St Laurent de la Salle

11th Aug. 1973

Dear Dad and Mum,

Things around here have become a little better and there is a little more to do. How was the fishing trip did you catch anything big at all. Has dad sold my bike yet. Please sell and then take out the amount I owe you, which were in my first letter. Is Auntie Carols arm any better. Graham should be home in a day or so how did he enjoy France with Madame, did he write many letters.

Madame is not a very good cook most of her food is terrible. She make us do most of the work like set the table clear the dishes it is as if we were on au pair. This other English boy and I found a soft ball and soft ball bat and have been playing in one of the fields.

Madames ~~name~~ name Cormier de la jallet is all her last name, it is one of these fancy long names but she calls herself Madame Cormier.

There swimming pond is not very good. What it is, is an area of about 2 acres in a small valley where Monsieur Cormier filled it in at one end and then filled with water. The water is brown and the bottom is soft mud. He has blocked and part of

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

16 H 45
13 -8
1973

AÉROGRAMME

Mr + Mrs C Collis,
Devonshire,
BERMUDA

PAR AVION

Deuxième pliage

Ce pli ne sera pas acheminé par avion
s'il contient un objet quelconque.

Premier pliage

the valleys off and intends to have two mud lakes and then put fish in them. After that he is going to rent it out to campers. I hope you are all well and Graham gets home safely. I hope Charlie likes his diving. I cant wait to get home,

love John.

St Laurent de la saune,
14th Aug 73.

Dear Mum + Dad

Yesterday we went to the beach and had lunch with some friends of Madame's The water was braon so braon that I couldn't see a foot in front of me if I was under water. Today we a supposed to be going to stay with some friends of Madames who have a swimming pool. Madames swimming pond is even worse than the sea but I haven't been swimming in it because I saw 2 snakes in it.

Don't forget to have the maid do my seat and don't forget to sell my bike. A New boy came last night on a bicycle. He has been cycling around France since March. He is only spending on night here because he just came to Madame again. He was here about 4 weeks ago and did some work for them. There is nothing much to do here so I get up around 10 o'clock I haven't got a letter from you yet. Madame is always having having people here or going to visit them and I have to sit and look interested among whole hoards of screaming kid. I find it hard to understand the younger kids, as they sort of talk like a babys and this makes it very difficult to understand what they are saying.

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

AÉROGRAMME

Mr + Mrs C. Collis,
Devonshire,
BERMUDA.

PAR AVION

Deuxième pliage

Ce pli ne sera pas acheminé par avion
s'il contient un objet quelconque.

Premier pliage

I hope you are are well and that Auntie Carol is feeling better. I ~~da~~ can't wait to get home and try out my new cymbal.

Love

John.

St laurent de la salle
16th Aug '73.

Dear Dad + Mum,

We went swimming on Tuesday a pool but we had to ride these 45 year old bikes there, and it was about 6 miles. Yesterday was a religous holiday in France and we went to Madames parents for lunch. ~~Awful~~ We had some good food there for a change. They have a really nice ~~House~~ chateau it looks like the Palace of that Mad Austrian king, with its round towers, but in miniature. It even had a death chamber. This was in one of the round towers, and was 16 ft ~~tall~~ deep with a cage on top, ~~and~~ they used to put people in there and then leave them to die.

Madames parents are very nice especially her father. It was a long drive to their chateau and Mr Cormier drives even worse than she does.

It was raining this morning and it looked as though it wasn't going to stop but it is fine now.

Tomorrow morning we're ~~are~~ supposed to be going riding but I don't know whether we will or not.

I broke the glass of my watch the other ~~dd~~ day so I am going to have a new one put in in England. I found

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

AÉROGRAMME

Mr + Mrs C Collis,
Devonshire,
BERMUDA

PAR AVION

Deuxième pliage

Ce pli ne sera pas acheminé par avion
s'il contient un objet quelconque.

Premier pliage

that I will have about 3 hours to spare after arriving at the hotel, so that is when I will try to have it done. X

I hope you are all well, and that my bike has been sold!

Love

John

St Laurent de la salle,
18th Aug 73.

Dear Mum + Dad.

I played Tennis on that tennis court, when you play you don't have to put spin on the ball, because when it hits the ground it is going to jump to the side. We played with a French boy and I think we probably ruined this tennis for life.

The people seem to be very contradictory, I was listening to the weather the other day, and the weather man said, 'tomorrow is going to be a beautiful sunny day, and there will be thunder storms in the area.'

I got your letter yesterday along with one from Grandma + Grandpa, and they had alot to say. Monsieur Cormier has just got a new car.

Some friends of the Cormiers, English people with whom Madame did an exchange with her child and are staying here. They have pitched a tent in the back and sleep there. A few year ago Madame Cormier killed her 2 youngest children in a car accident. She was knocked out and her oldest son was only slightly harmed. She blames herself so that is why she takes on guests, as children substitutes.

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

AÉROGRAMME

Mr + Mrs C. Collis,
Devonshire,
BERMUDA.

PAR AVION

Deuxième pliage

Ce pli ne sera pas acheminé par avion
s'il contient un objet quelconque.

Premier pliage

I hope you are all well and that the boat is working well. I hope Graham enjoyed France and that my bike is sold. I will see you soon and I can't wait. Tell Graham to buy me a set of spokes for 1 wheel (36 I think) at Wilsons. Chrome 6 3/4"

Love

John.