

Friday.

My own darling John,

What a week! I'll never forget it all I'm sure. I think I'll start off by telling you what I've been doing with myself.

As you know, I wrote the last letter on Sat. Then I thought to myself, "Well, that's over for the weekend," and on Sunday I went to church three times - at 8, 11, and 6 P.M. On Sunday afternoon I took Teddy for a walk. I called at Mary's house on my way, to see if she'd like to come, but as she was busy doing her washing, I carried on without her. I went up through the recreation grounds & the flower gardens at Roath park, and

2 as I was up that far, decided to call on Thelma Rees (Marwood's wife). She, incidentally, lives the last turning off the top of Whitchurch Rd, so I cut up Wedal Rd (the other side of the cemetery). It was a good way, and when I got there she wasn't in. I stayed about $\frac{1}{4}$ hr talking to her father & brother, who tried to make me stay to tea. I wasn't having any, particularly as I had Teddy, and I wanted to go to Krenseng. On the way back I called in to see Lillian, who lives in Whitchurch Rd, and had a little chat to her.

On Monday I was 9.30-12.30 & 3.0-8.0 duty, supervising, and I've been it all the week. Things were very tense, both at home & in the office all day, as

3, moments were going around about the VE. All we were doing at home, was snitching on the wireless to get the latest news. Everything was in an uproar when it did come. 50% of the office staff were given VE day off and the other half had the 2nd day. I was in on the Tuesday & did the same duty as Monday. I met Mrs. Mary and Margaret and a lot of girls from the office, and we all went to Bathurst Park and heard the King's speech at 9.0. From there we went to the lake where there were fairy lights all along the prom. & the clock was lit up. We tried to dance but it was hopeless, what with the crowds and the fireworks they were

4/ throwing around. When it was darker we went back into town, and saw all the floodlights, and again tried to dance outside the City Hall. There were big loudspeakers outside broadcasting dance music & there were hundreds of people about. We left after the 12.0 hour and you should have felt our feet. I had a blister on each of mine to start after my walk on Sunday, (because ~~a~~ I had to walk all the way home from Whitechurch Rd. ^(Sunday) in my new shoes, because I had the dog with me.) Then I had been on my feet all day, supervising. I don't know how any of us got home that night. We had the miles on till 2.0. I went to the service in church at 10.0 the morning, and after that called

5 at Hawthorne's. Peg went to
work but: to get it off later.
on. All the afternoon we were in
and out of the house all day
watching everyone get ready for
the street tea parties, and of
course had to join in the fun
dancing and singing. We had
one outside the front of the house
& one in Wilson St. There were
hurlers sets fitted in windows,
pianos, gramophones and goodness
knows what all out. Flags
all out and in some houses
^{table} lamps in the windows. Everyone
joined in. It was wonderful. If
only you could have been
home. There was a Victory 'do'
on the mission in the high &
Peggy, Maryann, Helen & I met.

6, It was not too crowded, and
we all had a grand time.
— Acting the goat —.

There were
bonfires in almost every street
each night. When we came from
the dance that finished at 11.0.,
we joined in the fun in the
street — dancing round the bonfire,
bawling our heads off. People were
letting off fireworks, and everyone
did all sorts of mad things.
Everyone was out in the street.
Singing "huts in May", "Daggers &
hemens" etc., Wilson started a
howl idea. One man fetched
a bath, someone a bowl,
kitchen waste lids, and we had
a march around the streets ~~was~~
headed by a drum major, with
a rolling pin, and the band!!!

4 Someone was ringing a bell.
We were all singing and
hardly had any voices left.

There were 3 persons from St.
Saviour's & we went all along
Hoseland Rd, Lantrey Rd, Splott
Rd, back up Hathershaw St. The
young deacon was running back &
fore, keeping everyone in time &
true - not that we were. You
never heard such a din at $\frac{12}{30}$

in the night. We were all ~~home~~
hoarse after that. We got up
at 6.0 next morning for church
at quarter to seven, Ascension Day.
Margaret came as well!!!!

What do you think of that?

After my late duty last night
my plan was to rush home,
reply to your letter and early
to bed. My ideas were dashed

8 to pieces when I found we
had visitors. Bryn Davies &
Betty (his wife) - the newlyweds
had come to tea & Mrs Davies &
spent the evening here. I had not
met Betty before, so I could not
do anything else but help to
entertain. We had a ~~very~~ lovely
evening. Talking mostly of our John,
showing snaps & photographs
around, & talking of the past, &
everything in general. They left
about 12.0. so there was another
late night. I had to be up at 6.30
today to be on duty at 8.0, so
I'm feeling quite sleepy. Well,
young man, there's my week
for you. With the excitement,
it's a wonder I could remember

I what I did. I had another letter from you today, so I was determined to write back tonight. I was glad to get your letter yesterday, although it was a week — 7 days — since you started writing it. Thursday to Thursday — but still well pass over that. It was 4 pages when it came — well worth reading.

I'm glad you are having an easy time — you're lucky not having to get up early in the morning. Some people don't know they're here, do they?

Mike's girl friend is young (as you say) ^{16 1/2} ~~16~~ seems very young for a girl to be serious about anyone. I made a mistake. She's not 18 yet.

10 Faray these Canadians breaking
up your mess. People do the
craziest things when they are drunk.
I don't blame you
not doing a 2nd tour straight
away with that other crew. That's
a bit thick expecting you to
do that. You finish up your 1st
letter with "I've written over a
period of 3 days". You're telling me!
However, you admit it, that's the
main thing. It seems like a
hundred years since I saw you.
Will it mean that sometime
when you come home next time
will be going away? When you
hear anything about leave, let me
know. I must answer your next
letter now. Everyone acted the fool

" When VE day was announced.
Think of the relief for everybody,
especially you people in the forces.
It's hard to believe yet - I'm sure
most people have not properly grasped
it. You seem to have had a good
time at your party. I'm glad you
enjoyed yourself. Starting celebrating
in a big way.

It was nice that you
could "lure" it into Norwich on
VE day - I bet you had a good
time. That thunderstorm you had
passed over London earlier. I
daresay it was the same one
anyway. Lil mentioned it when she
rang up last night. She had a good
time. It was a pity you did not
get a #8ham pass, although I
you think it would have been

12 worth coming all this way?

It would have taken you all the time travelling. The better plan would have been to stay in London, I should think. Although the ones who were home were lucky. Have you been on any daylight trips to the Ruhr? They should be interesting. There's

a shame what you were saying about those 2 planes that were lost on the raid on Kiel. What bad luck!

I sincerely hope it won't be long before the far east war is over. Then there'll be some rejoicing. You should have seen my mother dancing in the street,

13 9 Dad in the races in the
street. It was a scream.

I'm sitting across
the couch in the front room,
with my feet up & pillows
stacked behind me. I'm dressed
in my light ranger uniform,
which is cooler than my slacks
for the house. I've dug it up
out of a wardrobe. I
had to come in a room by
myself, otherwise I would not be
sure I'd finish this letter.

I wish I could have been
with you all this week. I
love you, darling, and want
you for my own. ~~But~~
Goodnight, love, Yours with
all my fondest love, Always,
Veronica.