

England. April 28th 44.

My darling. Hello again, and all my love. I hope you are well, contented, and receiving mail regularly. I had three postcards from you this week - it is so good to hear from you. You had not heard from me at the time of writing, I do hope dear that plenty of letters are reaching you now, and shall be pleased when the air mail service is once again resumed. David and I are perfectly okay, he is really lovely, and now weighs 10lbs. George looks, and I am trying to cultivate a wave in his hair, but he refuses to cooperate. I heard from Frank again this week, he sent three photographs of you as a child, and it is easy to see the strong likeness to David at that age. I am having David photographed next week, so will send it along as soon as I can. I went up to Thorneydene a few days ago, and talked both boys, a good effort I thought. I had an enjoyable time. I took David along to see the Lees and Mrs Kenny, they made a terrific fuss. I also saw Tommy Grey who asked all manner of questions about the baby and also wished to be remembered to you. He calls me Mrs. I can't say that I altogether approve. Auntie Scabil gave David 15/- which I shall put into savings for him, he has been very lucky. Alice has bought him a very nice white woollen Pram set. Mrs F. has gone to stay at Leamington Spa for a few days. Miss Ellis has gone with her and they are staying with a cousin of hers. We haven't had any news

of fish yet. Sid Wright is expecting to commence training as a
flight engineer. I saw Jackson a few days ago, her baby is very
hefty. Alice came down the day before yesterday to go for a walk.
I didn't enjoy it much, she insisted on pushing David's pram, and
her navigation isn't very good. I was in pain most of the time, I
thought any moment now David, pram and all, would pile into the
nearest ditch. I owe Frank a letter - one of your workmen has been
killed in a crash - He was under going training as flight engineer
His name was Sidney Clappell maybe you know him. I haven't been to
the pictures this week there was nothing very exciting being shown. I
shall definitely go next week - there is a real good weeping Jane
eye. I hope your red cross parcels reach you safely. I send
the next one in June. Tell me of anything you particularly require

dear. I want to do everything I can for you, and unfortunately I have little opportunity. Write as much as you possibly can, and tell me all about yourself. We are always talking and thinking of you darling. I know your thoughts must be with us too. Anyway my love, do be as contented as possible, it won't be so very long before you come home again. I went for a walk with Betty Northern a few days ago, we discussed our babies at great length, and had a real good gossip I thoroughly enjoyed it. I am meeting her again next week. I had tea at Mrs Christopher's during the week, she is a grand person. I like her a lot. She celebrated her 25th wedding anniversary (silver wedding) yesterday. I had a letter from Mrs Milina a few days ago, and she sent two kisses for David which I thought was sweet of her. She has received confirmation of her husband's death, but no particulars, I feel so sorry for her. I think she must be a grand person judging from her letters. I have written asking Lois to come over, so hope to be seeing her soon. She is working, but I don't know what she is doing. I have received payments for March from the R.A.F. I hope to have some letters from you before long. I am always thinking of you my darling. I went to have a look at a sewing machine which was advertised in the Journal, but turned it down as the people were asking for far more money than it

it down as the people were asking for far more money than it was worth. The weather is lovely and the countryside looks beautiful. We take walks towards Harlington and it is very pleasant. Bert John takes a keen interest in picking daisies, although he is not exactly expert, and more often than not gathers a handful of heads. David is asleep in the garden. He really is a very contented babe. Naturally he has a howl now and again, and if he chooses 3-0 AM. in the morning, is he popular!? Bert John has just gone to bed after knives all round. Shirley is here for the evening. I have insured David for drawing out when he is fifteen - the man explained the whole affair, but I am not very wise about it. I never am. Mabel's girl wrote and sent me several views of Enfield and Waltham Cross - she is

a nice kid. I like them both very much, and must say they
have been very kind to me. I hope the air mail service will soon
be resumed darling. I am always wondering if my letters are
reaching you darling, and too if you know of David Jan's
arrival. Please never worry about me will you. I long to have
you with me more than anything in the world, but patience has
been given me, and there are so many thousands of husbands
and wives parted that I feel I cannot complain. We are fortunate
too that you suffered no injuries, when just anything might
have happened. Berrick and Margaret have bought themselves
a tandem much to our amusement and surprise. I doubt
if we shall be honoured with a visit. I guess they look very
funny on it as she is twice as fat as he is. Phil and Fred
came last week. she is still queer, one of these days I think
she will go completely haywire. I feel really sorry for Fred I
bet she leads him a dance. Joe Grethan came up a few days
ago, and stayed until late evening. She makes a lot of David -
actually I think she is really envious. She and Jack have been
married for 3½ years, and in all that time have spent about
a month together. He leans very regularly from his, and he has
sent her some excellent photographs. He isn't serious why like my
husband. Go try and get yourself in a picture darling.

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I had a letter from Effie yesterday. Ruth's husband is joining the navy, and Ruth is giving up her home to go and live with her mother. She has sent a parcel for David - but I haven't received it yet. I have written to her, and shall send photographs when I get them, she asked me to say 'hello' to you from the family. We are having another savings week from May 6th to 13th. I shall get David two certificates. I am going to a red cross next of his meeting on May 5th. I expect I shall find it interesting. There is to be a rise in the allowance paid to service men's wives with children. As far as I can ascertain I shall get an increase of 15% a week. I had a look at the things in the sale of Merrif's furniture etc. but did not see anything

is particularly required. The books were very musty and ancient,
and I left the fishing tackle alone as I know so little about
it. Dorothy and Shirley have been to a few dances lately, and
are going again tomorrow night. The padre keeps Dorothy informed
of Andy's whereabouts. Frank Sinatra and Bing Crosby often
feature in the same radio show - Sinatra is okay but I much
prefer Bing. I have done quite a lot of sewing lately, somehow
I can't give my mind to reading - Have just had a rest, I've
developed writer's cramp, am also trying to think up more news.
Mum, Dorothy, and Shirley send you heaps of love and hope to
be seeing you soon. Gosh! what we have a lot to talk about,
what a great day it will be. Please remember me to Robin if he
is still with you. I keep wondering if your commission means a
change of camp. Are you doing any kind of studying? Will you
join the theatrical society? Describe your activities as much as
you possibly can dear. When I get to the questioning stage it
means that news is very scarce, so my love I'll say goodnight
and God bless you.

Keep smiling for me.

Ever your devoted wife

Joan