

please excuse writing
and spelling.

104 Hatchmore Road,
Kingston-upon-Thames.
Surrey.

Dear Jerry,



Wednesday
morning.

A long letter arrived this morning from you just as Beth was leaving to do her Wednesday morning class. Weir both read it and enjoyed it like all the other letters you've written. I expect you have begun to wonder if I am still alive as you haven't heard a word from me! Anyway I am very much alive and very well - and so is the whole family. This morning there was a ^{side} very sharp ground frost and the front of the house was all dark and cold with the car covered with frost while the south, garden, side was in blazing sunshine. As my studio hasn't warmed up yet and the transparent roof section is still misted over so that I can't really see to work I am sitting in the roasting hot dining room writing a letter. About time too.

All the letters from your trip out (all history to you now I expect) brought back images of my National Service boat journey to Japan (via the Suez of course). I could imagine very well the blanket of heat in the Tropics and seeing geographically 'picture book' sights on the shore of Africa, and the shopping trips at the ports of call. Thank you very much for all our presents. You seem to be having a very good/fascinating/varied time and making the most of it - unlike, from what you say and I can well imagine, most of the permanent diplomatic people. I can't help being amused by the emotional ups and downs hinted at in your letters which involve being either 'on' or 'off' Pakistan and other continents according to the state of your love life!! Anyway you seem to be getting your share - and I hope on the vulgar English say - and I hope that things are going well love wise ~~at~~ when you first left ~~I was a bit amused~~ when you got there. ~~to be~~ feeling very sorry England you seemed to be feeling very sorry for us stuck in old Kingston! Actually were never been in better heart. We've stopped.

one believe in and to the best of
my ability and honesty. I must
learn not to worry too much about
short term responses. I had
2 or 3 hours with Tony Caro ^(Sculptor)
yesterday - who you may remember
is one of the artists I have spent
most time over the years talking and
arguing with - and although I
don't agree with some of his
commitments he is one of the
very few people I know who
has as much, or more, vitality
and mental energy towards art
as I feel I have. Not that
there are the semi-qua-non of good
art - but they help. I want my
next show to be a

very strong one - like nailing my
colours to the wall and forcing people
to look again and not just take
me for granted as another 60 in'
'cool' painter still doing his thing!

We are playing bridge quite a bit -
it may sound very suburban
but not the way we play!

hope - it's good fun and  Sorry!
we have taught Anthony Macra
and his girl friend David.

By the way my sister Diana and
Graham have a baby boy - born
2 weeks ago - Christmas. We
~~all~~ went over to Essex last

after a roast beef lunch cooked by David at his flat.¹
weekend. Its fine - but I'm glad
we are not starting on babies again -
it's bloody hard grind. Though Beth
~~is~~ insists it was all marvellous fun!
My mother spent this weekend with us
- a successful visit, and your
mother joined us for Sunday lunch -
from her job at the Laramie show.
As the show is combined with the
Mastergyle Show I spent several
hours there last week and saw
Joe and looked at the new range
of cottage style (! ugh) awnings -
or rather tudor style I suppose.
Apparently it's what everyone wants -
but I like blue or orange.
no - not like this.
at all.



it's better stop this rambling document
now. As I have the page over
I will leave it for Beth or that
she can answer all your questions
about Bras etc. Keep reading
us your news and
excellent descriptions of the
land and the people. Your
ambivalence towards the locals
sometimes seems to
like them more than
European and
sometimes less) reminds me
a bit of how my father talked about
India - I think all British
but like that. Or have I misunderstood
you.

Beth Turn
here +

Dear Jeremy - thank
you for your lovely
letter, and the last one too.

I'm afraid I haven't done the shopping
you asked - partly because I have my own
problems, as Jeremy has very succinctly
summarized - also because brown T-shirts &
halter tops just aren't to be found now that we
have moved into winter. Also yellow isn't 'in' *
this autumn/winter, though humming is looking in
Oxford St. * Nor is jersey. So of not yellow
jersey, what else - anything I think nice &
feminine? I will send the other things you
ask for.

No mention of your Pakistani. Don't you see
him now? He very envious of your housewifery
and swimming. We go swimming to Richmond -
the boys are crazy about it. Robert has goggles

Drawings
by
Georgia.



①

for the time being worrying about money. (Home
price inflation has gone completely into the
stratosphere) and we didn't like the
country much anyway - well not to live in
all the time. The children all seem to
be far less trouble than they used to be
now that they are getting older. and
although she does have her hands a
bit full Beth is so much happier
doing a part time job. I do a bit
more of the routine housework on non-Chinese
days and I don't mind at all. I don't
take it ~~for granted~~ ^{for granted} that Beth is doing as
much as she is - but I'm certain everyone
is better off ^{for it}. We also have a
bit of economic security at the moment as
I sold a few pictures in the summer
and also the Trust cheques seem to
keep coming - and Beth's earnings.
We are determined not to get any
more materialistic and don't

really want to anyway. But we are
getting John Varney to draw up a plan for
some minor changes to the house to give
us a porch, a better door in with
cover for cars and bikes, and some
internal extra space if he can think
of a way to do it. But not as
expensive. With
extension at present - too expensive. With
the country going through a pretty massive
economic shake up (but in my opinion
... a latchmere spokesman said today -
good prospects in the medium term)
one should be thankful for a warm
house, a car, and a bank
balance rather than miserably because
of what one hasn't got. Bett has
always been a bit keener on the
country than I, but I think she
feels too that when the boys are
so happy at school etc it is probably

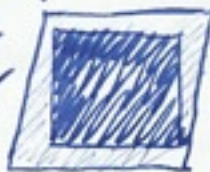
tempting fate to start uprooting everything.
We have both been buying some clothes!
me for the first time for a long
time - the new tough ^{haha} look! Very nice
bathtub type leather jacket for wear
on all occasions from teaching to going
anywhere.  - brown, big zip, elastic waist-
very similar to old flying jacket of 20 years
ago but neat. Blue levis (flared) - jumpily
enough the first time we were worn the
famous levis! and, my one indulgence, high
heeled shoes (the new trendy fashion)
chunky and so that you don't get too
kiniky an image - masculini - ,
very good with long flared levis! Beth
is having a terrible time buying anything
and goes out for odd hours here
and there but never finds anything -
I think she is being a bit indecisive
but also I think she is up against

this problem that a woman has to choose
between very limited young dolly girl
stuff or boring Department store
fashion. She has finally bought a
pair of ~~school~~ shoes largely at my
instigation which are splendid ^{black shiny}  ^{white crepe}
- sort of half school girl half Rare
school teacher look! Very appropriate.
Plus an amazing pair of Rare boots
which I am sure she will not
wear enough to justify the price!! 
I make no excuse for talking at
length about clothes - although I
wouldn't to anyone else. I know
you're interested and you know
we are! Anyway there are worse
things to spend your money on -
like loose covers or dressing tables!

Another major reason for my present high
spirit is the acquisition of a motor bike.
I've got a new 125cc Honda - very
small engine - but amazingly agile
and quick. I use it to go to London
on always (even in the rain) and
besides enjoying it for its own sake
it has dramatically cut the completely
prohibitive fatigue factor involved in
driving a car up and down to London
in traffic that is worse than ever. ^{If you can believe that.}
I just slip through the gaps at
a steady 20 mph and get there
in about 20 ^{mins} (or was it before you left?) As you may
have heard I have rediscovered an
old enthusiasm - motor cycle Road Racing.
and have been to Brands Hatch
and Mallory park quite a few times

to watch racing. I even took Beth
and the children to Crystal Palace
and everyone enjoyed it. ^{What with}
me and David being ^{intended to hear about your riding} rather stressed
Robert & Ben have picked it up
too. Robert and his friend Tim
came to Brands Hatch (Kent) with
me in September and they were so
grown up and appreciative (following
the racing etc) that I was absolutely
delighted. Needless to say I am
not satisfied just watching and long
to have a go - but it is sometimes
dangerous and obviously if I did some
people would disapprove strongly. But I
haven't decided not to. My
work is going rather well. During

the early part of the year I worked
very slowly and was not happy
with the lack of purpose and direction
of my general way of working. My
temperamental need for order and
discipline and visual clarity
always clashes with my desire to
work spontaneously and more casually
but it is necessary to know
one self in art and I think
my best work so far has come
out of just this contradiction. Now
I am doing a series of slightly
shaped very big, very simple
pictures which are going well -
and I have



been fiddling with some sculptures!
I am having a show in the
young museum - but plenty of time
before I need think about that. As
you know during the last year or
so I have been rather depressed
about the lack of constructive criticism
and general ^{lack of} enthusiasm for painting
and sculptures and the general
faded idea that both were old
hat and worn out. Now the
pendulum is swinging back - as it
always does - and I have a feeling
that painting and sculptures - but
especially painting - ~~is~~ ^{are} about to get
more attention - but will see.
The important thing is to keep the way