

In 2002, when Georgie was 59, she learned the startling news that she had an uncle who had died three weeks before she was born. Harold was shot down on an operation to bomb Berlin. No one in the family had ever talked about him, had photos or even hinted at his existence. The question of why not still haunts her. She says that he died a hero, giving up his life for his country at 24 years of age.

Georgie's father Morris was born in Mile End, London on 21 April 1908 to Raphael Bronsky, a tailor, and his wife Sarah Seigal. Later in life Morris changed his name to Robert Bronson. Morris's parents Raphael and Sarah were Polish Jews, fleeing the Russians, Georgie believes at the end of the 19th century. Her father Morris never spoke of his parents or early life as Georgie believes it was too difficult and painful for him as there was so much death to cope with in his life. Morris had two sisters Betty and Jean and a brother Mark.

When Morris was young his mother died, and his father remarried to Rachel Muscovitch when he was nine years old. They had a son named Harold who was born in 1920. Georgie only discovered this information later in her research.

When Georgie's Aunt Betty died, Betty's son Ray was going through a box of photographs in his late mother's house and found a photo of a young airman in uniform and vaguely remembered meeting him once as a child. Ray began to research him and passed the information onto Georgie to continue to research.

Georgie contacted the Air Historical Branch and obtained his service records. She discovered his date of birth and that his occupation was listed as a manager of a retail gown shop. She also discovered that he had a wife, Pearl Kraft whom he married in Wembley in March 1941. They had no children. Georgie tried to find further information about Pearl but drew a blank and decided that as she would have been 93, she assumed that she had died.

In 2013, the MOD issued the Bomber Command clasp and it was suggested to Georgie that as his nearest surviving relative she could apply for it, which she did. She remembers an incredible feeling of excitement when she received a letter dated 19 February 2014 saying: "Thank you for your application for the Bomber Command Clasp. I am writing to inform you that an application has previously been submitted by Mrs P Bronsky. The case was approved, and the clasp was dispatched on 24.8.2013." Georgie immediately phoned the office and was given an address for Pearl, a sheltered flat in Harrow. Georgie rang the care team to be advised that Pearl had a great niece named Lucie. Lucie rang Georgie back almost immediately and a friendship began which gave them all great pleasure.

Georgie visited Pearl, who had never remarried, and she was delighted to be able to talk of Harold. Pearl did not know why the families lost contact with her after Harold's death. Pearl lived with her sister Betty in Kenton after her sister's husband died, and then when Lucie's mother (Betty's daughter) died when she was very young, they both helped to bring her up. Pearl was the wage earner and Betty the home maker.

Pearl showed Georgie the photos that she had and the last letter that Harold wrote to her before he was killed. Pearl said that Harold had been writing to her every day he was away, but when the news came through that he was missing, her mother destroyed the letters. She believed it was the best way for Pearl to eventually be able to move forward. Pearl was married in the garden of her parent's home, 'because there was a war on.' Amongst Pearl's prized possessions were the scroll and a letter from King George. Pearl sadly died three weeks after her 100th Birthday, reunited with Harold.