

22nd February, 1951.

My Dear Henry,

I have now seen your letter of February 20th. I wonder if I could not fit in a few days in Oxford before your Australian visit, perhaps the 17th to the 20th April. I should like, if I could, to get back to Cambridge from Somerset first, but that may not be possible.

Yours sincerely,

No 10 p 01.

February 22<sup>nd</sup>: 1951.

My dear Ron,

Thank you ever so much for your letter.

Looking back over many years I realize that the critical factor or important points in my career has been help, support, or recommendation from you. And now that at last I have got some money to run a modest programme of research genetics at Oxford, it seems almost natural that I should be thanking you for supporting my application when the Nuffield Trustees approached you for an opinion. But don't think I forget, my dear, how much I owe to you: indeed I often consider it.

Yes, this is rather nice; and I hope we shall do something worth ~~while~~ while in

Genetics. I have faith in the importance -  
and need - of the combined genetic and  
Ecological approach to evolutionary problems: it is  
an immense support to know that you think  
that line worth while exploring rather fully.

Now the sad thing is that I expect  
actually to be starting on my flight to Australia  
about (or just after) April 20<sup>th</sup>, and of course  
I shall be pretty fully occupied with the final  
details during the last week. I see you  
suggest "late or mid-April - say 20<sup>th</sup> or  
thereabouts" for your visit here. You will see  
that, in the circumstances, this would hardly  
be possible.

As I do not get back here until  
about April 1<sup>st</sup>: from my dig in Cornwall  
and a visit to Dowdeswell, long planned,  
to arrange the details for Team this year, I  
hardly know how to get things in if you  
are not back till about mid-April.

As I am so dreadfully booked up until I go to Cornwall, it almost looks as if we must postpone a meeting until my return in early July. That is a horribly long time ahead and I would so like to see you before, but I hardly know how to get round it.

Next week I go to Glasgow to talk to Riddell's Biological Club. To tell the truth, it is going to be terribly difficult to fit it in, and I could not have consented had I known all I had to fit in before being absent for nine or ten weeks - and the details of the Waffield Trust maturing. But it has arranged so long ago that these things are not clear, and I cannot draw back now. Of course, apart from the time taken, I shall like to see them very much.

Yours ever,

Howard