

Rosemary Cottage
7 Granville Terrace
Bude -

Feb 7 - 1943

My own dear One.

It was good to hear your voice last night but too bad we were cut off in the middle of our talk - One or two little items of interest I keep forgetting -

1. The road - Belle Vue has been repaired - The washhouse was there for days - Gemma went crazy with delight - Used to get permission from me to watch it - then she'd go to the pavement exactly opposite it & stand for hours just talking softly to it as Gillian did to the Caponile.

2. Jean (like) turned up re dinner time when we were having pastys for dinner (Pastys are like big pierishes only steamed) She loved them. She and her husband now live at Mawenstow with the Oks.

3. Mrs Sharran (who lives next door to the Club and is Gillian's friend) came in the other day just as we were having tea & Mabels half day. We were making toast over my fire. She joined us & thoroughly enjoyed. I find she is letting her house to and living in Stratton - she hates it there. She is keeping part of her house & comes in from Stratton & feeds in the Cafe. So I invited her to dinner next day. We had our joint - She did enjoy her dinner & the children. It was a treat to us to have company.

4. Did I tell you about my strike? Mabels work was getting so slack again that I said I'd strike and not bother about dinner. She could get herself a pasty and the children & I went to a Cafe. Did I tell you this. Mabel was to spend the extra time clearing her kitchen. She has both a sense of humour & a

sense of justice - so quite saw the point of my (2)
action - and thoroughly enjoyed her morning clearing
the kitchen + eating her pastry. But this is the funny
bit. At the cafe we had 3 sardines on toast + potato chips
+ a cup of cocoa each. The children were thrilled. The
next morning Benno said, referring to our "snack at the
Cornish Cafe": "Mummine last night we did have a
lovely dinner at the Grommills Hotel."

5. I'll enclose Daisy's letter re Gillian's birthday
present. The book has come. The illustrations, which
are many are charming.

6. At last the hat belonging to Gillian's coat has come.
There, I think those are all the little items I keep
forgetting. It is a glorious day. Mabel's birthday
off. I've got a casserole dinner so shall put it
+ everything else in the oven + take the children for
a walk along the canal - - -

Later - 5 p.m. We went that walk - as far as the
Bridge + round by the road home.

The children each gathered a bunch of wild flowers.
Daisy, dandelion, primrose, violets, wild geranium
wild strawberry, purple dead nettle - pink Campian, purple
willow, etc.

Now we have just had tea in the garden for
the first time this year. The thermometer there
registering 65 deg at 4.30 p.m. - 60 now. There is
quite a cold N.E. wind but on our verandah
that does not touch us - and the sun has been
grand. I believe there is a comet visible

to the naked eye somewhere near the Great Bear⁽³⁾
I must look out for it -

We have had one or two sirens lately - but
nothing more -

Home Guard are in charge of us now - all the
soldiers have left - including Mabel's "Bob tail"
who gets leave in April some time. I've dis-
covered he is only 19 - so it is a boy & girl
love affair - and if it lasts may be all right -
She has shown him to her parents and they
like him. Mabel is more an "at home" bird
now - comes home early even on her half days
A letter came from him yesterday morning &
Mabel stayed in during her "off duty" time & wrote
him sheets & sheets with a sublime smile
on her face!!!! She was sharing my fire.
Perhaps her friendship of him will keep her
safe. Her sister Winnie has a job at the
College where Tom works - I suppose boys
aren't so particular about the cleanliness of their
rooms etc. I'm sorry Winnie is there as she has
to live at home & sees more of Mabel. However
she will soon join the W. P. ~~to~~ N. S.
Now I'm going to close and let Gillian take
this to the post to catch the 6.15 m - Then I'll
give them a bath which they need badly
as they played Red Indians this morning

and painted their faces, legs, hands etc - and ¹⁴ and
are a sight.

So glad you are better. and hope that sero
calcin will give you the same resistance
it seems to have given us.

All my love my arms precious one.

Your Adm.