



Q.M.A.A.C. and A.T.S.
Comrades Association
GAZETTE



GENERAL SECRETARY: Mrs. Johnston, Q.M.A.A.C. and A.T.S. C.A., 82, Lancaster Gate, London, W.2.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

All contributions for the Gazette should reach the Editor, Q.M.A.A.C. and A.T.S. C.A. Gazette, 82, Lancaster Gate, London, W.2, **not later than the 21st of the following months:- January, March, May, July, September and November.**

**HEADQUARTERS REPORT
FOR JUNE AND JULY, 1942**

On June 17th a meeting of Council was held at 5, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W.1, when eight members were present, with Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan in the chair. Apologies for absence were received from Chief Controller Knox, Miss Ireland, Miss Turner, Miss Batty, Senior Commander Grundy and Mrs. Pratt-Barlow.

Council had agreed, at their meeting on April 27th, that members serving as General Service officers or auxiliaries should not be expected to carry on the extra work entailed as Branch Secretaries. Miss N. Osler was therefore appointed as Secretary of Nottingham Branch in place of Junior Commander Skellington, and Miss Effie Kendra in place of Corporal Fryer, of Tees-side Branch. Council expressed their thanks to Miss Osler and Miss Kendra for undertaking the secretarial work for these two Branches.

Miss W. Binks, Assistant Secretary of the London Branch, kindly undertook to raffle the chocolates sent from Canada at the earliest opportunity. It was agreed that the proceeds be added to the fund being raised to purchase the Bren Machine-gun.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st, 1942, at 6.15 p.m., at 5, Buckingham Gate, S.W.1, as usual.**

The General Secretary would be glad if members of Council will kindly take note of the date, thus saving paper and postage in sending separate notices. The Agenda will be sent, as usual, about a week before the date of the meeting.

OBITUARY.—Old Comrades of Q.M.A.A.C. will have been sorry to read of the death of Lieut.-General Sir George Macdonagh, G.B.E., K.C.B., K.C.M.G., who died at Teddington on July 10th. He was identified with the growth of the Military Intelligence Branch which attained such size and importance during the Great War. He became Adjutant General in 1918. Sir George always took the greatest interest in Q.M.A.A.C., and was an Honorary Vice-President of the Old Comrades' Association.

Q.M.A.A.C. TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

It is with much pleasure that we acknowledge "thanksgiving" donations towards our Bren Machine-gun from:—

Miss A. L. Brown, the Misses Taylor, Miss K. Woodward, Mrs. L. White, Miss B. M. Cragg, Miss B. V. Mitchell.

Brighton Branch, through Mrs. Jolly, includes the names of Miss D. B. Brown, Miss E. Chandler, Mrs. Jolly, Miss Crowden, Mrs. Anscombe, Mrs. Austin, Mrs. Harding, and Mrs. Peckham; also Miss M. Reid and Miss G. Ballard.

Mrs. Goodman, of **Bradford Branch**, has sent donations from Miss Gummersal, Miss Julian, Miss Cockedge, Mrs. Kims, Mrs. Goodman, Miss Austick, Miss Bakes, and Miss Ward.

The members of **Bristol Branch** who have sent "thankofferings" through Miss Mould, are Mrs. Rumbold, Miss A. Chapman, Mrs. Webb, Mrs. Skidmore, Miss Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Cheeseman, Miss Robinson, Mrs. Packer, Miss Sims, Miss Baldwin, Miss Mounstephen, Mrs. Whiting, Mrs. Clay, Mrs. Hale, Miss Fisher, and Miss Mould.

Cheltenham Branch: Miss Troughton, Mrs. D. Hyde, and Mrs. A. W. Mann.

North Staffs Branch: Mrs. Hulse, Mrs. Clough, Mrs. Wyatt, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Godwin, Mrs. Beswick, Mrs. Barrett, Mrs. Ashworth, Miss Hudson, Miss Mycock, Miss C. Myatt, and Miss A. Myatt.

Nottingham Branch: Mrs. Armison, Mrs. Brayne, Miss Burton, Mrs. Calvert, Mrs. Carter, Miss Chadwick, Mrs. Cripps, Miss Doar, Mrs. Elwes, Miss Gott, Miss Hassell, Mrs. Jackson, Miss Osler, Mrs. Peters, and Mrs. Reynolds.

London Branch: Subaltern Bilbrough (A.T.S.), Mrs. Jerrett, Miss Rogers, Miss Lawson, Mrs. Rose, Miss W. Binks, Miss Eva Mason, Miss D. Porter, Miss Carton, Miss A. Edwards, Miss Benson, Miss Fraser, Miss Sanderson, Miss Fyles, Miss Sparling, Miss Hatfield, Miss Pitt, Miss Dodd, and Miss Rogers. In addition to these subscriptions was one shilling paid in "fines" for calling Mrs. Mayhew by her maiden name of "Haines"!

Donations have also been received from Miss E. Trotter, Miss N. May Richards, Miss O. Prior, Miss C. Hingston, Miss G. Pearson, Mrs. I. Beverley, Miss O. Longman, Miss M. Wain, Miss G. E. G. Watkins, Mrs. E. F. Armstrong, Mrs. G. A. Jones, Miss A. D. Burrow, Senior Commander J. M. Cowper (A.T.S.), Miss E. E. Abbey, Miss B. Ireland, Miss R. Batty, Miss W. M. Johnson, Mrs. W. M. Powell, Miss F. M. Sampson, Senior Commander M. Grundy (A.T.S.), Mrs. R. Paget, Miss E. Warrior, Miss MacLennen, Junior Commander O. Newton (A.T.S.), Mrs. P. Marten, Miss J. Bryant, Miss M. Mann, Miss G. Simons, Miss Irene Smith, Miss H. M. Billington, Miss Annie Jupp, Miss Conder, Mrs. D. Stedman, Miss M. E. Roberts, Mrs. O. King, Mrs. L. Sawkins, Miss E. I. Rees, Miss Eba Pearce, Miss L. Ling, Miss C. B. Tapscott, Mrs. Horne (Worker C. Cousins, Service No. 2), Mrs. Knapp (Wkr. M. Davison, No. 5741), Miss L. Holly (Wkr. No. 4210), Forewoman N. Julian (No. 5), Worker M. Swan (No. 12), Mrs. N. James, Miss F. E. Sparkes, Miss E. M. Rust, Miss L. Davy, Miss B. Heaney, Mrs. G. Griffith (Wkr. Gwyneth Evans, 2982), Mrs. A. E. B. Johnston, Miss Florence Vidler (Canada), and **Eire Branch** (no names given).

In addition we have to thank Mrs. E. Smitheram and members of the Ex-Service Women's Branch of the British Empire Service League at Calgary, Alberta, for a fine gift of chocolates, which have been sold for the benefit of the "Thankoffering."

BRANCH REPORTS

Birmingham

On Saturday, May 30th, a very well attended meeting was held, and news and views exchanged. On Saturday, June 27th, we had an evening meeting at Mrs. Katie Pearce's house. Miss Dipple has invited us all to her house on the last Saturday in July, which is July 25th, and we shall drop in about 6 o'clock.

When we meet nowadays the conversation is about sons and daughters who have joined one or other of the Services. Sergeant Willetts ("Lil") has been in hospital for goitre, and we hope she is quite well now.

I told them about my milk-boy. Upon his waist-belt he wore the letters Q.M.A.A.C. in brass, shaped like a shoulder tally. He told me they stood for Queen Mary's Army **Artillery** Corps. I expected to be told whether he had inherited the letters or just had them by barter from another boy, but he didn't vouchsafe any more information. Miss Dipple said they might be odd letters put together like that at the brass-works. I should like to know if brass shoulder letters were an official issue, because I simply had a cloth W.A.A.C. on my uniform.

Mrs. Jones made us laugh in referring to butchers cutting up this square meat. "It's sent over here like a whole cow with no bones in him."

E. A. R.

North Staffordshire

Our last meeting was held on July 6th. We had invited some members of the A.T.S. to join us for supper, but unfortunately it was not possible for them to come. We hope that at some future date our efforts to entertain the younger generation will be successful. For the next two months there will not be meetings at the Nell Gwynne Restaurant, but we hope to meet at various members' homes for an occasional chat. The raffle for the doll made by Miss Carrie Myatt was very successful, and altogether the sum of two guineas was sent to Headquarters.

H. CLOUGH.

London

Everyone loves a wedding, and no doubt London Branch members will be interested to hear about our popular Secretary's wedding, which took place on June 6th at Streatham Parish Church. The day in question was all that could be desired—a lovely summer day—if anything, too hot. Six members of London Branch met at the church and attended the ceremony. The bride looked very charming in a Patou pink dress, with fine lace coatee in the same shade, hat to match, and wine-coloured shoes and accessories. She carried a bouquet of pale blue delphiniums, pink roses and orchids. As they left the church after the wedding, officers, warrant officers and sergeants of the bridegroom's regiment formed a guard of honour at the church door. We shall no doubt see some photographs of this later. The Misses Ireland, Saunders, Porter and Hayward attended the reception held at the Thrale Hall Hotel, and enjoyed hearing the very nice toast which Lt.-Colonel H. Cook, M.C. (who was best man to Major Mayhew) made. He mentioned that Miss Haines had introduced the Comforts Fund to the regiment. Many of us have worked for this, and know how much it is appreciated by the men. The bride's travelling dress was a grey Angora two-piece suit, with blue chiffon blouse and hat to match, and wine and blue accessories, in which she looked very attractive. All their many friends will wish Major and Mrs. Mayhew many long and happy years together.

PRESENTATION TO MRS. MAYHEW.

At our last reunion we were very pleased to present to our Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Mayhew, a Pyrex dish in stand, on the occasion of her marriage to Major Mayhew (10th Middlesex Regiment).

Miss Ireland, who made the presentation on behalf of all friends at the Club, said it was given with our best wishes to both Major and Mrs. Mayhew, and we hoped they would enjoy many good meals in the dish.

Mrs. Mayhew thanked everyone for their kind thoughts and good wishes, and mentioned that at her wedding the Colonel of the Regiment specially mentioned the O.C.A. and their splendid work for the Regiment.

May I acknowledge, through the Gazette, all subscriptions to the above? They came from the following: Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan, Mrs. Johnston, Miss Ireland, Miss Saunders, Mrs. Eager, Subaltern Bilbrough, Miss Binks, Mrs. Courage, Miss Billington, Miss Rogers, Miss Carpenter, Miss Brandreth, Miss Hatfield, Miss Roberts, Miss Winter, Mrs. Sanderson, Miss Peattie, Miss A. Edwards, Miss Benson, Miss Wilkinson, Miss Harvey (Peggy), Miss Fyles, Mrs. Kendrew, the Misses Dodd, Starling, Lambert, Hayward, Moyes, Winks, Machin, Kelly, Lawson, Burnett, Jarratt, Pitts.

Bristol and West of England

L. SAUNDERS.

On February 14th we had a tea party at Bath, and took the opportunity of holding the Annual Meeting of our Branch. The Secretary presented the accounts and the agenda for the Annual Meeting to be held in London at the end of the month was discussed.

I have contacted most of our members during the past few weeks, and I would take this opportunity of thanking those who telephoned me and wrote to me after our blitz. I just was overwhelmed with their kindness. Our Bath folk came through fairly happily; Mrs. Cheeseman had a damaged foot, which has got nearly right now, and Miss Chapman was turned out of her home for some weeks, but is now back again. One of our new members, Junior Commander E. Abbott, had rather a bad time, but got out safely, and has now been transferred to Plymouth.

Our sympathies go out to our friends in Exeter and Norwich.

On Saturday, June 13th, we had a jolly tea party at Clifton Zoo. A very good tea was provided, and we thoroughly enjoyed watching the antics of the animals, especially some very tiny baby monkeys. Our thanks are due to Miss Walker, who paid the entrance fees to the grounds and made all the arrangements, and to Miss Sims for our ice-creams.

Our hearts go out in sympathy with Mrs. Rumbold in the passing of her daughter Barbara, who was greatly loved, and to Mrs. Whiting in her anxiety regarding her eldest son, who is missing from the "Exeter."

Nottingham

With the approach of summer, the thought of an outing loomed forward once more, and with the happy memories of last year, we asked Miss Stirland if she could possibly do something for us again this year. A very enjoyable outing to Trusley, in Derbyshire, was thus arranged. One Sunday early in June, a small party collected at Nottingham 'Bus Station and, gathering more people en route, travelled to Derby, and from thence on the Ashbourne Road to Trusley, which is one of those treasured, unspoiled places, where after a "stroll" of five for six miles everyone was ready to sit down to an admirable lunch at a farmhouse. The party was then able to look round the manor gardens, which were truly a joy to behold, later returning to the farmhouse for tea. We then took the path for home, grateful for the freedom which is yet ours and the glorious countryside, which, thank God, has so far been preserved from the ravages of the enemy.

The Women's Home Defence unit each week has something very interesting for its members. We have had lectures on first aid, medical lectures, lectures on gunnery, and field kitchen-craft. There are also two classes for Morse, one a beginner's and one advanced.

The Misses Hassall and Harrison recently arranged for a Guide Officer and a representative of the Home Guard to give a practical demonstration of field kitchen-craft. Two types of stoves were made, fires started, potatoes and sausages cooked, and also a Creamola pudding cooked. We all stood around and thoroughly enjoyed eating the food which had been cooked and prepared by the Guides.

L. OSLER.

Brighton

On Wednesday, July 15th, at the kind invitation of our Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Jolly, a party of Old Comrades, one in the A.T.S., and a friend, spent a very enjoyable evening for a game a whist, and, of course, a chat.

As many of us are doing something in the war, we cannot always manage to get to any meetings, so when we can it is very nice to see one another again.

We were sorry to hear that Miss Kimber, who is in the A.T.S., hasn't been well, so could not join us. We wish her a speedy return to good health.

We had a very nice supper, very kindly given by Mr. and Mrs. Jolly, and being Waacs we did justice to it. Also, prizes were given by our hostess. As we are told not to waste anything, we very thoughtfully saved our score cards for the next time by rubbing out the numbers, etc.

Thank you very much, Mr. and Mrs. Jolly, for an enjoyable evening.

Wishing all members of the O.C.A. continued safety.

L. M. A.

WOMEN'S ARMY AUXILIARY CORPS OF THE UNITED STATES

All who served in the original W.A.A.C. formed in 1917, and which became Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps in 1918, will be very interested to hear that our old name has been revived in America as the designation of the women's Service which has been started in that country.

Some of our newspapers, in March last, gave news that it was proposed to form such a Service. Accordingly, it was decided to send a cable of greeting to the new W.A.A.C., and Council has decided to publish the cable and the charming letter received in reply, as they know how very pleased members will be to read them.

The cable was dated March 18th, 1942, and read as follows:—

O.C. W.A.A.C., War Department, Washington, U.S.A.

Members of the British W.A.A.C. formed by the Army Council in 1917, many of whom are serving, or have served, in the A.T.S., are glad to learn that you will bear their name. They will watch your achievements with pride and affection.

H. C. I. GWYNNE-VAUGHAN,
Chairman, O.C.A. Council.

In early June the following letter was received from the Director:—

War Department,
Women's Army Auxiliary Corps,
Office of the Director,
Washington.

May 23rd, 1942.

Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan,
93, Bedford Court Mansions,
London, England.

My dear Dame Helen,

Your very kind cable of congratulation to the W.A.A.C. was received some weeks ago by the War Department, but has remained unanswered because the Corps did not come into being until a few days ago—May 15, to be exact.

Now that we are established, and I have had the honour of being appointed Director, one of my first and most pleasant duties is to send you our warmest thanks for your message of congratulation.

It will be a talisman to us, that our first message came from those who had built up the fine traditions which must forever surround the W.A.A.C. We, in our turn, will do our utmost to uphold those traditions and prove ourselves worthy to carry on the name. It will be our pride as well as our pleasure to follow the high example of service set by the W.A.A.C. of 1917.

Please express our appreciation of this message to all members of the Old Comrades' Association.

Yours sincerely,
(signed) OVETA CULP HOBBY,
Director.

OBITUARY.—We announce with regret the death, on July 29th, 1942, of Olga H. V. M. Mayne, O.B.E., Chief Commander, A.T.S., second daughter of the late Major Mosley Mayne, 3rd Bombay Light Cavalry.

AUXILIARY TERRITORIAL SERVICE

Our thanks and acknowledgments are due to "The Times" for the following items of news which have been culled from its pages:—

July 13th, 1942.

A.T.S. CHURCH PARADE The Princess Royal's Inspection

A church parade of 1,000 members of the A.T.S., London, District, was inspected by the Princess Royal, as Controller-Commandant, at Wellington Barracks yesterday.

To music from the band of the Coldstream Guards the women marched from the barracks to Westminster Abbey, and there attended the evening service, which was conducted by the Rev. A. J. Walker, Rector of Staplehurst. The Princess Royal stood at the foot of the Victoria Memorial, opposite Buckingham Palace, to take the salute as they marched past.

She was received on her arrival at the barracks by Chief Controller Jean Knox, Director of the A.T.S.; Lady Maud Baillie, Chief Commander of the London District; and the officer commanding of the Holding Battalion, Grenadier Guards. As she stepped from her car the guard, of Grenadier Guards, presented arms in a royal salute. On the parade ground she was received with another royal salute by the whole parade, and the National Anthem was played.

There followed the inspection. The Princess moved slowly along the ranks, stopping occasionally to speak to one of the women. Drawn up thus they were an effective picture, and as good a testimonial as could be imagined to the A.T.S. as a feminine embodiment of the military virtues.

When the time came to march away across Birdcage Walk and round the Victoria Memorial, the young women moved off resolutely and with precision, with straight backs and clear eyes, a credit both to themselves and to their instructors.

July 15th, 1942.

THE QUEEN VISITS A.T.S. CAMPS Tour with Princess Royal

(From Our Special Correspondent)

SOUTH-EASTERN COMMAND, July 14.

The Queen made a tour to-day of A.T.S. training camps in the South-Eastern Command, and visited the training centre at which young women of the A.T.S. learn to drive and maintain Army vehicles.

A girl passing out from the school after her ten weeks' course is capable of driving any kind of military motor transport, from a small car to a 30cwt. lorry. She can change a tyre on the heaviest vehicle, and is qualified to carry out maintenance work in general. The Queen to-day watched pupils engaged in many activities, and saw a Red Cross convoy set out from the school with all its vehicles fully manned by the A.T.S. There was not a man in the convoy. Nor are there any male instructors in the school workshops.

The Queen was accompanied on her tour by the Princess Royal, Controller-Commandant of the A.T.S.; Chief Controller Jean Knox, Director of the A.T.S., and the G.O.C. Aldershot area. The first of the day's visits was to an infantry training centre of the A.T.S., where nearly 1,000 girls recruits were on parade. At the end of their time there the women selected for work with motor-vehicles are posted to the Women's Mechanical Transport training centre. The Queen was shown round this centre by its commandant, Miss Kingston Walker.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES

Squadron Leader J. de L. Wooldridge and Miss Latham

The engagement is announced between Squadron Leader John de Lacy Wooldridge, D.F.M., R.A.F., eldest son of Major G. de L. Wooldridge, O.B.E., and Mrs. Jack Barton, and Subaltern Mary Birkbeck Latham, A.T.S., elder daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. A. Latham, of Tonbridge.

Mr. D. E. Dowlen and Miss M. D. Long

The marriage arranged between Lieutenant David Edward Dowlen, R.A., and Subaltern Margaret Dorothy Long, A.T.S., will take place at St. Mary's Church, Ely, on Wednesday, July 29, 1942, at 12.30 p.m.

Major J. V. Godfrey and Miss E. S. Brocklehurst

The engagement is announced between Major John Valentine Godfrey, The Queen's Royal Regiment, son of Major and Mrs. C. V. Godfrey, Claremont Meadow, Salford, and Miss Elisabeth Sylvia Brocklehurst, A.T.S., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Brocklehurst, Badgers, Charmouth, Dorset.

Mr. P. M. G. Russell and Miss S. D. Morris

The engagement is announced between Lieutenant Patrick M. G. Russell, F.R.C.S., son of the late Judge Russell and Mrs. Russell, of Trinidad, and Stephanie Denman Morris (Junior Commander, A.T.S.), elder daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward E. Morris, of Colwyn Bay, and niece of Mr. and Mrs. J. Evan Morris, of Bryn Hyfryd, Abergele. Owing to war conditions, the marriage will take place immediately.

Paymaster Lieutenant A. R. C. Cunningham, R.N.R., and Miss B. M. Main

The engagement is announced between Paymaster Lieutenant A. R. C. Cunningham, R.N.R., only son of the late R. C. Cunningham and Mrs. Cunningham, of Edinburgh, and Beryl Margaret Main, Second Subaltern, A.T.S., youngest daughter of Commander Frank Morgan Main, D.S.O., R.D., R.N.R., and Mrs. Marshall, of Southsea.

Mr. D. N. Shemmonds and Miss E. M. Parker

The engagement is announced between Mr. Duncan Nichols Shemmonds, of Porto Alegre, Brazil, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Shemmonds, of Morton, Gloucestershire, and Second Subaltern Eleanor May Parker, A.T.S., daughter of Major S. J. Parker, O.B.E., H.M. Staff Inspector, Board of Education, and Mrs. Parker, Red House, Sanderstead, Surrey.

Captain O. A. Evans and Miss J. E. Roberts

A marriage has been arranged, and will take place shortly, between Captain Oliver Evans, The South Wales Borderers, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Aneurin Evans, Whitehall, Denbigh, and Jean Roberts, Second Subaltern, A.T.S., elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Roberts, Bryndedwydd, near Corwen, North Wales.

Captain W. J. Jeffery and Miss N. I. Carroll

The engagement is announced between Captain William James Jeffery, R.A., only son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Jeffery, of Beckenham, and Junior Commander Norah Inez Carroll, A.T.S., eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Michael Carroll, of Lima, Peru, South America.

Captain William Morris and Miss C. Staines-Austin

The engagement is announced between Captain William Morris, R.A., only son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Morris, Bramhall, near Stockport, and Constance Staines-Austin (Subaltern, A.T.S.), elder daughter of Surgeon Captain J. Staines-Austin, Royal Navy (retired), and Mrs. Staines-Austin, Saxthorpe, Town Close, Norwich.

ENGAGEMENTS**Captain J. A. Hamilton and Miss G. B. W. Strachan**

The engagement is announced between Captain John Alan Hamilton, The Queen's Royal Regiment, third son of Squadron Leader and Mrs. H. P. Hamilton, of Battle Hill, Goring-on-Thames, and Gladys Barbara Wellesley (Babs) Strachan, A.T.S., only child of the late Captain Wellesley Strachan, The Royal Scots, and of Mrs. Ernst Pakenham-Walsh, Kyngheshene, Warren Road, Guildford.

Lieutenant H. J. Warrender, R.N.V.R., and Miss G. E. Fowler

The engagement is announced between Lieutenant Harold John Warrender, R.N.V.R., younger son of the late Vice-Admiral Sir George Warrender, Bt., K.C.B., K.C.V.O., and of Lady Maud Warrender, of 2, Holland Park, W.11, and Constance Elizabeth Fowler, A.T.S., younger daughter of Prebendary John Fowler and Mrs. Fowler, of 1, Vicars' Close, Chichester.

MARRIAGES

The "Evening Standard" of July 7 gives the news that Miss Rita Alexander, of the A.T.S., was married that day to Pilot-Officer Jack Marchant, of Melbourne, Australia, at St. Mary's Church, Wimbledon.

LANG—ALCOCK.—On July 20th, 1942, at The Church of All Saints, Lincoln, by the Rev. Lancelot Smith, M.A. (godfather of the bride), assisted by the Rev. Canon Swanzy, M.A., vicar of the parish, and the Rev. Canon Harding, M.A., Captain Robert Antony Lang, Royal Artillery, only son of Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Lang, of "Corners," Cambridge Road, Hitchin, Herts, to Katharine Margaret Alcock, Subaltern, A.T.S., second daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Frank Alcock, of 21, St. Catherine's, Lincoln.

Our congratulations and best wishes to all these happy couples.

VISITORS TO THE OFFICE

The past two months have been rather quiet; the office was closed from the 8th to the 12th of June, as the General Secretary took part of her holiday during that time. On her return she had the pleasure of visits from Miss Davy, who greatly admired the fine room and the comfort of the surroundings of the office; Miss Crowden, of Brighton, and her friend Miss Burnett; Subaltern Samuda, who kindly found time on her short leave from the North, as she is a Life member of the Comrades' Association, and very keen. Subaltern Perreau, was another welcome visitor; she, too, is very anxious to make the Association known to as many members of the A.T.S. as possible. Miss A. Trotman, who has lately been discharged on medical grounds from the A.T.S., and is now working with the Auxiliary Fire Service, came in to join the Comrades' Association, and is a subscriber to the Gazette. They all admired the beautiful photograph of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal in A.T.S. uniform, and the General Secretary hopes that many others will call at 82, Lancaster Gate, if possible, when they are in London.

LETTER FROM MISS EDITH THOMPSON

High Commissioner's Office,
Cape Town, South Africa.

May 10th, 1942.

My dear London Branch,

I am rather ashamed of myself for not having written to you all before, but the one and only good thing about these war times is that time does pass very quickly, when every minute has to do the work of two.

When I first came out I was as busy as it was possible to be, settling my large family of children up and down the country. They are in over two hundred different homes, and about as many schools. When I visit a place, I have to see the local Child Guest Committee, of whom the Chairman is always the Magistrate, then the parent-host (as the foster parent is called) and the children and then the school authorities.

The main committee is in Pretoria, and there are two hundred local committees working under this with whom I have to keep in touch. However, after about six months, we settled down, and I applied very urgently for leave to come home but this was refused and though I was dreadfully disappointed, I do see now that if I had come back someone else would have had to come out in my place.

The children are growing up so rapidly, all kinds of decisions have to be made about their further training and future careers. Already I have one boy in the South African Air Force, four on a Naval training ship and four at the University.

I am attached to the High Commissioner's Office and work there when I am not travelling, and do any odd job that comes along. The High Commissioner spends four months here in Capetown and eight months in Pretoria, so that we all have to have two offices and two homes each. I have a very small flat in Pretoria and when here live at the Settlers' Club which reminds me very much of Buckingham Gate, except you can't get food at odd times. At regular times, however, I suppose we get twice as much as you do, and large dishes of butter and salad are placed on each table as a matter of course, also bowls of sugar and jugs of milk. The terms are £9 a month but the usual terms in Capetown are at least £12 and prices are steadily rising.

Ever since the fall of Singapore and the evacuation from the Far East, I have been working harder than I have ever done in my life, not excepting when I was a W.A.A.C.

The High Commissioner is responsible for evacuees arriving in this Country and everything relating to their reception in Capetown has been handed over to me. I have some of the earlier evacuees themselves to help me and a voluntary committee of local people. It has been very hard work, though I am very glad indeed to have been given the opportunity of trying to do something for these poor people. Since Christmas I have not had even a week-end off, and am thrilled this afternoon because I left the office at five on a Sunday. It has simply been impossible to get through the work even then.

The rest of the office made the annual move to Pretoria a fortnight ago and I was left with a temporary staff, to see what happens next. So far we are as busy as refugees who went first from Malaya to Australia or Ceylon are now coming this way. Some of the elderly planters and their wives are the most pathetic of them all, as everything they had worked for all their lives has quite literally gone up in smoke. The people here are very sympathetic and generous and anxious to do all they can to welcome these unfortunate guests but the accommodation question presents great difficulties, as the country is already over-full with people who have come here from all parts of the Empire.

The Gazette is so welcome. I am certainly well rewarded for having started that, and little thought what a blessing it would prove to me personally. At first I thought it would only last a few years, and I remember being completely staggered when Dame Helen, with her usual generosity, paid ten years' subscription on the spot. It has been going for twenty years so her confidence was well placed.

I was thrilled to see a message to me from Miss Ireland. I think of you all so often and long to come to the Club on Thursday nights and see you all sitting round, and hear the latest news of the Court from Sanderson of the busy and clever fingers.

Congratulations to Bilbrough on getting her Commission. I really did mean to write personally about that but I know she will forgive me as no one knows what hard work is better than Bilbrough. The only two ex-W.A.A.C. here that I see much of are Bowen and A. Feiling and the latter has now flown to Jerusalem to a post at the Ministry of Information there. The lucky woman flew the whole way from the Cape, and had a few days at Cairo on the way. Irene Bowen I often see as she is in the Prime Minister's office, and moves up and down to Pretoria as we do here.

The South African women's Services are doing very well, and there are some W.R.N.S. out from England as well. Oddly enough, I see Dame Katherine's son, Lieut-Commander Furse, quite often as he looks after the Naval families who are evacuated. He is married and has six daughters. I remember him as a Dartmouth cadet when his mother was Director, W.R.N.S.

I have got a very interesting job and everyone is very nice to me and I have been wonderfully well ever since I came. I am, therefore, very much ashamed of myself for being so home-sick, and longing to get back every minute of the day and see my family and friends. As you know my real job is to persuade women to settle overseas, and I wonder sometimes, after my own experience, how I shall set about that again! However, if time goes rushing on like this I shall be a bit past any more work before I get home, though as far as I can see myself there are no signs of senile decay as yet.

Please thank Mrs. Johnston for her lovely letter and ask for another. As she is a member of London Branch I hope she will accept a share in this.

Very warm greeting to you all from

EDITH THOMPSON.

NEWS OF OLD COMRADES, OLD AND NEW

Miss Rita D. Lindsay writes from Hove:—"I am so sorry that I let the subscription to the O.C.A. Gazette lapse. It was not evil design—merely complete lack of time to attend to everything. I enclose 10s., 7s. for last year's and this year's Gazette—you need only send the future ones. I have been secretary since 1924 to Dr. Helen Boyle, now, however, I am also chauffeur since the man went two years ago, and I have taken on the lawn mower and the baby ducks at her cottage on the top of the Downs."

Mrs. R. M. Davey, of West Wyalong, Australia, who served as Chiverton at Bristol and Bath, writes that she is very interested in the joint Association for Q.M.A.A.C. and the A.T.S. She is sure that it will be a success "if conducted under the same splendid leadership which the O.C.A. has always been fortunate in having." She sends best wishes to all Old Comrades.

Miss F. Sutton writes to say what a pleasure it is to get the Gazette. She has been in charge of the Residential Hostel, in association with the Liverpool Women's Free Church Council, Liverpool, for the past 20 years. All members will be exceedingly sorry to learn of **Mrs. Chilvers'** misfortune during the raid on Norwich on the night of June 26th-27th. This extract is from her letter:—"We were entirely burnt out at 32, Grove Road, on June 26th-27th, and have practically lost everything. My Mother and Dad are heartbroken and one hardly knows where to start again. All my home has gone too, but I have the O.C.A. Records here with me and the money in the Norfolk and Norwich

Savings Bank, thank goodness. It is such a problem to find another house, so many people lost everything like ourselves. Best wishes to all, I will send Bren Gun donations as soon as I hear from members." **Mrs. Chilvers** father also had his business premises damaged in an earlier raid. We give them our sincere sympathy in this sad disaster.

Miss Margaret Shearer is very sorry that her age prevented her joining up this time as she did so enjoy camp life in Calais and has always kept in touch with her Service friends of "those happy days." She is now doing confidential work for the Government so cannot tell anything of her present activities. She gives the news that **Miss Regan** is doing A.R.P. work in her home town—Shoeburyness, **Miss Florence Humphreys** is in charge of a nursery school at Leicester and **Madge Ripley** is still in Ottawa.

Miss Frances Sampson has sent a donation for the Bren Machine Gun and says in a postscript to her letter, "The cot that I slept in as a wee baby has just gone to the Salvage people, I think there is enough iron in the frame to make our Bren Gun." It would be interesting to know what things helped to make our gun! Wee baby Frances fortunately knew nothing of the fate in store for the cot but we know our Old Comrade rejoices in the fact that it will be used for some weapon now.

The Times of June 20th printed the following announcement:—

Major F. D. Corfield and Miss Bastard. The engagement is announced between Major F. D. Corfield, M.B.E., Royal Signals and Sudan Political Service, son of the late Mr. John Corfield and of Mrs. Corfield, and Joy, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Segar Bastard, of Nanyuki, Kenya.

Mrs. Nancy Bastard, who served under the same name at Queen Elizabeth Camp, Vendroux, lives at Sweet Waters, Nanyuki. We wonder if "Joy" is her daughter, thus another of our Waaclets now grown up. In any case we feel sure she is a near relation and send our best wishes for her future happiness.

The Gazette Secretary was very pleased to receive a letter in mid-July from an old friend, **Miss Ursula Pudsey** (D.A. Scarborough, Holland Park, etc.), who had been living in Athens for several years when the Italians invaded Greece, and had to leave her charming flat, the garden she was so fond of, and practically all her possessions and fly to Egypt whence she was taken with other British Residents to India. She is lonely and finds the heat (not the dry heat of Greece) very trying. With her usual pluck, within a few days of her arrival she accepted work which took her for nine months to an up-country station with "jungle" close at hand. She writes "There are monkeys, not fairies, at the bottom of my garden, jackals snuffling around and howling at night, and one man killed seventeen panthers. There are brightly coloured birds, wonderful flowers, and lovely flowering trees, but all the same, I prefer Greece." She is always pleased to receive her Gazette.

IMPORTANT

The Editor is very anxious to increase the circulation of the Gazette, and asks for the kind co-operation of all subscribers in making the magazine known to members of the Comrades' Association.

She would also appreciate contributions of interest, news of Old Comrades, Branch activities, and other items which would appeal to both the old Corps and the new Service.

BRANCHES

Adelaide	Miss L. M. Smith, 52, Wattle Avenue, Brighton, Adelaide, Australia.	
Birmingham.	Miss E. I. Dipple, 17, Somerset Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham, 20.	
Blackpool.	Mrs. K. Fry, 136 Albert Road, Blackpool.	
Bournemouth.	Miss F. E. Lever, A.T.C.L., Craighurst, 7 Church Road, Parkstone, Dorset.	
Bradford.	Mrs. A. Goodman, 2 Tivoli Place, Little Horton, Bradford.	2nd Wednesday.
Brighton.	Mrs. E. C. Jolly, 107 Preston Drove, Brighton, 6.	Aqua Restaurant, Old Steine, Brighton. 2nd Monday and 4th Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.
Bristol and West of England.	Miss B. Mould, 11 The Tynning, Bath.	Not fixed.
Cheltenham.	Mrs. Mann, Cornerways, Churchdown, Gloucester.	
Exeter.	Mrs. Vicary, Castle House, Powderham, near Exeter.	16 Dix Field, Exeter. First Thursday of the month, at 3.30 p.m.
Edinburgh and East of Scotland.	Mrs. G. D. Hardy, 51 Lockharton Ave., Edinburgh 11.	Women's United Services Club, 12 Drumsheugh Grdns., Edinburgh 1st Tuesday of each month, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Glasgow and West of Scotland.	Miss E. M. Gilchrist, M.B.E., 13 Royal Terrace West, Glasgow, C.3.	251 Renfrew Street, Glasgow. Every Wednesday, 7.30.
Headquarters.	Mrs. Pratt Barlow, O.B.E., 82, Lancaster Gate, W.2.	
Irish Free State.	Mrs. O'Meara, M.B.E., Cove Cottage, Dunmore East, County Waterford.	Not fixed.
Leeds.	Miss E. Mair, 27 Virginia Road, Off University Road, Leeds, 2.	5 Park Square, first Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.
Liverpool.	Mrs. E. Edwards, 8, Wyndcote Road, Liverpool 18.	
London.	Mrs. Mayhew, c/o 5 Buckingham Gate, S.W.1.	See Branch Reports for dates of meetings. Thursday evenings, 7.30 to 10 p.m.
Ilford.	Miss P. Parker, 4, Richmond Street, Plaistow, E.13.	
Manchester.	Mrs. Cornea, 12, High Bank Crescent, Prestwick, Manchester.	Raglan Café, 24 Mosley St., Manchester. 2nd and 4th Thursday, 7 to 10.30 p.m.
Newcastle-on-Tyne.	Miss C. W. Maunder, 31, Norwood Avenue, Heaton, Newcastle.	Members notified individually.
New South Wales.	Mrs. E. Mills, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer	26, Victoria Street, Bondi Junction, N.S.W.
New York.	Mrs. G. Rose. Phone Nevins 8-4250.	
Norfolk.	Mrs. L. W. Chilvers, 32 Grove Road, Norwich.	Monthly. Members notified individually.
Northern Ireland.	Sergt. Major N. Hughes, A.T.S., Palace Barracks, Holywood, Co. Down.	Third Wednesday in the month at 8 p.m.
North Staffs.	Mrs. G. H. Clough, 3 Eleanor View, Newcastle.	Nell Gwynne Restaurant, Newcastle. Second Tuesday in month 7.30 p.m.
Notts.	Miss Osler, Flat 4, 74, Park Road, Lenton, Notts.	
Oxford.	Mrs. Jackman, 23 Grays Road, Headington, Oxford.	Members notified individually.
Plymouth.	Mrs. O. Foster, 2 Notte St., Plymouth.	
Cardiff and S. Wales.	Mrs. Diana Foster, 7, The Grove, Rumney, Cardiff.	Y.M.C.A., Cardiff. Second and last Tuesday at 7.30 p.m.
Shoreham-by-Sea. (in abeyance) St. Leonard's.	Miss E. Taylor, 58 West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.	The Café, 5 The Street, Old Shoreham. 2nd Tuesday each month at 7.30 p.m. Not fixed.
Tees-side.	Miss E. Kendra, 21, Thackeray Grove, Linthorpe Middlesbrough.	
Transvaal.	Mrs. Widdicombe, 8 Gascoigne Street Observatory, Johannesburg, S. Africa.	

Editor Gazette—Mrs. A. E. B. Johnston, 82, Lancaster Gate, London, W.2.



QUEEN MARY'S ARMY AUXILIARY CORPS
AND
AUXILIARY TERRITORIAL SERVICE
COMRADES ASSOCIATION



Honorary President:

Chief Controller, HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS ROYAL, G.C.V.O., G.B.E., C.I., D.C.I.
Controller Commandant A.T.S.

President:

Dame FLORENCE SIMPSON, D.B.E.

Chairman of Council:

Chief Controller Dame HELEN GWYNNE-VAUGHAN (ret.), G.B.E., D.Sc., LL.D., F.L.S.

General Secretary:

Mrs. A. E. B. JOHNSTON, M.B.E.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association is open to all ranks of the two great auxiliary services of the Army, Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps (1917-1921) and the Auxiliary Territorial Service (1938—), whose service and grounds for discharge are satisfactory.

OBJECTS

To foster comradeship, to arrange reunions and to give friendly help and advice when required.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All financial members (i.e. those who have paid their subscriptions) may attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting. It appoints the Council, receives reports and considers resolutions.

ANNUAL DINNER

In normal times the Annual General Meeting is followed by the Annual Dinner, a great opportunity for seeing old friends. In the past the Dinner has been attended by 600 or more. It should be bigger in future. Many distinguished guests have replied to the toast of His Majesty's Forces, including the Earl of Athlone, now Governor-General of Canada, General Viscount Gort, V.C., General Sir Hugh Ellis and Lt.-Colonel Sir Andrew Thorne.

COUNCIL

The President, Vice-President, Hon. Treasurer and Branch Representatives are members of Council. The Council is responsible to the Annual General Meeting. It manages the affairs of the Association.

BRANCHES

A Branch may be formed in any locality with the approval of Council. A Branch of over 19 members has one or more representatives on Council according to its size.

The Association has Branches in all parts of the British Isles and is in close touch with members and with Ex-Service Women's Clubs in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

GAZETTE

The Gazette is a monthly magazine giving news of members and their doings, of Branch activities and of Service events. At present, owing to shortage of paper and cost of printing, it is published only six times a year. The cost is 3/6 a year, post free.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Life membership, £2 10 0.

Annual membership, 2/6 a year due on 1st January.

WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN

Experience has shown that there is a great bond of friendliness between those who served together. They want to meet, they are quick to help each other. Their comradeship gives pleasure in good times, it affords help and comfort in days of illness or hardship, it is waiting if your work takes you to a strange town. The Association exists to keep those who have served in touch with one another and to deal as a representative body with the things that an individual cannot handle alone.

Application for membership should be made to:

The General Secretary, 82 Lancaster Gate, London, W.2