

~~ausd~~

7 James St
Rotorua
24th Nov 1980

My Dear Cuff,

I had to write to you today, it is your mother's 100th birthday, what a long long time ago, but to my way of thinking it has gone very quickly. Your mother left us when she was 40, such a short life, by our calculating. Also it is the day when you first sailed for England in the Rangitata, I think, not a day to be forgotten. We are having dirty cold sootherly rain, I'm told the snow is well down on old Ruapehu, we can smell it here makes noses cold, the calendar says summer - but we still

indulge in a heater & a blanket
 this morning was like a frost &
 Thomas hugged the heater. I returned
 you the cutting of Rev Luke Katt because
 I thought it too beautiful to be lost
 what a dear boy he must be &
 what a thrill for the bridal procession
 or funeral one, a sense of fitness.
 My double rhododendron has been
 loaded with flowers, a whole
 display of beautiful orchid looking
 blooms. We had a lovely Rhodod-
 dendron show here I think all
 the kinds that ever were & a
 great mixture of colors, even
 my double was given a place
 among the aristocracy. ^{Spelt it} Cant
 Tea time - this now over & bellies being
 worn well to the fore, as is usual not

much by way of hurrying around tho'.
Yes I knew Prouse family had
brought Susan O. with them to N.Z.
but much before my time so therefore
I didn't know much. Alley informed
that grand parents came to N.Z. also
I did catch up a wee bit but not
very much. Mahe told me of a
couple who lived in Auckland he
was a Butcher in Queen St. later
they shifted to (cant remember) over
the harbour & retired. I have it
written down (Christ knows where) it
might have been Evans - I cant remember.
I do not ever remember anyone by name
of Tamplin, as this person is sleeping in
the cemetery, could you get any data
from cemetery officials or Council etc
you might get something, so sorry

I am such a mug⁴ at remembering a lot of things but I was too far along the branches of the family tree & most of the history was well over my head, a fair buggar that the older members of family are gone especially Mabel. No I havent fully recovered of the flu! & had 3 colds or relapses etc I didnt need any of them either however I look well & as beautiful as normal something like last year's apple, brown & full of crinkles. We went to Janine's little birthday tea Sunday she is 6 & full of beans. Things are not so good for Dick tho' he had much beanmoozing (?) from retina of the good eye. Beryl is driving him to Auckland for laser treatment, rest bed, Thur, & home