



Mr & Mrs North,
78 Edgehill Rd,
Leicester

Sgt North. W.A. 1583475
2 Flt. "A" Squadron
R.A.F. Station
Whitley Bay
Northumberland

1.8.44.

Dear Father & Mother,

Many thanks
for letter received yesterday,
and parcel received today,
the grapes had not squashed
at all, the trunks look alright
although I havent tried
them on yet.

I've more or less settled down
here now in fact I seem
to have been here ages
already, the days seem
so terribly long, breakfast
is moved from 07.00 hrs to
08.00 hrs so I usually get up
about 07.00 have breakfast
about 07.30, we have to parade

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at 08.15 for lectures, fieldwork, practical exhibitions of battle drill, aerodrome construction under various conditions etc, and then of course we have "bags" of P.T. on the beach and cliffs, we had a large crowd watching us do dinghy drill yesterday, in fact I think we form the main entertainment.

We have a break from 11.00 to 11.15 when we usually manage to get a cups of tea and a cake we then continue until 13.00 hrs when we have lunch, starting again at 14.15 hrs we work straight through without a tea break until 18.45 hrs, the afternoons seem never ending.

supper is served at 19.00 hrs.
and boy! do we need it.
By the time we've had a
wash etc its at least 20.00hrs
after which the rest of the
day is our own, but if
you've been tearing across
the countryside on battle
drill believe me you don't
feel like going very far,
on the whole though life
here is quite pleasant, we
have a very nice mess and
the food and cooking are
far superior to that at
"St Johns".

We worked as usual last
Saturday, in the evening I
went to a very good E.N.S.A.
show from London.

On Sunday we were free all

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day so after going to 8-0 clock communion at the local parish church I went by train to Durham where I spent a very enjoyable day.

Durham is rather a quaint old city with many old buildings and narrow streets, I spent most of the afternoon in the old Norman Cathedral, which having heard of the Bishop of Durham's tendency I was pleased to note shows no signs of high anglo-catholicism.

The Castle was unfortunately closed, it seems rather foolish but it is open on weekdays only.

It was a really glorious evening so I went for a

walk along the river bank
which is very beautiful,
I got chatting to two
sailors and went rowing
with them, considering I
haven't done any rowing
for quite a while I was
surprised how quickly it
came back to me, the sailors
were highly delighted when we
left a college four who were
out training absolutely
standing, it ^{was} a really
wizard show.

I came back on an express
from Kings Cross which was
running on time and not
at all packed

I've got some work to do so
I must close now
All the best Ever your loving son,
Alfred