

Royaumont News-Letter



JANUARY 1955

No. 18

Object of the Association : To maintain our war-time comradeship.

Subscription : Half a-crown per annum, payable 1st January, for the year.

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Vice-President : Lady Sanderson.

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Hon. Treasurer : Lady Hills, 37 Cottesmore Court, Kensington, London, W.8.

Hon. Editor : Miss C. F. N. Mackay, 15 Upper Cheyne Row, Chelsea, London, S.W.3.

Editorial

Can it be that at last our work at Royaumont in 1914-1918, is now old enough to be interesting to visitors at the Abbaye? Not that we want the little bit of history we made in the long and interesting story of the Abbey to be given undue prominence; but many of us were amazed at the ignorance, and apparent indifference to it, shown, when we visited Royaumont. Now apparently all that is changed (see Taylor's letter) and visitors are actually given a pamphlet, a reprint of what appeared in a French war-time publication known as the "Livre d' Or des Oeuvres de Guerre". This illustrated pamphlet is entitled; "Une Visite à l' Hôpital de Royaumont" (Scottish Women's Hospital for foreign Service). On the front page are the names of Miss Ivens, Miss Loudon, Miss Duncan (Infirmière-major) Miss Cicely Hamilton and M. Greo de Bogrie (officier administrateur.). Some of us had copies of this during the war but it will be new to many Royaumont members. The illustrations include, Blessés in the Cloisters, La Salle Blanche de Castille, and a group of orderlies which includes Miss Hamilton, the Robin, and the two chauffeurs, Williams and McGregor. Some of it makes amusing reading, and we cannot resist a short quotation. After saying that the staff kept fit by taking walks and bathing in the Oise; the writer continues; "Les dames de Royaumont sont bénies de toute la région, parce que nulle misère ne les trouve indifférentes. Elles ont accueilli comme des

mères les enfants qui avaient besoin de soins chirurgicaux. On pourrait dire d'elles ce qu'on disait de Florence Nightingale et de ses 'rossignols'; elles cherchent la douleur comme on cherche un trésor "Nous avons vu sur les genoux d'une infirmière un bébé d'un an orphelin. ON l'a apporté à l'hôpital pour l'opérer d'abcès infectieux. Ignorant son nom, les infirmières l'ont l'appelé Tipperary "et il dort avec confiance dans les bras d'une adorable suffragiste, toute fière de son fardeau". Many will remember these early days at Royaumont, but how many of us could claim to be 'adorable suffragettes'?

It is very sad to have to record so many deaths among our members all well known and beloved. The unfailing kindness and generosity of the 'Robin' was much appreciated by us all; and those of us who were lucky enough to have known Dr. Winifred Ross, Miss Winstanley and Margaret Tozer deeply regret their deaths which make our lives all the poorer.

If all goes well when you get this copy of the Royaumont News Letter the Editor will be on the high seas en route for Australia, so the next number will be full of her adventures! Meantime very many thanks to so many kind readers who have sent contributions without which we should have had no news, also thanks to Carter and to Middleton for kindly promising to correct the proofs of this number. Please send us your views about our next Reunion, see report of the General Meeting. With all good wishes for this New Year 1955.

Letter from our President

Upalong,
Lustleigh,
South Devon.
December 12, 1954.

My Dear Friends,

Mackay demands my annual letter early this year as she is off to Australia in January. I should like to take this opportunity of wishing her a very good journey with no "mal de mer" and a delightful time with Williams. She has been many years before deciding to cross the seas and I am sure we all wish her great enjoyment. She must not stay out there though, as we can't do without our Editor.

I was so very sorry not to be able to be at the luncheon in October. We have had a chapter of misfortunes here this year. My friend Muriel Duvall had a nasty accident on our own drive when the brake of her car slipped while she was opening the gate and the car slid down the drive behind her, knocked her down before she knew it had moved and went over both her legs, bruising and burning them badly but luckily no fracture. It meant three months in the Orthopaedic Hospital with skin grafting and treatment. I am glad to say she is almost normal again and doing all her old chores. I have had a lot of trouble with my hip too and am only a hobbler about with a stick. The last straw was I had to go to the Cottage hospital for an operation on October 6th and was there three weeks. Therefore you see I have nothing of interest to write to you about this year, unless I fall back on the weather and as you no doubt have heard on the forecasts, Devon has fared as badly or even worse than some parts of Britain this autumn. Our hillside situation prevented flooding but gave us many brooks and rivulets in wrong places and a spring appeared under the garage floor. We've also had dry rot in the dining room and back premises, not as a consequence of course, but due to lack of a damp course common in Devon houses.

I saw Dr. Henry and her daughter and friend while she was touring Devon. She has not altered much and was as always very enthusiastic and full of her life in Canada which she thoroughly enjoys. I thought Anne a very charming girl and quite unspoilt. Henry told me all about the lengthy medical course in Canada, years and years in hospital before launching out by oneself. Her son John has done very well indeed and is following his Father in his speciality of Midwifery and Gynaecology.

As I had not the opportunity at the luncheon this year, I would like to mention the passing of three of our members, Dr. Winifred Ross, Miss Winstanley and Margaret Tozer. Dr. Ross and

I were the two "young doctors" who went out in December 1914 with Miss Ivens and the rest of the first part of the unit, so I knew her well. She was such a reliable woman, so full of resource and common sense. She was only with us a short time but left a lasting impression. She stayed with me in Liverpool on her way to Canada with the British Medical Association. I was told by one of the Liverpool Surgeons afterwards how much she was liked by all the members.

Miss Winstanley who came as a Sister in February, 1916 helped us during the heavy Somme rushes. She was so able and such an excellent organiser that she was soon made matron and held that post till November 1917. My remembrance is of her quickness, brightness and willingness to take on any amount of work. I wrote to her sister in St. Helens expressing our sympathy.

Margaret Tozer I knew very well in later years as she was the elder sister of Frances Tozer with whom I live. Her death was a great shock to us all as she had not ailed but was attacked suddenly by a coronary thrombosis and died in two days. She had been staying with us at the end of May. She will be greatly missed by many as she had such a large number of friends in so many parts of the world. Margaret loved doing kind actions and was noted for her befriending of lame dogs. Her happy disposition and interest in others and kindness made her very lovable. I know how many letters of sympathy her sister has received. I sent a sheaf of Gladioli in the name of the unit in remembrance.

I hope to see you all next year in the autumn and in the meanwhile may I wish you all a happy 1955.

Yours affectionately,
RUTH NICHOLSON.

The London Reunion

The annual luncheon of the Royaumont Association was held on Friday, Oct. 1st at W.V.S. Club. 27 members bought tickets but only 23 were able to be present. It was much regretted that neither Miss Nicholson or Dr. Savill could attend. Those present were: Carter, Young, Berry, Mrs. Alison, Mackay, Tollit, Smieton, Middleton, Brock, Big Anderson, Miller, Collum, Morgan, Richmond, Churchill, McGregor, B. Johnson, Buckley, Johnson, Wilson, Parkinson, MacFie and Butler.

Rolt, Warner, Rose-Morris although unable to be present bought tickets and Dr. Henry writing from Canada bought two tickets—her letter came too late for the lunch, but as one member had not paid for her ticket I was able to make her Dr. Henry's guest—and next year there will be another guest.

Owing to kind gifts from Mackay, Carter, Dashwood and Tollit the lunch finances are in good trim and I hope that next year there will be a larger gathering—Telegrams were read from Miss Nicholson and Salway.

D. CAREY MORGAN.

Annual General Meeting

On October 1st, 1954, a general meeting was held at the W.V.S. Club, Cadogan Square, at which 23 members were present; see list.

The Treasurer reported a balance of £58. 10. 2, which included subscriptions for future years paid in advance amounting to £10. 15. 0.

List of members of Committee were read and those present agreed to stand for another year. Miss Barbara Johnson was co-opted to act during the absence of Miss Simonsen from Committee. After discussion it was agreed that a lunch on Friday should be arranged for 1955, the Editor of the magazine being asked to put a notice in the magazine asking members to express their view as to whether tea or lunch should be the future idea. Thanks to Carter and Mackay for drinks and Mrs. Alison for cigarettes.

Letters to the Editor

Kingsmuir Hall,
Peebles,
December 7, 1954.

Dear Mackay,

I've been meaning to write you about the Royaumont Tea-Party which we had at the Caledonian Hotel, Edinburgh on 3rd September.

Unfortunately the date which was fixed during the Edinburgh Festival found a good many members on holiday so we only mustered 17, but I think every one enjoyed it and there was so much chat that we were literally swept out with the crumbs, still talking!

Miller was up from New Galloway and Wilson came from Perth, McLeod from Glasgow and Sister Lindsay from Dundee. The only member from far south was Merrylees whom we were so glad to see and who was staying with Leng.

Others were Sister Colville and Sister Rose-Morris, Macnaughton, Dow, Torrance, Sinclair, Simpson, Warren, and Moffet and her sister.

I think another year the Tea-Party should be in Glasgow as it is so difficult for members from that side to get to Edinburgh and home again in one day.

My sister and I were near New Galloway in July and saw Miller and Banks—The former's "But and Ben" is quite charming and Banks

has a delightful house and a garden with masses of fruit. Warren spent the week-end here.

How nice to be setting off for Australia. I do hope you have a good voyage (or are you flying?). I am sure you will have a lovely time when you get out.

Please give my greetings to Williams and Armstrong; Lindsay and Figgis if you see them.

A merry Christmas and Bon Voyage in the New Year.

Yours,
RAMSAY.

31, Wells Green Road,
Sheldon,
Birmingham 26.
December 13, 1954.

Dear Editor,

It was on a lovely sunny day in July this year that my husband and I walked from Viarmes Station along the same old road to Royaumont, very little changed.

We arrived at the Abbey to find it closed to the public for one day in the week—Tuesday. The old lady in charge at the gate, however allowed us into the grounds. Walking round we came across a porter and told him I was at the Abbey in 1918, and asked if he could stretch a point and get us into the Abbey, as we had walked a long way. This he did and took us to the Librarian, who spoke English and was interested in all I had to tell her. She gave me the enclosed leaflet. If there is anything in it which might be of interest for the News-Letter, use it, and would you kindly let me have it back later.

One thing I noticed more than anything else, apart from what Fairlie described in the last News-Letter, was stair-carpet which looked out of place on that lovely wide oak stair-case.

We walked back to Viarmes Station and looked for the "Cheval Blanc" where in 1918 I enjoyed cups of chocolate with Tait and Keil and Slicer. The old sign is still there and only just readable, but a private house only.

The memorial at the corner of the Asnieres Road is very much in need of re-lettering and I would suggest that the Emergency Fund could pay for this being done.

My last visit to Royaumont was with Tait in 1930, and I think she would have gone with us this year, but she has been ill and didn't feel equal to the travelling.

However, I hope it isn't my last visit.

Yours sincerely,
ETHEL SLICER
(Taylor).

Auchendean,
Dulnain Bridge,
Inverness-shire.
June 22rd 1954.

Dear Miss Mackay,

How very kind of you to write to me on the death of my sister Winifred Ross, conveying the sympathy of the Royaumont Association. That was a really beautiful poppy wreath and as it arrived after my return from Edinburgh, where the service was in the Crematorium there, I put it on the War Memorial at Dulnain Bridge. It looked so nice and my sister had always had a great deal to do with getting the village to keep it in order so I thought you would all be pleased that it should be placed there. My sister had a long time of ill health, and never made a murmur or complaint at her enforced inactivity; she was always calm and cheerful. I am so glad I have been able to live here and look after things for her, nurses in the house are not easy.

I shall keep your address and let you have the little notice which was in the "Scotsman" shortly, but I wished you to know now how greatly the very beautiful wreath of poppies was appreciated, and how kind it was of the Royaumont Association to send it.

Yours sincerely, with many thanks for your sympathy,

ETHEL R. WEIR.

I returned the box to the British Legion Office it was such a good strong one. E. Weir.

7, Devonshire Place,
Upper Wimpole Street, W.1.
July 16th 1954.

Dear Miss Mackay,

I would be very glad if you could insert in the next Royaumont News-Letter that my book—"Alexander the Great And His Time"—is to be published by the Rockliff Press, and it is hoped to have it ready by Christmas. I want to make this known as much as possible, so that libraries will be asked for it by our members!

Yours sincerely,

AGNES SAVILL.

New Galloway,
Castle Douglas.
December 17th 1954.

Dear Mackay,

I don't think there is anything of importance to hand over. Ramsay will no doubt have given

you a report of the Edinburgh tea-party, so I need not go over that again. Suffice it to say that we had a most pleasant afternoon within the comfortable precincts of the 'Caley', an excellent tea and good companionship. One meets in Edinburgh members whom one never comes across in the South, which is all to the good, Sister Lindsay, on whom Time has played no noticeable ravages, Sinclair, "Queen of the Scullery", whose practical knowledge in the art of dish-washing was handed on to many of us, Ena Sinclair (Mrs. Gray), very reminiscent of the Royaumont kitchen at one period of its existence, Leng whom, alas, we rarely see now at our Edinburgh rallies, Macnaughton, still merry and bright, Warren, now settled down in the country like many others of us—all were at the tea-party. It was good to have Merrylees with us. Those I haven't mentioned are our members who, from time to time, appear at the London Reunion.

I had lunch one day with Leng in her attractive flat which, by the way, she is thinking of selling, and met there Yeaman who, along with Adrain, Woodall, Freeman, Jean Macpherson and myself, entered timorously the historic portals of Royaumont in August 1915! Betty (Bruce), always very faithful to the London Reunions has, for the last three years, been unable to come on account of illness. For the first two of these, she actually got the length of London and then wasn't well enough to attend. At the moment, Betty is staying with Leishman in her commodious flat in Glasgow but is on the look-out for suitable rooms with a kitchen to herself, a combination of good things rather difficult to find at a moderate price. I am glad to hear she is feeling better. On the way home from London this year I broke my journey at Liverpool, and went over to Hoylake to spend a few days with Peter (Williams) who is still teaching in a Prep School not far from her own home. She and I had lots to speak about and lots to laugh over. Ramsay and her sister motored over from Peebles to New Galloway during the summer. One afternoon we thought of visiting Stewart and went by car over the lovely hill-road to Moniaive where Stewart has got settled down in her little cottage. Unfortunately, she wasn't at home and we had to return without seeing her. Had we but known, she was only a short distance away. Stewart has got interested in a knitting machine which she has learned to work after a rather tangled beginning! Banks was disappointed she couldn't be present at the Royaumont functions this year. She lives a busy life, and her sister's illness has taken up a lot of her time. In Galloway, as in other places, 1954 has been a year of continuous rain, high gales and floods. We weren't as unfortunate as some places on the Solway, but we had quite a serious flood in November caused

by the overflowing of a burn that, in quiet times flows peacefully through the fields above the town (I say 'town' because New Galloway is the smallest royal borough in Scotland—300 souls all told!). The water rushed through a series of gardens into the houses below, then careered down our one and only street leaving behind it an untidy mess of stones, mud silt and garden refuse. The houses hadn't to be vacated, fortunately. I am motoring up to Edinburgh for Christmas and shall be there for a week. I hope you have a very happy visit to Australia and a good journey out. I haven't heard whether or not you are going by plane. I was very sorry not to have accepted that very kind offer to stay in your Chelsea house while you were away, but the principal snag is my cottage which has to be kept aired and heated all the time to keep down the dampness. The old door, if not packed tightly with potato sacks during the winter storms of rain and strong gales from the west, allows the rain to seep under it. This, if not arrested, is capable of spreading. That really is the reason why I just couldn't risk leaving the house for so long, especially in winter.

Yours ever,
MILLER.

In Memoriam from "The Scotsman"

Loudon.—At St. Catherines, North Berwick, on 18th April 1954, Katherine Mary Loudon, aged 85 years, administrator at Royaumont, France, 1915-16. Funeral service at St. Baldred's Church North Berwick, on Tuesday, 20th April 1954, at 2.30 p.m. Interment private.

A wreath from the Royaumont Association was laid on her grave, Inveresk Churchyard Musselburgh.

Ross.—The death occurred yesterday in Nairn of Dr. Winifred Margaret Ross, of Auchindean, Dulnainbridge, Inverness-shire. Her father was formerly minister of Polmont, where she was born, and St. Mary's, Partick, Glasgow.

Dr. Ross graduated M.B., Ch.B., at Glasgow University, and held appointments at two Paisley hospitals. During the First World War she served with the Scottish Women's Hospital in France, and was awarded the Medaille Des E. for her services. In the later stages of the war she was at the Royal Herbert Hospital in London, and was awarded the O.B.E.

In 1922 Dr. Ross took up residence in Dulnain-bridge, and was actively interested in the affairs of the district. She was District Commissioner for the Girl Guides in Inverness-shire. During the Second World War Dr. Ross served in a hospital in Bath.

"The Scotsman", June 11th, 1954.

Winstanley.—In affectionate remembrance of Maud Winstanley, died, January 30th, 1954. Cremated, Anfield Crematorium, Interred All Saints, Rainford, February 2nd, 1954.

Miss J. A. Winstanley and family wish to thank all those who sent messages of sympathy and floral tributes during their recent sad bereavement.

Tozer.—Margaret Tozer who died suddenly last August, although she was only a short time at Royaumont, was much beloved by all who knew her, and will be greatly missed by all her friends. Miss Nicholson sent a sheaf of crimson Gladioli from the Royaumont Association.

We also regret to announce the death of **Dr. Dobbin.** We had not heard from her for some years. Latterly she lived with her family, after they left Dublin, and in 1936 her address was 21 Lymington Road, Hampstead.

Royaumont Old and New

These cuttings all from "The Scotsman" have been sent me by several different members. (Editor)

Franco-Scottish Questions

The Cercle Culturel de Royaumont is holding a conference from the 16th to the 28th of August on Franco-Scottish relations past and present. It will be under the patronage of the Franco-Scottish Society and the Corresponding body in France—"France-Ecosse"—but will welcome delegates from all bodies who are interested in Franco-Scottish matters. M. Gabriel Marcel, the distinguished philosopher and playwright, is to preside on the French side.

It was in the thirteenth-century abbey of Royaumont that the Saltire Singers gave the last of their highly successful series of concerts in France last month. The director of the Cercle Culturel is M. Marc-André Béra, the former director of the French Institute in Edinburgh, who has done a great deal to further cultural relations between the two countries.

The conference in August will have a programme of work divided between five groups. A committee of historians will study relations between France and Scotland and the present state of research into the Auld Alliance. Another group will deal with scientific, literary, and artistic exchanges since 1945; another with academic exchanges and methods of teaching the languages; another with the experiments in adoption between towns in the two countries; and the fifth with economic relations and comparisons of such enterprises as the Hydro-Electric Board and the Compagnie du Rhône.

These meetings will take place in the mornings, after which there will be excursions and recreation. Visitors can stay three days or as long as they please. Inquiries should be addressed to M. Béra Directeur du Cercle Culturel de Royaumont à Asnières-sur-Oise.

Abbaye De Royaumont

Talking of holidays, here comes a brochure from one with many old friends in Edinburgh, M. Marc-André Béra, former director of the French Institute, and now director of the Cercle Culturel de Royaumont, Viarmes. It will surprise none of those friends to learn that he has plunged into it in a big way. The world of thought is like to be covered there before October. Over Easter problems of writing and the writer will be discussed. Literature, it has been said, no longer speaks with one language. Others say that it has several but that they are unrelated. This first "Prise de contact" will only pave the way to what may follow at future meetings at Royaumont, where it is suggested that artists may find in the Abbaye a refuge for meditation, and young writers stimulus.

There are to be musical weeks, and weeks devoted to science and philosophy. The Franco-Scottish Society collaborates with France-Ecosse from August 2-21.

The interesting point to Scotswomen is that it was, of course, at the Abbaye de Royaumont that the Scottish Women's Hospitals carried on their principal work in France during the 1914-18 war. I have the record of their work there and in Serbia before me, with pictures of the Abbaye showing the cloisters in use as a ward, and Scottish women doctors and nurses attending the French wounded at "Hopital Auxiliare 301," as it was then known.

Nearer Paris, at the Abbey of Royaumont, 35 kilometres north, on the edge of the lovely forest of Chantilly there will be two performances on July 26 and 27 of Byzantine music, from the seventh to the sixteenth century, by the Schola Melurgica, from the Abbey of Grottaferrata, near Rome.

The Cultural Circle of Royaumont, founded just prior to the war by Monsieur Henri Gouin, is little known to music and art lovers from abroad. This ancient Cistercian Abbey which, throughout the ages, has been torn down, restored, pillaged and again destroyed, has been partly rebuilt to house students of music and art in the former cells occupied by the monks of the Abbey. Since the war it has been the scene of important manifestations of music, theatre and ballet during the Paris season. The Cultural Circle is now under the direction of M. Marc-André Béra, former director of the French Institute in Edinburgh.

Up till the present century, the history of Royaumont has never been happy. In 1420, the Abbey yielded to the domination of the English. Then after a series of vicissitudes, it became a national domain, in 1790, at the time of the Revolution. It was then acquired by the Marquis de Tavannes whose name is associated with one of the worst acts of vandalism committed during the Revolution. It appears that the Marquis thought to save his head from the guillotine by satisfying the instinct for destruction of the revolutionaries by deliberately destroying the church. In 1792, an unsuccessful attempt was made to blow up the Abbey. So the pillars of this magnificent pile were partly sawn, like the trees of the forest, and then encircled with chains which were attached to oxen. With one or two violent strains the pillars gave way, the vaulting collapsed and the roof and part of the supporting walls fell in!

The Marquis then set up a cotton mill factory in the ruins he had created. He engaged English workers and housed them in buildings erected from the stones of the demolished Abbey. The life of the vandal was not spared. In 1793, he was guillotined shortly after the fall of Robespierre. Eventually, Monsieur Gouin acquired the domain, in 1898. During the World War 1, the Abbey was placed at the disposition of the Red Cross and the Scottish Women's Hospital was set up, from 1915 to 1919, when over 10,000 wounded were sheltered here.

That is the strange story of Royaumont formerly one of the great abbeys of France, and which has now been restored as an international cultural centre and which has been classified as one of the historic monuments of France.

St. James's Palace, June 30

The Duke of Gloucester presided at a meeting of the General Council of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London this morning.

His Royal Highness, as Colonel of the Scots Guards, was present at the annual dinner of the Third Guards Club, which was held at Vintners' Hall this evening.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as patron of the Royal Free Hospital, opened the new maternity department at the Liverpool Road branch, and unveiled the Scottish Women's Hospitals memorial tablet.

Emergency Fund

As reported at the General Meeting on October 1st 1954, the Emergency Fund showed a balance of £292. 18 6 in hand

RACHEL MIDDLETON, (Hon. Secretary).

Donations 1954

We have to thank the following members for their generous donations to the Royaumont Association.

Cannon, (Mrs. Walford)
Jackson, (Miss W.)
Main, (Mrs. Breakey)
Miller, (Miss M.)
Nicholson, Miss Ruth (President)
Rose-Morris, Miss M. E. (Sister)

From Far and Near

Anderson, A. L. has now returned safely from Mauritius, and it was nice to see her again at our Reunion. She expects to remain in England at present looking after some of her many relations.

Anderson, D. writing to Carter in October says, "I had a visit from Nickey last week. Miss Nicholson has just returned from home after another operation in hospital, and is still far from well. My friend and I have just acquired a cottage in the country and hope to be able to retire next year. My sister Madame Petit Pierre has removed to Paris and at the moment is house hunting."

Banks, (Mrs. Simmonds) writes: I heard all about the Luncheon from Miller; it is wonderful that so many still turn up. Miller greatly enjoyed it. We have had bad floods (New Galloway) but are still here.

Barclay, (Mrs. Golding) has not been at all well and has been having treatment at Johannesburg some 700 miles from her home in Gatooma. All her Royaumont friends hope soon to have better accounts of her. Would a visit to the Old Country perhaps help? Many old Royaumonites would love to see her again.

Bruce, Betty writes: "I was glad to get the 'News-Letter', I always find it very interesting. I see from it that Buckley would like to have the day of the Reunion changed and as you ask for views I would like to suggest that it should be held in September instead of October. I have heard several people from the north say that they were passing through London in September but could not wait until October."

Burrard, (Mrs. Dashwood) writing to say how sorry she was to miss the Royaumont Reunion added; "Large wrote and told me about it and I hope to come next year. My husband and I were in Naples in October, but I thought of you all."

Everingham, W. writes: "The letter by M. Fairlie in the last Royaumont News-Letter took me back to happy memories, I remember so well I was breeding Canaries. I put Dinkie in his little wooden cage on the top of the pulpit in the chapel and how he sang! I think he felt he was in the right place to sing." Well we were nothing if not original. Our thanks are due to Everingham for her generous donation to the Royaumont Emergency Fund.—EDITOR.

Figgis, sending a generous contribution to the Royaumont Emergency Fund writes from Australia to our Treasurer. "I have read about the Fund in the News-Letter, and was very sorry to think that Miss Cicely Hamilton needed help in that way at the end of her life. But such cases arise here too. For all the glowing conditions out here, the most gifted like Miss Hamilton, do not share in them. Democracy is a one-sided policy when a plumber earns more than a schoolmaster, viz. £5 daily. It is sad to hear of deaths among members, the 'Robin' will be greatly missed. I hope Miss Nicholson will benefit by having her hip operated on, I should like to be able to attend a Reunion. I only went to Royaumont in May 1917, but I do recall Middleton quite well, to whom my kind remembrances.

Johnstone, P. D. (Mrs. Cavendish) ("Little Johnnie"). It was very nice to meet Johnstone again at the Luncheon. She is now District Superintendent for London of the St. John Ambulance, and is in charge of ten houses.

Sister Lindsay writing to Carter about the Edinburgh tea-party said. "We did have a most delightful tea-party in Edinburgh. It was good of Ramsay Smith to take all the trouble about it but she must have felt rewarded when she saw how much everyone was enjoying themselves. Referring to the death of her old friend Miss Winstanley she wrote. "You would be sorry to see about Miss Winstanley's death last spring. She had a long illness. I miss her very much and certainly her Nursing Home in Dundee will never be the same without her."

Main, (Mrs. Breakey). We are glad to welcome Main back again in London after her long stay in America and hope she will be able to come to the next Reunion. Her husband has now retired and they are anxious to find an unfurnished flat in London.

McGregor, (Mrs. Hallam). It was nice to see McGregor at the Royaumont Luncheon with M. Young another ex-Royaumont chauffeur.

Moore, G. was not able to come to the Luncheon as she was rehearsing all day for Television at St. John's Wood. She sent her love to any of her friends who might be there.

Dr. Estcourt Oswald writing to Carter last February (1954), said. "I had an operation in August 1952 and it was very successful. I would have come to the Reunion but suffer from rheumatism and it is difficult for me to get about except in my little car which I still drive myself."

Rolt whom we are always delighted to see when she pays London a flying visit writes to Carter; "It was very nice getting the News-Letter. I always read it straight through, Mackay must put in a lot of work producing it, and I think we all feel grateful to all of you who do so much to keep the Association going as I know what a lot of correspondence and work such things entail."

Salway, (Mrs. McIntosh) who has been in Portugal writes: "We had a wonderful time in Portugal and missed all the cold weather. I met Churchill yesterday at a Bridge party, we played at the same table. We were both interested in Warren's letter in the last Royaumont News-Letter."

Sinclair, E. A. writing from Fort William last summer said. "I am here spending a restful holiday in lovely surroundings away from noise and bustle. There is a good supply of hot water but we have lamps and candles. This takes me back to long ago."

"Was she at Royaumont I wonder when we scrubbed the floor by candlelight, the candle being moved along as the scrubber progressed."
—EDITOR.

Webster, E. writes to Carter; "I am sorry that nowadays I never meet anyone from Royaumont except occasionally Merrylees. Rolt is not far away as the crow flies, but I have no car and it takes all day by train. Do you remember Deschamps of Salle Blanche? I still hear from him sometimes. I find it very difficult writing to him as the little French I once knew has almost completely gone. I hope you have good news of Churchill. I met her first little boy as a baby; he must be grown up now."

Williams, (Peter) writing to Morgan says: "Violet Inglis is in London at present helping out her cousin at Isleworth. He is the very famous children's specialist Daniel Waterston of Great Ormond Street."

Wilson, was one of the Royaumont members who attended the tea-party in Edinburgh last September, of which she wrote; "We had a very nice Reunion tea in Edinburgh; 19 of us were present. I think Ramsay Smith had arranged it all so well. I did enjoy it."

Changes of Address 1954

Anderson, D. Miss, Cautley Cottage, Slaley, Hexham, Northumberland.

Anderson, F. Mrs. Longrigg, 58 Chancellor House, Tunbridge Wells.

Logan, D. C. Dr., M.D., B.S., c/o The Westminster Bank Ltd., Lower Sloane Street, London, S.W.1.

Main, Mrs. Breakey c/o The Westminster Bank Ltd., 1, Kensington High Street, London, W.8.

Parkinson, D. Miss, Sopers, Ditchling, Sussex.

Woodall, D. Miss Staneway, Tyrrell's Wood, Leatherhead, Surrey.

Re-joined

Johnson, B. Miss 5, Thistle Grove, Kensington, S.W.10.

Statement of Accounts

Hon. Treasurer's Statement of Accounts for Year ending December 31, 1954

Payments			Receipts		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Eastern Press, Ltd., News-Letter	17	7 1	Balance in hand, January 1, 1954	77	17 9
Favil Press, Ltd., List of members	6	9 0	P.O. Interest for 1953	1	13 6
Postage of News-Letter	...	15 0	Subscriptions	...	17 8 0
British Legion, 2 Wreaths	4	4 0	Donations	...	3 3 6
Stamps, Hon. Treasurer	...	10 0			
Balance in hand, December 31, 1954	70	17 8			
	£100	2 9		£100	2 9

ANGELA HILLS, Hon Treasurer.

Hon. Treasurer's Note

The Receipts Total of £100. 2s. 9d. includes subscriptions for future years, paid in advance, amounting to £15. 0s. 10d.