

Exact date unknown, About 1929. I think Pauline and Roberta must be about 2 years old.

Picture goes with this letter.

1476 Oak Grove Drive

Los Angeles, Calif.

My Dear Aunt Annie,

I have been trying to take some photos of the babies for weeks and weeks and the weather s been rather dull or the youngsters move so fast I have been unsuccessful until last Sunday so I can send you some to let you know how they are progressing. We put in this little shower -- but they cannot be seen in the photo. Pauline had a great time pulling the chain on Roberta's neck. They both had the whopping cough and were quite sick for a couple of weeks but are better now. We thought for a few days that we were going to lose Roberta as she would choke up with flem but apparently, she has a good constitution and pulls through although she is not quite as strong as Pauline yet. You will notice that Pauline is standing but Roberta is not strong enough to use her own legs yet.

Well Aunt Annie, we are living a very quiet simple life here, not doing much visitors, in fact not doing anything but looking after youngsters, but they are worth all the trouble they are.

I had a letter from Marita in which she said Aunt Kate was very sick and had a stroke. She saw that Kitty intended to go over and see her shortly after she wrote.

Marita's husband has joined the Canadian Flying Corps so I hope they will remain at one place for a while now. It has been difficult to keep track of them for the past few years as they have been moving all over the states.

I suppose Lochranza folks will be getting ready for the busy summer season now cleaning houses and moving to the rear, etc. This is a very fine country to live in Aunt Annie, with its warm weather fruits etc., but I am getting to the age when I would like to settle down at home in Lochranza and if we can accumulate sufficient money within the next few years, I think we will move back. I don't hear from Donald or Robert very often but we are all poor correspondents.

I will close now with the fondest love to Aunt Annie and family.

Love, Peter and Family



The date is cut off I know it is pre -1932 because Roberta Ann is still alive when this letter is written and she died May 1932.

4829 Wicopee

Los Angeles, California

Dear Aunt Annie,

It is quite a while since I wrote you but when I get home from work the three kiddies demand (and get) most of my time and I get so tired playing with them that my writing is generally postponed and keeps getting postponed indefinitely. I wrote Bob (brother) about three months ago for the first time in two years and had his answer a few days ago. He tells me that Uncle John is conducting a private finance office and doing very well at it, Bob tells me he is still a keen money maker and keeping in good health. I hear from your sister (Aunt Jennie) very regularly and she sends me the the Herald (local newspaper) when she thinks there are any news that might interest me. Some time ago she sent me a copy with the account of the Arran reunion in Glasgow and it sent my mind reeling back to the days when you and our Uncle Robert used to go to Glasgow to take part in that event.

I don't know where Marita is. I have written her in Montreal and Toronto but have had no reply for months . We certainly are careless correspondents and always have been. Donald used to write me fairly frequently, but his letters are getting few and far between now. Aunt Jennie told me in her letter received January 1st? as it is a great pleasure to us to see her. I am sending you a few snapshots of our daughters. They are growing up fast. Pauline and Roberta are 3 years and 7 months. They are all full of life and energy and keep us all busy while they are awake. Isabel is 14 years old now. She and Aunt Jenny were very good friends when Aunt Jenny was in Los Angeles. Unemployment is as bad in the U.S, if not worse, and the authorities are very busy trying to figure out some way to keep the ? of families at least at work. I have been very fortunate at keeping steady work and although we are not getting very far ahead financially, we own considerable property which at some time we may be able to sell to advantage. Now it is impossible to sell anything as there is very little money in circulation and people are only buying the necessities of life.

Last Thursday was the great American holiday called Thanksgiving Day and my wife's folks held a family reunion in San Fernando which is about 24 miles from here. It rained very hard all day and we took the kiddies with us and joined the rest of the folks for a turkey dinner. It was a good opportunity for our youngsters to meet their cousins (on their mother's side). It is hard to say when they will meet their cousins on their father's side.

I suppose you are living in your new house and as usual you will have lots of company for Christmas and New Year

We are very fortunate to be living in Southern California where the weather is so warm even in the winter. It is very seldom necessary to wear an overcoat and although we can see the snow in distant mountains, but none ever falls in the city of Los Angeles. We do not have any more than 10 to 12 days

of rain within the year but when it rains it pours. Hollywood is a colorful little suburb of Los Angeles, and it is the first-place visitors want to see.

Well Aunt Annie, I will close now wishing yourself, John, Robert, and Annie (Isa) a very Happy New Year with love from us all. I remain your Affectionate nephew, Peter A. Kerr

December 15, 1932

1476 Oak Grove Drive

Los Angeles, California U.S.A

My Dear Aunt Annie,

It has been quite a while since I last wrote you and quite a lot has happened to us since then. Last May we lost our sweet little girl Roberta Ann. She contracted pneumonia and died after being ill for about six weeks. Like our little boy, Donald, contracted the same disease and was very near the borderline so you can realize that it took us quite a while to recover from those blows. But we still have the memory of the sweet as child as ever lived and to Abby (my wife) she will always be our baby.

We moved from the house we occupied on Wicopee Ave, to this house which we own last spring and I have been very busy repairing and improving the house and fixing up the ground which had been very much neglected for years. This is an ideal place for the kids as we have over an acre of ground and fruit of every description on our own land. We are all enjoying the best of health and the kids are as healthy and happy as can be.

Your sister Jennie, sent me an illustrated folder of Arran a short time ago which I appreciated very much and I like to show it to my children and friends as the most beautiful spot in the world although the climate is not up to what we enjoy in Southern California.

Do you remember that several years ago I had written you that I seen Captain William Kerr of Caticol (formerly pilot at Preston and some relation of the folks at Daisy ? Well I met him again and he tells me he is going back to Lochranza in spring for the remainder of his days. I had him over to the house to meet my wife and the children so he could tell you what they look like. He said he expects to leave for Europe December 18 from New York. You can realize how much I enjoy meeting him from Lochranza again. I heard from Donald some time ago. He is still with the Holder Line and working steadily all the time in spite of the depression.

Well, my dear Aunt Annie, I will close now wishing you all a Happy New Year and trusting that you are still enjoying good health.

With love from us all to yourself, Annie, Robert, and John.

From your affectionate nephew,

Peter A. Kerr

Peter Kerr Letter home to Scotland, November 30, 1937

1476 Oak Grove Drive

Los Angeles,

Dear Aunt Annie

Just a few lines to wish you the best of health during the coming year and to wish the younger folks a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

The years pass so very fast with us out here and as we are all so busy all the time and the children are growing up very fast. Pauline is now 10 years old last June and Donald will be 9 on December 12th. His birthday and mine come within 2 days within each other. As they are so close to Christmas, we can celebrate for a while. This is an ideal country to live in as far as climate is concerned. We have had no rain this year so far and it is very warm throughout the day and cool at night. Abby had to go to the hospital for a major operation on the 7th of this month but is back home again on the road to recovery although she is still very weak. We are very fortunate in having Isabel with us at present as she is a good manager and came to look after her mother and the kids very well. You will remember Isabel is Abby's daughter by her former marriage. (Her father died when she was 2 years old. so she does not remember him that well.) She and her husband are building a house for themselves about 20 miles from here and as they wanted to put in old tile ? save rent so they moved into the cottage adjoining our house in return for Isabel's services in our house. We agreed to give them board and in return also give Isabel \$15 per month equal the maid cost So far this has worked out very satisfactory and is giving the young folks a chance to get ahead faster than they otherwise would. I suppose Aunt Jenny told you that she had the pleasure of meeting ? Searle? When she was in Los Angeles. We were in hopes she was sailing and would stay in the port for a few days so that we could show her the various points of interest in this locality. Hollywood is only 8 miles from where we live, and the larger movie studios are all within a range of 15 miles. It is very interesting to see the various sets they build for their pictures, often a replica of some European Capital. The front looks quite natural but the rear will look like nothing but a lot of unpainted lumber nailed together without any semblance of even a building.

I had a long letter from Donald in London a few days ago. He had returned from a tour of the ??? in the interest of the firm he works for they apparently ship goods from Central Europe through the canal system to the coast then across the channel to the canal system to the Midlands of England. I have not heard from Robert in about a year but expect a letter around Christmas or New Year. That's usually when we write each other.

Aunt Jenny told me in her last letter that you, Annie, John and Isa had gone to Lochranza for a holiday. It would be quite a change for you and you would probably appreciate the comforts of your own home more after being away, That for me is the most important reason for taking a vacation.

Well Aunt Annie I will close now with fondness and love.

From your affectionate nephew, Peter

P.S. I enclose some snaps of the kids. They are not very good but give you some idea how they are growing,

Peter Kerr April 27, 1956

28857 W Grey Fox

Malibu, Calif.

Dear John,

I have been a little slow in writing to thank you for the Arran calendar which I received about Christmas. It is very beautiful and serves two purposes first to remind me of old associations and second to let me know how fast the days, months, and years are passing as I change the pictures each month. An old exile like me ----?. But I consider that I have a lot to be thankful for in that I can live in comfort in this out of the pack in California that most resembles Arran. The ocean is about 600 feet from our house and on the other side of the Santa Monica mountains rise just like the hills of Lochranza. I have been retired for over five years now and have enjoyed every day of it. We have over an acre of ground under cultivation with fruit trees of all descriptions beside flowers and vegetables so we have a lot of work to keep us busy and we do a little fishing. Our children are all married and live within a radius of 100 miles so we visit them once a month and check on our grandchildren. Pauline, our youngest daughter, has four youngsters ranging in age from 6 years to 1. Isabel (in Ventura) has 1 son aged 17 who is planning on going to Europe this summer on a hostel tour starting about the 1st of July. If he has time, he may take a trip to Lochranza. So, it's possible you may have a visit from him. They are traveling on a tight schedule so he might just fly up for a day from London. If he can't make it to Lochranza I am hoping that he can get as far as Edinburgh ? visit. Annie, his name is Warner Taylor. Donald, our son, is an astronomical engineer. They live about 30 miles from us. He has one son about 6 weeks old now who is the big attraction for my wife at present??

I have not heard anything about my sister Marita for about 20 years. I tried to trace her and got as getting a reply from Canadian Airlines that they had gone back to England. They also told me the name of the town in Sussex so I wrote my nephew Donald in London and asked to make inquiries, but so far have not heard from him. Uncle John's two children Kitty and Robert are others I have not heard about for years. I thought Robert MacMurray would have known about them. But when I visited him in Victoria, he told me he lost track of them. I hear occasionally from one of my brother's daughters in Australia and they all seem to be very comfortable.

My only Arran contact is William Currie of Drumadoon who travels around this state a lot. When he is reading for Los Angeles he generally stays with us and we enjoy his company. He generally insists on taking photos before he leaves. One enclosed. Another Arran man whose company I used to enjoy was Captain William Kerr (Willie \_\_\_) formerly of Caticol. He had gone to school with my father and your father and had lots of amusing stories about Lochranza folks. His favorite was Uncle John, who he said was one of nature's gentlemen. He had not served as an apprentice but had come up through the (-----Role") as he said. He had met Uncle John in some port in Spain. Although Uncle John was a captain he invited Willie to his ship and treated him as an equal.

Well John, this about finishes the sheet so I will close with Kindest Regards to you all from my wife and myself.

Your cousin Peter