



My dear Little People,

Do you all know what a great feast today is—it is the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin, the day on which we try to remember the wonderful visit of the Angel Gabriel to Our Blessed Mother. Today, my dear Little People, we must all pray fervently for our little friends who are suffering from infantile paralysis. It is up and down the whole length of the country, and indeed it may even be that some of our very own Little People are suffering from it. Pray then, dear children, that God may help the suffering and those who love them. Don't worry your dear grown-ups and ask to be let go here, there, and everywhere. Be good and thoughtful, and do your big best to take great care of yourselves, and be very obedient to those who are worried about you on account of this dreadful sickness that is with us.

I know you will be disappointed not to see the results of the Scrap Book Competition this week, but I cannot really help keeping you waiting, the books are still coming in. I cannot wait any longer now, the books will be judged this week, and you will see the results on the 1st April. So, to leave ourselves plenty of room that day, we will go through the April birthday list to-day. Here they are, our good wishes to them all:—

Mary Norling, Eileen Barnes and Mary Joyce Holden same day, Martin O'Leary, Nancy Rapley, Agnes Emerson, Marie Searle, Bernard Edward McVarry, Veronica Philpott, Nora Mary Rooney, Agnes Winnie (no surname), Esme Morgan, Eileen Byrne, Eileen McCarthy and James O'Neill same day, Terence Quinn. A Happy Birthday all.

By this time many of you have your L.P.L.C. badges, and like them I know. Mind you read all letters carefully, and be sure to write to new members asking for Letter Friends. Are you enjoying each other's letters? I'm sure it's very good to have so many Letter Friends scattered all about the country and even across waters.

ANNE.

Dear Anne,

This is my first letter to you and I think it is a very good idea to have badges. I am fifteen years of age and I go to the Technical College at Invercargill. I have six sisters and one brother. I enclose six penny stamps for a badge. The infantile paralysis is a terrible disease isn't it Anne? There is a case at Longwood not very far away from here. One of my sisters is going

to Riverton High School when it opens. I don't think any of the schools will open for a while yet. I got some lessons through the post the other day. Well Anne this is all I can write just now as it is bedtime. Yours truly, Mary Morris, Orepuki. P.S.—My birthday is on the 17th January.

(Welcome Mary dear, hope you like your badge. Yes, the infantile paralysis is very dreadful. We must pray hard.—Anne.) Dear Anne,

Seven long months have passed since I wrote to you, and joined the L.P.L.C., so I think I should write again, and tell you how splendidly the other members have treated me. I am now receiving very nice letters from ten girls in New Zealand. If any other club member has been more fortunate than I, that person should be congratulated. Your page has made a wonderful difference to the *Tablet*, Anne. We all look forward to its arrival with increased eagerness. During last week we had several violent thunderstorms, and more than enough rain. Several trees around here were struck by lightning, and the roads were not improved by the heavy rain. There is a road from Brookville which winds through the mountains' beautiful scenery, and leads into Bairnsdale. It is very seldom people use this road, as it is always in need of repair, but on Monday, two men drove a motor car through, and went back the same night by the Tambo Valley. The distance is about 130 miles. The car must have been wonderfully strong to be able to climb over stumps, logs, stones, etc., and the men fond of rough rides and hard work, to face that trip. This year the School Sports' Association intend holding the sports on April 3, instead of October, so the school children are all training. We have to travel about 15 miles to be present at this sports meeting, but we always have a good time. Do you like the country Anne, or would you rather live in town? We live on a farm, which is right in the heart of the mountains, so if you ever become ill, and need a really quiet rest, to recuperate, this is just the place, as it is so very quiet, one would recover hurriedly so that the civilised world could once more be called home. As I am writing I can hear a fox barking, and the mournful call of the Mo-poke. We often hear a dingo howling, as one has made its home in the next paddock to ours, and it takes great pleasure in coming as close to our house as the fences will allow, and practising his highest notes, which I can assure you are not the sweetest one could wish for.

As I'm sure you will be very busy with all your other letters Anne, I will close with best love from Lorna Carroll, Brookville, via Swift's Creek, E. Gippsland, Victoria.

(So glad to hear from you again Lorna, and am sure the Little People will enjoy your letter as much as I do. I prefer the country to the town, and always spend my short holidays in a quiet place if I can. How much I would like to visit you in your mountain home. Glad you like to get letters from club members, I'm sending you a badge with our love.—Anne.)

Dear Anne,

May I join your letter page and also the L.P.L.C.? I go to the Convent School, North-east Valley. I am sending my sixpence in this letter for the badge. I will be nine on the 30th April. Best wishes and love from Paul Porter, Dunedin.

(Welcome Paul, I'm keeping your badge till you tell me your full address. Write quickly.—Anne.)

Dear Anne,

I would like to belong to the L.P.L.C. I will be 7 years of age on April 24th and I am in p. 4 at the Valley Convent School. My sixpence will be in this letter. Love from Jack Porter, Dunedin.

(Welcome you too, Jack, hurry up and send me your full address so that I can post your badge.—Anne.)

Dear Anne,

Just a few lines to ask you how you are getting on. I am in Std. 2 and I am 8 years old. We are all very sorry for this sickness; for it has kept us from school. My mother was in the hospital for nine weeks, but she is now well. I didn't go anywhere for my holidays. I stayed at home with my dad. I am sending you sixpence for a badge. My birthday is on the twelfth of September. I must close now for I have no more to say. Good-bye.—Tracey O'Gorman, Lawrence.

(So glad to hear from you Tracey, and hope you will like your badge. Hope mother is quite well now.—Anne.)

Dear Anne,

May I join your happy band of little folks? I am 11 and in std. 4. I am sending sixpence in stamps to get a badge. This is my first letter. My birthday is on the 17th November. I wish we had our books for school, we're having a number of holidays. I saw in the little people's page that Maire Searle was the first to send the money for the badge. Maire is my playmate at

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