

Dear Anne,

My sister wrote to you some time ago, so I thought I would write too. I am eight years old, and my birthday is on November 1. I am in the fourth grade and I have to walk two and a half miles to school. Last New Year's Day I went into the Sale hospital with an abscess on the appendix. I had two operations, and I came home in April with Dad. He was in the hospital too, but only for two weeks. I have one sister and five brothers. Their names are Pat, Jack, Denis, Leo, Anthony, and Lorna. Anthony is only three months old and don't like minding him. Please Anne may I join your letter club. I would like some girls about my own age to write to me. I have a little black and white kitten, and I call it Nellie. Jack has a black one and he calls it Jet. We have 6 horses, and their names are Silver, Dollie, Cocos, Kitty, Toby, Shamrock. We saw a big snake coming home from school the other night, and Jack tried to kill it but he couldn't, so Pat went along and killed it. It is near Christmas time now, so I am being a good girl, cos I want Santa to bring me lots of toys. My proper name is Margaret Claire, but I am always called Peggy. Well Anne I must close now, wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Best love from your new Little Friend, Peggy Carroll, Brookville, E. Gippsland, Victoria.

(Welcome Peggy dear, so glad to hear from you. Are you quite well again now. I'll put your letter in the L.P.L.C. space, and most likely, someone will write to you.—Anne.)

Dear Anne,

I am writing to tell you I am going in for the competition which you are having. It is very wet up here to-day. I am saying the Hail Mary's and Christmas is quite near. We have our holidays now and the name of my prize is *Sylvia's Secret*. I was glad to get my holidays. I am writing to a little girl in Australia by the name of Lorna Carroll. I have not had an answer yet. I still write to Jean Swiggs and she always answers them. I think I will close now with love to you and I wish you a very merry Christmas. Your little friend, Irene Hanrahan, St. Bathans.

(Another live member of our L.P.L.C. I'm so glad, Irene dear, that you are making club friends, and that you are going in for the competition.—Anne.)

Dear Anne,

I suppose you have forgotten all about the Hinsley family Anne? We have a cat called Tommy and twenty-two chickens, but one was accidentally killed this morning. The painter is at our place just now, papering the house and is making a terrible mess of it. I am in Std. V. and I will be eleven years of age on March 30 next year. I have a brother Roy, and he got his proficiency certificate on Tuesday, 2nd of this month. I want to join your L.P.L.C. Anne. The weather down in Winton is sometimes wintry and sometimes very hot. I wonder how Dunedin is getting Anne? I expect I am going for a trip to Queenstown some of these days. Our Convent School "broke up" on

Thursday, 18th inst., accompanied with much enjoyment. As I cannot scrape up any more news I shall close with a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Your sincere friend, Harry Hinsley, Winton.

(Welcome Harry, old man, glad you want to join the L.P.L.C. Mind you write to someone now, and, very likely, someone will write to you when this letter appears in the L.P.L.C. space.—Anne.)

Dear Anne,

It is a long time since I wrote to you; but I have been studying for my proficiency. I am to be examined next week. May I join the "Little People's Letter Club" and could you give me the address of Veronica Zainey as I would like to write to her? We were to have our school picnic to-day; but it rained and had to be postponed. I have eight of my cousins spending Christmas with me; so our house will be full. One of my school friends' little brother died the other day, he was fourteen months old. I must close now, with best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy New Year from Yvonne Londrigan, Little River

(Glad to welcome you Yvonne dear. As I do not know Veronica Zainey's address I'm asking her to send it and you'll hear later.—Anne.)

Dear Anne,

I was very pleased to see my letter in your page, it is some time since I have written to you, but since my last letter my father has been ill and I haven't had very much time for writing. I wrote to Lorna Carroll and received a very nice reply, I have had letters from Eileen Walsh (Doreen and Patricia Walsh's sister) and Jean Swiggs. Father Gallagher has promised to come to celebrate Mass here before Christmas. We are expecting him over any time now. We are very busy here at present. We are milking 52 cows. My brother takes the milk to the Okains Bay Cheese Factory every morning. I am writing especially to wish you a holy New Year, and I hope you will have room to put my letter in your page before Christmas. Well Anne dear I think I will close now with love to all the club members and your dear self. Your loving friend, Trephena Quinn, O'Kain's Bay, Banks Peninsula.

(Your letter only arrived after the holidays dear, held up probably owing to the tremendous rush. But your wishes hold good just the same and I hope you'll have happy holidays. Glad you're writing letters to the girls and getting answers.—Anne.)

Sort each other up now, Little People, and get letters away to each other before you forget.

We'll go on with our other letters, and I'll be waiting for a very big mail next week. Remember we've got to fill TWO PAGES now, and it would be a fearful and dreadful thing to run short of letters with the country full of Little People.

Dear Anne,

As I have not written to you for a long time I thought I would now as I have time. Dear Anne, I have decided to join the scrap-

book competition and think it a good idea. We are having our school holidays now and I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. I also wish a merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all the Little People in the *Tablet*. We had our yearly examination and I have passed into standard 6. Well Anne as I have more letters to write will close but still remain, your loving friend, Isabell Harding, Motukaraka, Hokiang.

(I think our competition will be a popular one Isabel, don't you? Scrap-books are so beautiful if they're well made and you've no idea how they amuse little children.—Anne.)

Dear Anne,

I am writing this letter to tell you my suggestion about the badges and also that I have joined the competition and I have four pages full in my book. I am not making my scrap-book for to win the prize but for the little orphans. I passed from Std. 4 to Std. 5 this year and I got first prize in my class for good progress. Wishing you a happy New Year. Yours sincerely, Mollie Campbell, St. Bathans.

P.S.—I think it would be quite a good suggestion about the badges.

(Good girl Mollie, I'm sure your scrap-book will be very nice indeed. I'm hoping everyone will want a badge, but am waiting for all the Little People's answers.—Anne.)

Dear Anne,

When I read about your idea of getting badges I at once made up my mind that some of your Little People have a great amount of brains. I think that if you got badges all your little people would be willing to pay for them at any cost. I also think that those who second this wise plan will be in the majority. I went my proficiency on the tenth of this month and passed. Yours truly, Ella Flynn, Chertsey, Ashburton.

P.S.—I wish you all success in your new plan. I will be very sorry if this letter does not reach your office before New Year's Day; but I did not get the *Tablet* until yesterday.—Ella.

(Glad you like our plan about badges. I'm hoping all the Little People will like the notion so that we can go ahead soon.—Anne.)

P.S.—I've just received a post card from Pat Heagney and a card from Lorna and Peggy Carroll. Thank you for them. Good night.

ANNE.

Everyone runs up against trying people some time or another, but unfailing patience and the proverbial gentle answer are the most effective weapons. Most people are really decent in spots, and respond to a kindly word or action in a very gratifying way, and as courtesy is catching we may as well pass it along.

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