Since the first Newsletter issued earlier this year, big strides have been made with regard to the Queen Square Alumnus Association (QSAA). A very successful Reception for Alumni was held in Boston in April at St. Botolph's Club, followed by an excellent Dinner. 35 Alumni attended and the success of the event was very largely due to the hard work put in by those organising the event, namely Dr. Shirley Wray, Dr. Robert Ackerman in Boston, Dr. John Steiner from Cincinnati and Dr. Michael Finkel from Eau Claire.

Our first Newsletter produced a lot of interest, and Pat Harris, Honorary Secretary of the Association, now has a very considerable mailing list for future Newsletters. She is always very happy to hear from Alumni who wish to be added to the list.

As those of you know who received the first Newsletter, it is our intention to establish Regional Convenors/Chapter Presidents in major areas of the world and this has been partly achieved. Several people have made firm commitments to do this and a reply is awaited from others. So far the following have agreed:

Dr. Shyamal Sen (Calcutta, India), Dr. Manuel J. Somoza (Buenos Aires, Argentina), Dr. Pieter Bernsen, (Nijmegen, The Netherlands), Dr. S. E. M. Abdel Magid (Saudi Arabia), Dr. Disya Ratanakorn (Bangkok, Thailand), Dr. Karlheinz Reiners (Duesseldorf, Germany), Dr. T. Hattori (Chiba, Japan), Dr. Ivan MacG Donaldson (Christchurch, New Zealand), Dr. John King, Victoria, Australia, Dr. I. Milonas (Greece) and Dr. Moon-Keen Lee (Malaysia).

During the past year successful meetings of regional groups have been held. Mention has already been made of the Boston meeting held in association with the American Academy of Neurology, and in addition a Reception was held in September in Tokyo in association with the Asian and Oceanian Congress of Neurology organised by Dr. S. Watanabe. In October in Montevideo, the Panamerican Congress of Neurology was held, and again this proved an excellent opportunity for a get together of Alumni organised by Dr. M. Somoza.

It is our aim that Alumni meetings/receptions be held in conjunction with international meetings, and the World Congress to be held in Vancouver, Canada in 1993, and the next Panamerican Congress in Guatemala in 1995 should provide excellent opportunities for such meetings. Looking to the future, it is planned to have a London meeting after the new Queen Square hospital has been commissioned, probably in the latter part of 1993.

RECEPTION IN SAN DIEGO, MAY 1992.

The next meeting of the American Academy of Neurology will be held in San Diego, U.S.A. from 3rd-9th May, and a Reception will be held for Queen Square Alumni on Tuesday, 5th May at a venue to be arranged.
DONATIONS

Donations to the QSAA have been received from Dr. Ing-Wei Wu and Dr. Lie-Gam Chia, both from Taiwan. We are very grateful to both these gentlemen for their generosity.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Financial considerations cannot these days be ignored. The Institute of Neurology has generously supported the activities of the Association so far, but it is clear that the organisation should be largely self-supporting. To this end we are asking for a single life membership fee of £25 from those who indicate that they wish to become members. Members will receive the biennial newsletters and notices of meetings.

QUEEN SQUARE NEWS

DEATHS

PROFESSOR R. W. GILLIATT

It is with great sadness that we record the death of Roger Gilliatt. He died at the age of 69 on 19th August in the United States. He joined the Consultant staff of the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases in 1955 and in 1962 was appointed as first Professor of Clinical Neurology at the Institute, and the first Professor of Clinical Neurology in the University of London. During his 25 years tenure of the Chair he built up a large and productive department committed to the systematic scientific investigation of the causes of neurological disease, and through his energy, vision and leadership played a major role in the foundation and development of the other academic departments of the Institute, and thus in bringing it to its present status as one of the premier centres for neurological research in the world.

A memorial service at St. Marylebone Parish Church was held on 18th October followed by a reception at the Royal College of Physicians. The address was given by Professor Ian McDonald. Copies of it are available from Pat Harris.

RETIREMENTS

Two senior members of the Institute and Hospital staffs retired at the end of September 1991.

DR. MARTIN HALLIDAY

Dr. Halliday, a member of the MRC External staff joined Dr. Arnold Carmichael's MRC Neurological Research Unit in the late 1940's. Initially concerned with work in the general fields of experimental psychology, he made important contributions to studies of myoclonus, and later, in conjunction with long standing colleagues, engaged in extensive studies of the characteristics and significance of evoked responses in the CNS, both in the normal brain and in a variety of diseased states. He was recently honoured by appointment as foreign member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Science.
PROFESSOR P. K. THOMAS

Professor Thomas, first holder of the Joint Chair in Clinical Neurology established between the Institute of Neurology and the Royal Free Hospital of Medicine in 1985. He was appointed to the staff of the National Hospital in 1963 and to a personal joint chair in Neurology in 1974. Despite a very busy clinical and teaching commitment, he has developed and maintained a thriving research programme concerned with the anatomy and pathology of the Peripheral Nervous System, with particular interest in the pathogenesis of diabetic neuropathy. For the last 8 years he has been the Editor of the Journal 'Brain'. Retirement will clearly be in name only, as having relinquished Brain he has now accepted the Editorship of the Journal of Anatomy, and will, of course, be continuing in clinical practice.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

PROFESSOR A.H.V. SCHAPIRA

Professor Thomas' successor to the Joint Chair between the Department of Clinical Neurology at the Institute and the Department of Neuroscience at the Royal Free Hospital Medical School is Professor Schapira, previously Joint Senior Lecturer between the two Departments. One of his major interests is in the genetic basis of metabolic disease of muscle.

Personal Chairs in Clinical Neurology

Anita E. Harding
R. S. J. Frackowiak
C.J. Mathias, jointly with the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine.

Personal Chair in Cytology

D. N. Landon

Readerships

Dr. J. M. Jacobs in Experimental Neuropathology in the Department of Neuropathology.

Dr. L. J. Herberg in Experimental Psychology in the Department of Clinical Neurology.

We are delighted to record the following prestigious awards and elections:

The Charcot award of the International Federation of Multiple Sclerosis Societies has been awarded to Professor W. Ian McDonald for his work on Multiple Sclerosis.

The Baly medal of the Royal College of Physicians and the Galen medal of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries to Professor C. D. Marsden.

Mr. D. G. T. Thomas has been elected as Vice President of the European Association of Neurological Surgeons.
Dr. D. M. Bowen and Dr. J. M. Jacobs, both non-clinical scientists, have been elected fellows of the Royal College of Pathologists.

Professor A. E. Harding and Dr. A. J. Lees have been elected members of the American Neurological Association.

REDEVELOPMENT AT QUEEN SQUARE

Ever since the National Hospital at Queen Square was combined with Maida Vale Hospital in 1948 the dream has been to unite them under one roof. Now that dream is becoming reality with the redevelopment of the Powis Place Block at the rear of Queen Square.

For many years successive plans have failed to come to fruition but a combination of the need to provide improved accommodation, the raising of private money by the hospital's Development Foundation and the expiry of the lease on Maida Vale in 1996 have now produced a favourable result.

The Powis Place Block which previously housed the Outpatients Department, Princess Christian Ward and John Back Ward has now been demolished. A severe recession in the construction industry brought a very favourable price, and the contractor John Laing plc has planned a contract that will bring completion in early 1993.

The new building will have around 170 beds including three Neurosurgery Wards, one Neurology Ward, a Private Patients Ward, two Intensive Care Units, four Operating Theatres, a Programmed Investigation Unit and Outpatient Department.

The total project cost is over £27 million of which £10 million will be raised by private funding.

SIR CHARLES SYMONDS HOUSE

It is pleasing to report that Examination Hall, as it used to be called and which now houses the Hospital Out-patient Department, is to be renamed the Sir Charles Symonds House in his honour. This proposal received wide international support.

VISITS TO QUEEN SQUARE BY ALUMNI

We are delighted to receive visits from Alumni, but would stress the importance of writing well in advance to the Dean, Professor D. N. Landon, so that suitable arrangements can be made.