little girls did then.

Here is Lucy in another portrait photograph. She is wearing a feather hat and she is carrying flowers and a purse.



Lucy was very happy and she was precious to her parents. They had photographs taken of her regularly.

When Lucy got a bit older her parents gave her a dog. Here she is with her dog. We do not know the dog's name. What name would you give to the dog?



Lucy grew into a young woman and fell in love with a young pilot. When they were in their early

twenties they got engaged to be married.

Lucy's fiancé was killed in an air training accident. Lucy was heart broken. She never recovered from losing him and she never married.

Lucy's family left their farm in Leconfield and moved to a large house in Freehold Street.

They had relatives in Hull and had always known the town well. They were happy in their new home. It had a large garden and they enjoyed growing beautiful flowers, fruit and vegetables.

During World War Two Lucy's family home in Freehold Street was

completely bombed. They lost lots of lovely furniture and paintings.

Lucy and her parents then moved to a house in Cranbrook Avenue, Hull. This house survived the bombing raids on Hull and it is still there today. We took this photo of it.



During the war Lucy helped the people of Hull by learning to drive an ambulance. The men who normally drove the ambulances had gone away to fight in the war. The women who were left behind did a lot of the men's jobs.

A bomb in Hull killed Lucy in 1942 whilst she was driving her ambulance. She was 42 years old. Here is a picture taken the week before she died.



Lucy's parents never got over her death, but they were very proud that she had died whilst serving her country and the people of Hull in such a brave way.

Lucy's mother lived well into her 80's and her father lived until he was 101. They visited Lucy's grave in Western Cemetery every week. We took a photo of Lucy's grave



There is an area of Western Cemetery that is dedicated to all the civilians of Hull who died in the war. We took a photo of the special memorial wall built in the Western Cemetery in honour the local people of Hull who died during the bombing raids on the town during the Second World War.



We have enjoyed researching the life of brave Lucy Braithwaite.

We have learnt that many local people died in Hull during World War Two.

Finding out about Lucy has made this real to us.

We would like to thank Mrs. Sue Thacker and Lucy's relatives for helping us with our research.

We feel proud of Lucy. She was very brave to risk driving an ambulance during a bombing raid. She died trying to help people by the bombs. She is a hero.

This book was written in February 2003 by Kayleigh Ball, Lee Hilton, Jodie Mann, Emma Murray, Lewis Richardson, Christopher Simpson, Sophie Spinks, and Aaron Stockdale. They were helped by Vivien Mariau, with special thanks to Sue Thacker. Here is a picture of us all.



