

The Rectory
Mells,
Frome
Somerset
Mells 812 320
26.3.76.

Dear Dinah,

Thank you for your letter,

I am most sorry about James marriage, there were so many unstable factors that I am not altogether surprised, though desperately sorry, nothing seems to go right for him. I have not had contact, the exchange has been altered, and it is just possible that he failed to get through. I would have recommended a separation. I am glad to hear about Francesca's second baby on the way.

I am not surprised about the job, though the year seems to roll by terribly quickly. I had to have a long talk about retirement with the archdeacon.

I am glad Rogar is still doing well. The film industry seems moribund in this country, like so much else so I suppose it is inevitable.

I seem to be very cabbage-like. I expect it is because I shall be 62 in April. Also the expense of getting about is terrifying. Otherwise I am reasonably well, and apart from lack of energy ticking over nicely. There is the usual Lentern rush, and the affairs of Mells struck a sticky patch. The tower got struck by lightning, doing slight damage to the stonework & putting all the electrics out of action. This is nearly put right. Then the heating system has reached the end of its useful life. Life is expensive.

I am not surprised about changing house; will you want to remain in the London area of a more countryfied area. It should not be difficult to sell as it is at such a reasonable distance to the centre and travel rising all the time. Let me know if Somerset or Avon have any attractions or even Wiltshire.

Wigil is just within range. I am not sure which end of the lake he is. There is a most excellent hotel at the lakehead of Lake Vyney at Abertridwr. I went there from Bala a most lovely & exciting mountain lane.

My very best love I am famous for being the world's worst correspondent. Excuse this typing, like me the machine is old.

lots of love to you all
Peter