

November 21st, 1948,

ROSE LAWN,  
KINGSCATE-ON-SEA,  
KENT.

Dear Frank Snell,

I was very pleased to receive your letter and to learn~~the~~ therefrom that you had not forgotten the Oldest Inhabitant. I don't think I have heard from you since I returned Rowse's book---- which no doubt you received safely. I wish I had known that ~~h~~ he was going on the air; I should have liked to listen in. He has, undoubtedly, a sort of air of ineffable patronage of lesser mortals: yet there certainly is something in him that one must admire.

I shall~~h~~ be glad to see those Misty Corridors when they materialise. Better late than never! What you tell~~h~~ me reminds me of some~~h~~ film experiences---how an eager party rushed in with not a second to spare, put me through an eight-hour day, and left me for dead as it were----and then calmly hung up the picture indefinitely. These things, like the judges, are only sent to try us!

I am glad to hear that you have the new BB books, and hope to hear that you like them. If people liked reading them as much as I liked~~h~~ writing them I shouldn't have anything more to ask. Now I have a

spot of news which may interest you. Tom Merry is reappearing on the map: and Martin Clifford, at this very moment as ever was, is as busy as Frank Richards. Three volumes are in preparation, and the first, "Tom Merry and Co. of St. Jim's", will be published early next year by Thomas Campion, Ltd. 26, Manchester Square, London, W.1. The same publishers are to do "Tom Merry's Summer Annual", which will be rather on the lines of the old Greyfriars Annual, with stories of all the schools. You can guess that I am pleased: and, as a matter of fact, isn't this old world a jolly place to live in?

Do you know, I like Bunter ever so much better in the books than in the old weekly paper. He seems to me more attractive somehow. Of course, a story shapes much better in a complete book than in weekly sections, and that may account for it.

You mention activities on the local paper. One of these days, when you have a copy to spare, you might send it along: I should be very interested to see it.

With kind regards,  
Yours sincerely,

*Frank Richards*