

as I find the envelope 7 James St  
is big enough I will enclose your photo, thanks  
Rotoqua  
Aug 9th 1978

My Dear Cuff KEEP

About time I got to the letter writing trade, its like summer outside & I'd much rather be in the garden, but common sense says "no." However the photo of you at piano, I cannot remember having taken it but I am damn sure I did, the "music" you are playing looks like a simple  $\frac{3}{4}$  time. The picture is a dull brown fawn print, from an English scene could be from a Constable it looks like one of his, the frame was narrow gold etc. The chairs were pretty, Christ knows what happened to them. They were of a set, beautifully upholstered in a red flower damask, wood was mahogany, Rich & Tina had accepted this set as payment or part payment on a timber account, firm in Wgtn I believe. Re the William & Harriet (Collis) couple, I don't know if you could glean

further<sup>2</sup> information, there is a book I  
have seen 3 copies, Rich & Tina had  
one, its a big heavy book about N.Z  
in the early times, a good photo of  
John Prouse in it. I think most likely  
Lorraine would have this copy. Also  
Frank Parker had one - this copy came  
to Iris I believe, & she let her neighbour  
have it a Mrs Pocklington, I think  
was her name, lived close to Iris in  
Parker Ave - I think was the street  
also there is a photo of Brian's grand  
father within. Hell I didnt know  
Rich's guns went down the well.  
So long ago, yes it makes a body  
sad plus, you know, there is an  
attic in 48 Liverpool St. years ago  
Allie told me he had secretly hidden \$2000  
in his house, he said "NoBody" could  
ever find it, well I dont know -  
Beryl said she had a good idea of where  
it was, but - we dont have any  
access access - to that place - also  
there is Ness's engagement ring  
a diamond cluster - I often wonder  
if ever we would see that on her  
sister-in-law's finger - One wonders

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Your dream of Ally, probably very true  
there surely must be remorse, for why  
would ever a person of normal intelligence  
go to such extremes of torture & delight in  
doing so, surely knowing there was no  
reward or even comfort & that there  
must be a time to repay. If needs help  
maybe, he has to work for it. No Cuff  
he cannot work for your demise, as  
your conscience is clear you are free  
of this possibility. Yes dear I know all  
about putting things back or in a  
safe place & cannot find them, Ever  
woke up in the night & remembered  
~~or~~ when daylight comes you've forgotten  
Yes I remember the Xmas party on the  
down, I was around 11<sup>12</sup> years old. Also  
there's a man there Alf Grigg, he was  
& sweet on Gert, & a pity she hadn't  
& had him, a really nice fellow too  
- he was a casualty of the 1st World War,  
+ now I've answered your letter I'll start  
G on the long envelope, I will return the  
C (Photo & other matter at a later date as  
I have not had opportunity to peruse

family tree

same - as yet. <sup>4</sup> Maybe this is worth a try, sleep with photo, or correspondence or other puzzling matter beneath your pillow, you may dream of a solution. I believe this is done on many occasions.

Don't fret Cuff, if we didn't descend from Wm (Sir) it doesn't matter, he belongs somewhere & is a good influence. Anyway the family Trees (no wonder Rich was in the timber trade). It does seem that the trees die out, no males - even of Jim's family, Low is the only male.

The photo at piano, you would be around 4, a pretty little kid, pity there weren't more photos, this one would have been around the time I took one of you sitting in a bunch of cineraria by front path with Tina's scarf around your head & shoulders, in this

photo your little feet are beautiful, altogether I think this a very pretty picture. I think most of these negatives were in the old Office. You ask me other pictures

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on walls of front room. A pret frame  
very pretty, of Jack Mc's wedding, there  
were Jack, and Florie, Madge & Connie  
(bidesmaids) Race (Horace) & 1 other, all  
Maplesdons. This was a very pretty picture  
which was given to a relation Maplesdon  
in Rotorua, I spoke to him over phone but  
never met him. June & Beryl knew him  
worked in Forestry. Big picture 2 or 3  
gun dogs - print. Manawatu Gorge  
painting. Me climbing fence - photo.  
Father Le Croix photo. Dad feeding calves?  
(might have been in dining room) cant think  
but probably will when I've posted letter.  
Dinner time, must away. June came home  
from hospital Sat or Sun, much better  
& can swallow with comfort, throat  
very tired & mustn't talk much, she  
stayed with Beryl till yesterday afternoon  
then returned to Cloude Rd, she looks  
much better too. Hope you are both well  
With love Phil