

Dear Frank,

When I told you that we could put you up for a few days after the end of term, I am afraid that I forgot that Joan's father was coming up for a fortnight over Christmas (he is retired now, so is able to come for a longer stay), and his presence stretches our bedroom accommodation to its limit. Is it possible for you to come outside his stay? He is coming up on Tuesday, December 18th, and leaving (probably) on January 2nd, so that we could put you up on any night other than Dec 18th to January 1st inclusive. Can you manage Dec 15th and 16th. - I am free then, but will have examiners meetings all day on the Monday 17th. Alternatively, if you came on the Monday, 17th, and stayed overnight, we could have Monday evening & Tuesday clear for talking. Sorry if this upsets your plans, but I completely forgot that he was coming so much earlier than on his previous Christmas visit.

If this sort of weather continues, I will abandon my plans to go up into Westmorland during the vacation - I don't want to get cut off up there by either snow or fog - and will leave the hunting to the Easter vacation as to the exam period in early June. I now have old Jos. Robinson's wedding certificate, but it doesn't help - his father was a shoemaker, and he himself gave his profession as a bobbin-turner.

In case you do not manage to fit in a visit to us before you visit your folks, the lady in Ripon that I mentioned to you is Mrs P. Hall, and she has a gown shop at 20 Frobergate, Ripon, in the nicest place. Her telephone number (presumably at the shop) is Ripon 886. She was a Miss Hoggarth, and was one of Tommy Cannon's star pupils, about 1916 or so, in Kendal. She ought to know a good number of the step-dancing steps, but the dances in which I am most interested are the Sword Dance (solo) and the Five Reel. Any information would be gratefully received.

Hoping you can manage to fit in a visit here.

Yours.

Tom.