

Rosemary Cottage
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Bude Haven.
Nor 4.-1941

My own Darling One

Here is your lovely letter of Nov 2 before me - and as I've put on a call - $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs delay - I may be speaking to you in a few minutes.

I'm so glad you enjoy that beautiful Children's service at Little St Marys. I only wish there was some service Gillian could go to. We read a chapter of "The Luckiest Life" every night - and look at Hobs picture & then read the actual Bible words and then sing an appropriate hymn - but she would enjoy some service on Sunday school. Thank you for the Lk N.T. It came today but I'll save showing it to ^{Gillian} ~~her~~ till the subject comes up again some day.

So you have been to the meeting of the Radium Commission. So glad the people were so nice and that already you knew so many of them. Two subcommittees at once! Splendid! but I hope they won't mean too much extra work. Now you haven't told me how nice you look in your new suit. I bet you looked very grand after the old one - which by the way always suited you. I like you in dark brown. It must be a comfort to find a very

"efficient & sensible body" of people in the Radium Commission after the time you had with the B. F. C. C. How often will they meet? Glad you had a moonlight walk home. Any sirens lately? We have - but nothing to disturb us.

The "Kings Ship" you missed - was that "The Oriar"? Today there was a sailor we bumped into and he had H.M.S. Oriar on his hat band.

It is the second time we heard the St Hilary Bury. So our thoughts were together even if it was too late to ring me up.

We have had our exchange of children. Nyrria was quite good. Played Stalman with me before tea - and played with Penina in her nursery after tea. Gillian came back full of beans. Had had a good time with Mrs Lloyd - didn't want to come home in fact - but the evenings are short and she had only just had tea when Joan went for her. I was tired but felt more placid in putting Gillian to bed than I would have done had I had her all the afternoon. I agree with you that Nyrria & Mrs Lloyd are well the type I need. I was amused at an incident between Mrs Russell & her small daughter Joan. I was sitting in a sunny corner

of the playground waiting for Gilliam. M^{rs} Russell came in to the playground & evidently did not notice me and one or two of the schoolgirls in the corner & as Jean came out she held out her arms to her: →



she is rather tall & angular & I did not think looked at all

cuddly. Any way Jean came out & went out of her way to ignore her & marched out of the gate alone. I got up & enquired of M^{rs} R. how her son was (as he had tonsillitis). She was chuckling to herself - "I'm afraid I've offended my daughter." she said - "I suppose I should not have held out my arms in school to her!!" - Jean is such a mite - and so original and delicious.

I enclose Miss Players letter. Don't bother over the first half - it is all about Gilliam's boots which were taken home by another girl - they were ultimately returned to me and when writing a little note to Miss Players about them (as it was she who tried to find them for me.) I took the opportunity of asking her about dancing & piano - saying that I knew they were busy but some day I'd like a little chat with her about these subjects. Her letter tells you what she thinks about it - and I

sent her a little note accepting the invitation to the dancing class tomorrow. I'll take Gillian's Eurythmic shoes & party shoes - so she can start if they like.

The piano will need arranging somehow as plans must be made for practice. However I could find out a little about it - cost etc - and perhaps you could see them when you come next.

I think you are right about the sugar - I crave it tho I do not indulge the craving. Any way now you say I should I'll spare myself some and treat myself to a section of honey for my birthday. ^{see they are still for sale.} Also I'll make myself some of the sticky rice & Chinese dates pudding one of these days. I used to eat dried figs when I could get them but have not been able to lately - the rationing of dried fruit will I'm sure mean more of these for us.

I sent you a parcel today - an orange in it this time as the children had 2 lbs each. Then I went to Bawby and she gave them each another orange. Wish I had put in 2 for you.

Oh by the way Mrs Metcalf suggests Joan takes both children to tea with them sometimes to give me a rest? What do you think of that? There'd be Mrs Metcalf

Joan & Dolly to look after and two & Julie. They'd probably have a hilarious time. but of course Joan could bring them home if they were too much for her mother.

Oh by the way yesterday Gillian put on her light (on line) while resting & scribbled V's all over the wall with a pencil. I didn't know what to do with her & asked her what she thought I ought to do. She said "Tell Daddy - only write it - don't voice it" "Why not?" I said - "Then he can't smock me."

She tells you I smocked her - I didn't really - only a pat which I forgot - but I did tie up the flex beyond her reach for 24 hours. I told her to write the letters & will erase it. Her rest is a problem - she rarely sleeps and if blocked out she puts on the light etc. How much better to be in the sunshine - if only she'd lie down for a while. She goes to bed earlier ^{now} - gets a full 12 hrs at night. I'll think out a plan.

It is bitterly cold but some sunshine. Sunday was very dull so we went to see the Smiths and had a nice little "elevenses" by their fire. Today we visited the Bamfords and had a good time. Mrs B calls them her Ranges of Sunshine.

A letter from Chris today - I'll send it on to you when answered - Not much chance of her visiting me as Bobbie needs her more now than ever - as Hotel service is so poor - also he misses Billie -

A weekend with you would be grand. Joan suggests that her mother comes here & the two of them take care of the children. But - . . . I don't know.

I've found the packet in the top left hand drawer of your desk. It is not addressed - but as it is the only one there I expect there can be no mistake. I'll take it in to Mrs Petrie tomorrow.

The Radio has just said there in Nov everyone will be allowed 12 ^(i.e. double portion) ~~oz~~ of dried fruit (either raisins, sultanas or prunes, figs etc.) be sure and take yours.

Nov 5 - "We've just had The Great Ceremony of the Xmas Pudding making."

All the year I've saved every scrap of dried fruit etc. and today collected & weighed them all. Enough for a slightly (but only slightly) modified pudding -

So I piled the stuff together in the trolley with the little "Santa Christmas" as Penna calls him & his sleigh & reindeer & a couple of candles - and after tea we all set to. Gillian & Joan turned the handle

I prepared & put the ingredients in and Penma mixed - Penma was terrifically excited and had to be whisked off to bed when she at last "mixed" some of the precious stuff out of the bowl - but Gilliam, the very busy was in a dream of Romance - you could just see by the expression as he freed all the accumulated joy of the years of Xmas pudding making of ones own Childhood - Bless her - what wonderful eyes she has.

The dancing class too was another thrill. I wished you had been there to watch that too - you would have enjoyed it - Gilliam got the idea of it all quite quickly - and again her eyes were wide with wonder. What a delightful child she must be to teach - Penma watched to and made remarks on the dancing shippers & socks of all the children. How I should love to go every week - but that I'm afraid is impossible - all parents would want to. Sylvia also joined the dancing class today. Well my darling one - I'll post this early tomorrow so goodnight. All my love my own precious one -
Your Ada -

I've made Gilliam's Xmas baby doll a lovely life size body putting in a stone in each foot & up the legs - this balancing the weight of the head a bit -

Sharp frost last night. Brilliant sunshine all morning & much warmer dull afternoon -

mean

Today Cerna

trying to do the

Welsh Cerny

which she saw the

girls do yested

you put one

finger on

your chin

the other on

your elbow & then

Cerny -

Cerna's Variation

is one

finger

in the car!!!