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Rosey Cottages
Granville Tee
Bude
Aug 10.

My own Dearest One

This is the longest interval between writing letters that I have ever given you & now I scarcely know whether to answer your letter or to give you my news. I'll have to try a telegram letter I think - ~~Thursday~~ ^{Thursday} Gillian was ill ~~Thursday~~ ^{Thursday} ~~Friday~~ ^{Friday}

~~Thursday~~ Friday Aug 7. The planned picnic with the Fieldings did not come off as it rained. I was glad for Gillian's sake. So we had Grace's Birthday party. Guests. M^{rs} Fielding - Ann & Peter (Ann's little brother aged 2. I got a perfectly plain sponge cake & got out a few teaspoonsful of our precious icing sugar - yellow, pink & mauve & in the morning we iced the cake. I also spared a few of my precious silver balls. Gillian said it was the loveliest birthday cake she had ever seen!! and Grace said it was the first ^{birthday} cake she had ever had. We got the candle ring & put round it 13 Christmas tree candles (bigger than cake candles) & put it round the cake - This was a great success - The rest of the tea was only splits & jam but was heartily enjoyed by all. After tea we had gramophone & dancing in the nursery which was emptied of everything & made lots of

room. Peter sat close by the gramophone which absorbed all his attention, & the four girls danced. Grace has almost nothing of a wardrobe but did bring an impossible pink silk party frock - which I let her wear & admired (!!) very much so she was as happy as a little princess - or Cinderella.

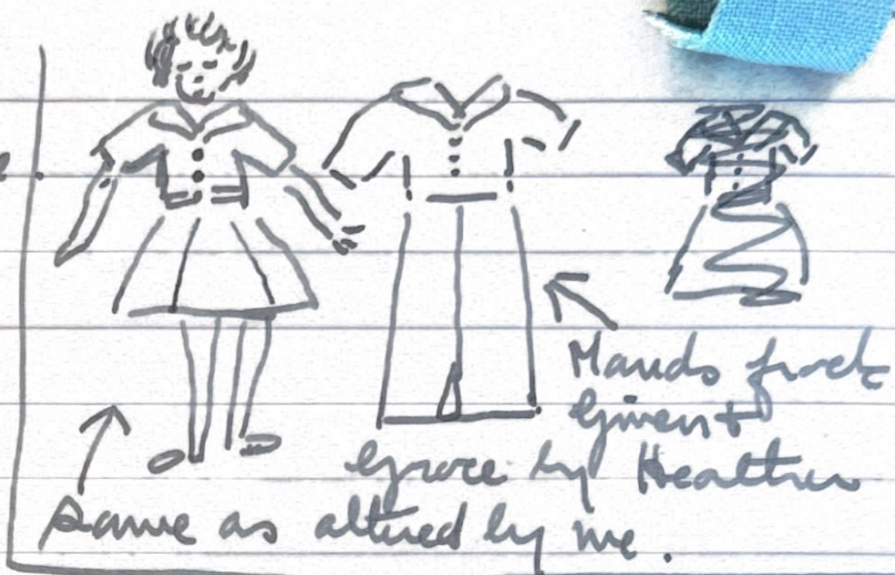
People passing in the pouring rain had to keep under their umbrellas & admire it all.

Saturday was wet again. I let Grace do my shopping - & play with the children while I got on with the work - We all made beds together -

In the afternoon I called Grace & Gillian into my bedroom where I was resting to teach them to play Happy Families

Penma was playing about with snap cards. Suddenly Jean Oke came - so she joined us (I still lying on my bed) & she too enjoyed Happy Families which she did not know. She brought me a bunch of pink Carnations & a jar of heather honey from M^{rs} Oke who is in bed with bad arthritis in one knee. The pain is terrible - so I sent her a tube of Analgesic balm (Menthol & Wintergreen) which I got lately for arthritis in one of my fingers & which acts like magic. Jean had tea with us and went on to the pictures as she had planned at 5.30 p.m. It was still pouring with rain - But Jeans visit was a great one.

Believe. I altered the frock
Nannie had given Grace.
It was originally made
- given to Heather -
a pretty greenish blue
& simple shape but
well tailored. I only



cut it smaller under arms & side of the bodice
thus keeping the pretty pattern. The skirt I
took to bits & completely altered from a long thin
thing to a little flared girls skirt. It has
3 white buttons & a white belt. When Grace
put it on it looked as tho I had taken her
to a grand London shop to be dressed. She is
young enough not to be self conscious so through-
ly enjoyed it. We went for a walk in the
afternoon towards Breakwater road & found Mrs
Thressell & her two children Jean & Jack on
their way to look at that funny little house
Bungalow up on the road from church to
cliff that we watched being built. She'd
like to take it if she can. We bought them
buns & tea with us - so that was a great
thrill.

Monday was washing day - & showers at intervals
Grace took the children out between showers

and when the shaves were on they all cleared silver. Grace takes no "off duty" - of Duty is far more fun - she wouldn't even go home for tea on Sunday and as the Russells came I was glad of Gracias help & she was thrilled. I send her a bath every night when the children are in bed.

I'm so sorry y were so anxious about my disturbed nights - If I could guarantee a night's sleep every night I'd be a different woman. But it isn't all external things that wake me. When children are absolutely quiet & all well and I get an opportunity of a good night I'm sure to lie awake for nothing whatever & have to go down for milk or oraltine - I took a dunnal yesterday & had a good night & am grand today. Today Tuesday - is sunshiny but windy & as Mr. Tafe was here we went on to Crockett's beach to look for C.S.S.M. after Grace had done some of my shopping & Gillian the rest - Oh yes Penia did the green grocery ^{shop} while I did up your parcel. There is an egg this week - it is in the box with the tomatoes - the Cornflakes are to fill up space & will need crisping after lying near the beans. We found nothing of the C.S.S.M. but took

the childrens new sand box - and built a sand aeroplane -

later - Just been talking to you over the phone -

So glad you had a good time at Winnies -

~~the~~ Now for your letter - We always get your weather two days later - now we have your lovely sunny

Sunday - So glad you had Daisy & Paul - and that you found your spare room comfortable

Im sure the house looked lovely even tho you had not much time to spend on it just before they came -

Winnie told me it was so beautiful it would be impossible for a child to be in it!!

Good for Daisy - sleep thru a raid. Glad the pussy willows have started. They will grow like wild fire now.

Yes the children like Winnie p.p.e. She brought it here & then left it in our house - It lay about till we gave it to her on her next

visit - now it has come back to stay -

Re Grace & night - Yes she has settled now and brings me my tea in the morning - a great blessing -

She has done this for her mother, who, like me can do nothing without that -

She is a nice child to deal with as she has such an imagination - e.g. One of her complaints was that she could not stay

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(alarm)

the clock ticking. But as she slept in without it I wanted her to get used to it, so told her how I loved the sound of a ticking clock - it was so companionable - it seemed to talk to me and I never feel quite alone with a clock - I told her how you bought me the grand mother clock on purpose that I might hear the strike in the night etc - She has so taken to the idea that she not only loves it now but -- well last night at 10 p.m I went up to her room to collect the cats to bring downstairs (she always takes one or two of them to bed) and I saw a light shining on her floor - I went to the windows to see what beam shone from there to her - but nothing - Then I saw the light was in the bed & turned down the bed clothes to find the little owl light and the clock cuddled close in her arms! She just loves that ticking clock. It is nice to have three children - 3 - 6 - 13 quite nice steps. I think you will thoroughly approve of the family now - Well I've got an electric night light. It is not quite what you said but is just the description - It is a pretty neon light

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with a soft apricot glow & sort of crit. She will only put it on if she is very lonely. She is happy as a child could be.

I agree with all you say about keeping accounts. It is the bank statement that counts - but if I'm a little alarmed at that I like to be able to put my finger on the spot that is running away with the money - and bookkeeping certainly helps you to spot that - I'm also happier when I've run a new regime (with accounts) i.e. I know just what this place cost during Joan's time - now things are a little different I'd like to know a bit more in detail where the expenses increase (or decrease).

I'm better now - an E.N.T man might help. I managed (I think by painting my throat with iodine) to keep the infection to the right side only - right nostril etc - which is now clearing up. It was funny - even the left nostril was clear while the right was terribly bunged up. Now if I can only build up my strength the next 2 or 3 months I should do - & Grace is going to do that very helpful thing for me - early cup of tea.

Ejilham seems to have passed that destructive stage & is now constructive - Almost every afternoon has something, however small, to show

- me that she has made. I enclose a few examples
1. a sort of book (made from pages of an old notebook)
 2. pleated wool - she learned how to pleat after being
sham once -
 3. a sample of knitting - she cast on herself
then wrote down all she did - she finally
cast off & sewed in the ends -
 4. A doll's school report -

Thank you dearly for the extra letter - it
was such a dear one -

Hope you will not have too bad a time
with Miss Sell away - as you say it
cuts both ways - but I hope there
will be more advantages than disadvantages -
I posted a parcel this a m - & put this
week's Radio Times in it - as our Radio
is off there is no need to keep the Times till
the end of the week. I must cancel the
order for it till we are working again -

All my love my and precious one.
Yours Ada -

P.S. Look for your egg in among the trinites
in the parcel I sent today.