



A Page for Little People

Conducted by
ANNE



My dear Little People,—

Are you all very busy getting ready for the holidays, and finishing up your year's work? Indeed, Christmas is so very close now, it is almost here, mind you all say your Thousand Hail Mary's for the Little Infant Jesus, and offer them up for your very dear Grown-ups. We have a good many letters to read this week, and one or two other things to talk about, so, I will not say much to you just here. We must get all our letters answered and everything sorted up before Christmas so that we can have all kinds of interesting things to write about during the holidays.

LADDER WRITING COMPETITION.

Seven Little People have climbed our Ladder this week and they say there is a wonderful view from there. Only Little People who have climbed can know what is on the other side of the fence. You should just see them waving their arms and smiling with delight as they look down on this jolly old world from the rungs of our lovely ladder.

1. Paul Porter is Top this time.
2. Jack Porter is second.
3. Bridgie Reilly third.
4. Mollie Cavanagh fourth.
5. Cassie Dowling fifth.
6. Kathleen Harding sixth.
7. Mary Harding seventh.

The Competition is closed now, next week you will be awarded your prizes. If any letters arrive this week for the Competition, you'll see the last Ladder next week, along with the Prize List. But the Competition is closed. Next week I'll tell you what we're going to do during the Holidays by way of a Competition. We'll have good Prizes and a lot of fun, so look out.

We have some letters to read and answer, we'll do them now. Two New Members have written. They are—

FRED JOHNSTON, Hook, R.D. Waimate, who is only five years' old, and is a Lead Pencil Treasure. Fred has a Badge indeed he has, because his brother James got two and gave him one. What do you know about that? (Welcome Fred. We've got such a lot of nice little friends for you to meet. When is your birthday? Please let us know. Do you like your badge? We think James is a real sport to give it to you.—Anne.)

CASSIE HART, Victoria Street, Cambridge, has sent for a Badge and wants a Birthday Mate. Cassie has one sister and three brothers. (Welcome Cassie, you're just in time to meet us all before Christmas. Do you know there are two Birthday Mates waiting for you—Cecily Murray, 178 Tasman Street, Wellington, and Margaret Anne Nyhon, Sandymount. Hurry now the three of you and make each other's acquaintance. Hope you'll like your Badge.—Anne.)

JAMES JOHNSTON, Hook, R.D., Waimate, got his Badges safely and has given one to Fred so that he can be a Member.

James is always called by his full name, not "Jim," and he wore his Badge into Timaru, but didn't happen to meet any Little People. (Glad you liked your Badge and that you've passed one on to Fred. Good boy to wear your Badge, one of these times you will meet another Member. Sorry you have no real Birthday Mate James, the nearest to you is Mick O'Rourke, 17 Vautier Street, Napier, on the 4th. Then there is Frank Kinney, Filly Burn, Hyde, on the 6th August. Will you three be Letter Friends?—Anne. P.S.—Yes, I do like pets, call your little rabbit "Bunty."—A.)

LEN McMAHON, Mount Pleasant, Cronadun, writes to see how we're getting on and wants to know when the Writing Competition is coming off. Also, Len is hoping to pass into the fifth standard at the end of the year, he wears his Badge on his coat and wants a name for two white kittens and a black calf. (Good day Len, glad to hear from you. What Writing Competition are you wondering about Len, not the one just closed is it? Look out for the next. I think you might call your calf "Sooty" and the kittens, "Tiny" and "Dot." Glad you wear your Badge, and that Henry Campbell and Leslie Heath are Letter Friends with you.—Anne.)

ZITA TRAYNOR, Malta Street, Wyndham, is an old friend who writes to say she is thinking of us. Zita thinks it would be nice if a Fairy Godmother gave us a new Joy Boat for a Christmas Box, and she thinks we might have some Fairy Stories once in a while, or a serial story. Zita is coming to Dunedin for her holidays. (So glad to hear from you Zita, I think we may follow some of your suggestions in the New Year, I like them myself, and maybe a Fairy Godmother will come to light with a new Joy Spot for us. Mind you wear your Badge when you go out in Dunedin, you'll be sure to meet some members of our Club.—Anne.)

MARGARET CAMERON, Nokomai, writes to tell us the Inspector has been to her school. Also that she has some roses blooming. (How did you get on and did the Inspector ask you any questions? Were you frightened of the mob of cattle. Glad the pets are well.—Anne.)

EILEEN BYRNE, 659 Gloucester Street, Linwood, Christchurch, writes a nice long letter with suggestions and riddles. Eileen is sitting for a Junior National Scholarship early in December. And she tells me that not one of her Letter Friends has written for over five weeks, although she used to get two letters each day, once upon a time. (Glad to get your long letter Eileen, how very dreadful about your Letter Friends. Like yourself, I hope they'll wake up when they see this letter. Perhaps they are extremely and amazingly busy just now. Thanks for the riddles, you'll see them in the Riddle Bin some time. I'll let you know later about the suggestion you make, but I'm afraid it may be inclined to take up rather much space to be workable. However, we'll see. You must be delighted to have that dear little

new brother Patrick James. Thank you for stamps for Orphans.—Anne.)

ESSIE GAMBLE, Aramoho, writes a short note saying she is so busy now learning music that she has not much time for writing. She likes her music very much. (Glad to hear from you Essie, of course you have no spare time as you must practice regularly and often if you want to do any good with your music. We won't forget you.—Anne.)

MARGARET WALKER, Enfield, has had a letter from her Letter Friend, and they are both trying in the Ladder Competition, so I could not put this one in, but you had your chance just the same for you wrote very nicely last time. (Glad you and your Letter Friend are writing to each other. I may tell you something more about that Wiggly Weasel one of these days.—Anne.)

BRIDGIE REILLY, Benmore, entered for the Ladder, enclosed her penny and is making a garment for an Orphan. Bridgie and her little brother have two grey rabbits and they want names for them. (You'll see where you are on the Ladder Bridgie dear, you did very well. Thank you for the penny, and for the promise of a garment as well. Would you like to call your rabbits "Pip" and "Squeak."—Anne.)

MOLLIE CAVANAGH, Pukemaori, Tautapere, also entered for the Competition and likes our page very much. Mollie has two Letter Friends. (Glad to hear from you Mollie, do you see where you are on the Ladder. Hope you get on well in the examination and have a good concert to finish the year happily.—Anne.)

CASSIE DOWLING, Hyde, is on the Ladder and is very busy with her lessons just now. They have a dear little foal at Cassie's place, and four wee kittens which they found safely tucked away in one of the bedrooms. (Glad you entered for the Ladder Cassie, hope you do well at the exam. I hope you did not disturb those dear little kittens and their fond mother. Love from all of us.—Anne.)

KATHLEEN HARDING, Motukaraka, Hokianga, entered for the Ladder and sent answers for two of our riddles. Kathleen says they hope to be confirmed soon, they are expecting Bishop Cleary to confirm them. (Glad to hear from you Kathleen, good girl to try in the Competition. Yes, "Cork" is the lightest city in the world. And the other answer is right also.—Anne.)

MARY HARDING, Motukaraka, Hokianga, is on the Ladder too, and she has had letters from her friend Ella. Mary tells me they have ten pigs—four black ones, two tan ones, two red ones and two black and white ones. (Mary precious, you sure have got some gaily colored pigs, are they pets? and does Jacko like them? Glad you like your Badge and that you tried in the Competition.—Anne.)

ABOUT YOUR BADGES.

I am glad to know that some of you wear your Badges, and I hope you will all try to wear them, and be very sure to make friends with each other when you meet. That

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