

Communication in the Aftermath of the Battle of Hogwarts, 1998
An incomplete historical archive

Collected by Sara Ashley Bagshot, 2008-2009

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MINISTRY OF MAGIC
AUROR'S DEPARTMENT

May 2, 1998, 5:32 a.m.

TO: Kingsley Shacklebolt
FROM: Gawain Robards, Head, Auror's Department

KINGSLEY, WHAT IN THE NAME OF MERLIN'S SAGGY LEFT TESTICLE IS GOING ON???? Everything is in chaos here. People are blithering all over the place, claiming they've been Imperiused... Half the Muggle-Born Registration Commission has done a bunk. Half the rest of the place up and disappeared about an hour ago, too. Thicknesse isn't anywhere to be found. In fact, I can't find anyone who knows anything. And Umbridge is trying to take control. That obnoxious toad of a woman just ordered me to arrest Harry Potter. I don't even know where the man is, for the love of Merlin! Not that I'd do anything that toad wanted anyway.

WHAT'S GOING ON?????

Gawain

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry
Great Hall

May 2, 1998, 5:36 a.m.

To: Gawain Robards, Head, Auror's Department
From: Kingsley Shacklebolt, Great Hall, Hogwarts

Gawain,

He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named (VOLDEMORT – we can say his name now - Tom Riddle...) is dead. Mr. Potter is here at Hogwarts. Hogwarts was attacked by Death Eaters. We won. About 50 dead on our side. Death Eaters here are dead or captured. Arriving Ministry in half hour.

Kingsley

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
AUROR'S DEPARTMENT

May 2, 1998, 5:47 a.m.

TO: Kingsley Shacklebolt

FROM: Gawain Robards, Head of Auror's Department

DEAD? DEAD? Merlin's Pants! HOW... WHO... WHAT'S HAPPENING???? You can't seriously expect me to believe that we... that is to say... you... our side... WON??? GET BACK HERE NOW!!! People need answers!

Gawain

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION

May 2, 1998, 6:30 a.m.

TO: Professor Minerva McGonagall
Hogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry
Great Hall

FROM: Kingsley Shacklebolt
Acting Minister of Magic

Minerva,

The Board of Governors respectfully requests that you resume the post of Acting Headmistress of Hogwarts. Please let me know what help you require.

Kingsley

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry
Office of the Headmaster

May 2, 1998, 7:30 a.m.

To: *All Faculty & Staff, Hogwarts*

From: *Minerva McGonagall, Acting Headmistress*

Kindly join me in the Headmaster... Headmistress... Dumbledore's office at 8:00 a.m. to discuss the immediate future of Hogwarts and its students. And does anyone know where Mr. Potter has got to?

Minerva

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 7:30 a.m.

TO: Gawain Robards, Auror Department

FROM: Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic

Currently, we are aware of the whereabouts of the following Death Eaters and followers of Voldemort: Carrow (brother and sister), Dolohov, Greyback, LeStrange (Bellatrix and Rodolphus), McNair, Rowle, Rookwood, Thicknesse, Travers, and Yaxley. **Please see to the immediate detention of Jugson, Nott, Runcorn & Selwyn.** Wakanda is also wanted for questioning. **DO NOT, I repeat, DO NOT** turn them over to Dementors.

We are going to need a cauldron or more of Veritaserum... please confer with Horace Slughorn, Potions Master at Hogwarts, to assure an adequate supply.

Shacklebolt

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 7:31 a.m.

TO: *Azkaban Prison*

FROM: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic*

Effective immediately, all persons imprisoned by Voldemort or Death Eaters in the past 11 months are to be released. Those in need of medical care should be transported to St. Mungo's via portkey. Someone from the Department of Magical Transportation will be contacting you immediately. Those who are healthy and sane are asked to report to the Ministry of Magic for debriefing. Please submit a list of all those released no later than 8:00 a.m. In addition, submit a list of all remaining prisoners no later than 9:00 a.m. I expect to make an inspection of the premises later this week.

Shacklebolt

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 7:32 a.m.

TO: *Hippocrates Smethwyck, St. Mungo's Hospital*

FROM: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic*

Expect to receive people in need of care, newly released from Azkaban. More information to follow.

Shacklebolt

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry
Office of the Acting Headmistress

May 2, 1998, 8:30 a.m.

To: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic*
From: *Minerva McGonagall, Acting Headmistress*

Kingsley, the faculty and staff have identified our immediate needs as follows:

- 1. Care of those injured in battle, including humans, house elves, centaurs and giants (Grawp, apparently the half-brother of Hagrid). Poppy can only do so much herself.*
- 2. Housing for those family members who wish to remain at Hogwarts for the time being*
- 3. Arrangements for those who died in the battle (Our current count is 50. Heads of Houses are taking a head count as I write this, so this figure may be revised.)*
- 4. Temporary housing for Grawp and Hagrid (whose house was demolished by flame)*
- 5. A decision about how to handle members of Slytherin House. (I am pleased to report that Horace returned with reinforcements during the battle. It's about time he figured out where his loyalties are and grew some backbone!)*
- 6. Interim protection of the School until its traditional defenses can be replaced. In particular, Muggle-repelling charms were broken during battle and must be put back in place as soon as possible.*
- 7. Temporary repair of staircases, ceilings and walls so the castle is livable for the duration of term.*

There are another six weeks of term, however students wishing to return home with their families will be allowed to do so. Naturally, final exams are cancelled. It's what Dumbledore would have done. The year was a farce to begin with, and I will NOT have students tested on what they "learned" in Defense Against the Dark Arts and Muggle Studies from those.... Carrows.

And something will need to be done about Potter, Mr. Ronald Weasley and Miss Hermione Granger. I request permission to keep them here for the time being, despite the fact that they did not attend this year. I do not think Potter should be allowed to return to his family without our support.

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 8:45 a.m.

TO: *Hippocrates Smethwyck, St. Mungo's*

FROM: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic*

Please send a contingent of healers to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry to assist Madam Pomfrey in caring for battle injuries to humans, centaurs, house elves, and one or two giants. Number of injured unknown but large.

Also, please assume responsibilities as Acting Director of St. Mungo's until the situation at the hospital can be assessed later this week.

Kingsley Shacklebolt

St. Mungo's Hospital for Magical Maladies & Injuries

London

May 2, 1998, 8:47 a.m.

To: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic*

From: *Hippocrates Smethwyck*

Battle? What battle? What happened to Thicknesse?? Smethwyck

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 8:50 a.m.

TO: *All Heads of Department
Daily Prophet
Hippocrates Smethwyck, Acting Head of St. Mungo's Hospital
Warden at Azkaban Prison
Town Councils of Hogsmead, Godric's Hollow, Ottery St. Catchpole, Cornwall
and Upper Fledgley
Chamber of Commerce, Diagon Alley
Headmasters, Durmstrang Institute, Beauxbatons Academy of Magic*

FROM: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic*

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry was attacked this morning by Voldemort, his Death Eaters and other followers. The Ministry of Magic is pleased to report that Voldemort has been vanquished. The Wizarding community will be relieved to know that Harry Potter survives.

Families of those who fell in the battle have been notified or were present at the battle. Inquiries about specific students should be directed to Acting Headmistress Minerva McGonagall.

Please report any disappearances or appearances of known or suspected Death Eaters to the Auror Office, Ministry of Magic, immediately.

Friends and neighbors whose behavior changes abruptly may have been confunded or Imperiused. Please accompany them to St. Mungo's for evaluation and treatment.

The Ministry of Magic will provide updates in the hours and days ahead. We urge the Wizarding community to remain calm and to be restrained in their celebrations. The Statute of Secrecy remains in effect and will be enforced to maintain the security of the entire community.

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 9:00 a.m.

TO: Arthur Weasley, Great Hall,
Hogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry

FROM: Kingsley Shacklebolt

Arthur, I know you and your family must be exhausted and grieving the loss of your son. I don't mean to intrude on your grief, but I think you're the man for this job. We need to talk to Harry Potter. In light of the way he was treated by Fudge and Scrimgeour, I don't want to order him to appear, but the sooner we – that is to say, you and I and the rest of the Order – can talk with him, the better. Would you approach the boy... man... and ask him, if it would be convenient, to meet with us later this morning? We can meet at Hogwarts if he is more comfortable there. Oh – and we should meet with your son Ronald and Ms. Hermione Granger as well.

Kingsley

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry

Office of the Acting Headmistress

May 2, 1998, 9:05 a.m.

To: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic*

From: *Minerva McGonagall, Acting Headmistress, Hogwarts*

Kingsley,

We have moved the bodies of Voldemort and a number of his Death Eaters to an empty classroom on the third floor. I would prefer they be removed from the School as soon as possible. I leave to the Ministry the decision about how to dispose of these shameful examples of "Wizarding Nobility".

I would like your advice on how to handle the Slytherin students who were sent to Hogsmeade. Several have petitioned to be allowed back onto the castle grounds at this point, claiming that they would have fought in the School's defense had they not been removed along with the rest of their House. I believe several of them to be sincere, and Professor Slughorn believes he can vouch for a number of others. However, there is no doubt that a number of Death Eater family members are among the students of Slytherin House. I am not inclined to sequester them. I believe seeing the actual results of the battle will bring some of them to their senses. A measure of shame would be instructive!

Minerva

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry

Great Hall

May 2, 1998, 9:07 a.m.

To: Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister, Ministry of Magic

From: Arthur Weasley, Great Hall, Hogwarts

Kingsley,

Of course I will talk with Harry. Ron tells me Harry is asleep in his old bed in Gryffindor Tower. Don't worry - he's not alone. Kreacher, Hermione, Luna Lovegood and Neville Longbottom are guarding him. Apparently the kids had no sleep for the last two days or more. Let's give him another few hours of sleep and we'll ask McGonagall to wake him.

Thank you for your condolences.... I can't believe Fred is gone. I don't know how George and Molly, especially, are going to get along without him. Thank God it's not worse... and that it's over.

Arthur

P.S. There is some talk here about burying those who died defending Hogwarts near Dumbledore... I think Fred would like that. I have not seen Minerva since about 7:30. I imagine she's got rather a lot to do right now, but perhaps you could mention it to her?

Lucius is sitting here looking rather... shattered, along with Narcissa and Draco. They don't seem to have wands, which is how I would like it to stay, at least for a while. What shall we do with them? They're not bothering anyone at the moment, but I'm not sure it's a good idea to leave them free to do... whatever. And speaking of wands... Ollivander is still at Muriel's. We need to get him back to work. There are a lot of broken and stray wands about... another dangerous situation.

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry
Office of the Acting Headmistress

May 2, 1998, 9:08 a.m.

To: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic*

From: *Minerva McGonagall, Acting Headmistress, Hogwarts*

KINGSLEY, YOU'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT ODIUS WOMAN, UMBRIDGE! SHE HAS ORDERED ME TO DETAIN POTTER FOR "PUNISHMENT FOR TRUANCY, ACTS OF VANDALISM, AND ATTACKING MINISTRY PERSONNEL!" I SWEAR IF SHE TURNS UP HERE I WILL TRANSFIGURE HER INTO THE UGLY TOAD SHE RESEMBLES AND TURN HER OVER TO HAGRID FOR A BREEDING EXPERIMENT! Or better yet, Ronan, Bare & Magorian.

Respectfully,

Minerva

DAILY PROPHET

NEWS RELEASE

May 2, 1998, 9:17 a.m.

by: Barnabus Cuffe, Editor

Ministry of Magic, London. Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic, announced this morning that Delores Umbridge, Senior Undersecretary to the Minister of Magic and Head of the Muggle-Born Registry Department has been arrested “for crimes against Muggle-born wizards.”

Umbridge was apprehended at 9:15 this morning attempting to apparate out of the Ministry of Magic with a number of suspicious objects, among them a number of forbidden texts on the Dark Arts, memos exchanged with the former guards of Azkaban Prison (the Dementors) including one directing them to “seek Undesirable #1 in Little Whinging”, and a life-sized poster of Mr. Harry Potter captioned “Undesirable #1” with a hand-lettered note attached saying “To be Punished”. Upon being apprehended by the Acting Minister of Magic, Kingsley Shacklebolt, Umbridge claimed to be on her way to the south of France, where she claimed to have an interview for a position as Defense Against the Dark Arts instructor at Beauxbatons Academy. Mme. Olympe Maxime, Headmistress of Beauxbatons, disputes this claim.

Acting Minister Shacklebolt further announced that the Muggle-Born Registry Commission has been disbanded, and that an investigation into the violation of Wizard rights by this department will be initiated immediately. Those with grievances against the Muggle Born Registry Commission are encouraged to contact the Department of Magical Law Enforcement to provide testimony and apply for compensation.

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 9:20 a.m.

TO: *Arthur Weasley, Great Hall, Hogwarts*

FROM: *Kingsley Shacklebolt*

Arthur,

I wish we could afford to let Harry sleep - for a week, if he needs it - but we need information sooner than that. Please have Minerva wake him at eleven. I'll be there before noon, with as many of the Order as can make it. If you see that worthless sack of hair Dung, assign him some dirty task, will you?

I'm not sure we can detain the Malfoys - at least not Narcissa and Draco. Malfoy Manor is under the... protection... of the Department of Magical Law Enforcement. There were a number of bodies on the premises (including that of Peter Pettigrew), and evidence of Voldemort's snake having consumed a number of people (bones, hair, jewels, etc. disgorged all over the place). They will have to be identified. I've ordered the property held until further investigation. The Malfoys will need somewhere else to stay. That reminds me of some other things to do. See you around noon.

Kingsley

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 9:27 a.m.

TO: Gringotts Bank

FROM: Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic

As you no doubt know by now, Voldemort has fallen and his Death Eaters are dead, captured, or on the run. The Ministry of Magic respectfully requests that the vaults of the following known Death Eaters be sealed until an inventory of their contents can be taken and a determination made regarding their disposal or dispersal.

Crabbe

Anton Dolohov

Gibbon

Goyle

Fenrir Greyback

Jugsen

Lucius Malfoy and family

Alecta and Amycus Carrow

Bellatrix and Rodolphus LeStrange

Walden McNair

Mulcibur

Nott

Peter Pettigrew

Rookwood

Thorfinn Rowle

Albert Runcorn

Selwyn

Severus Snape

Pius Thicknesse

Travers

Yaxley

The Ministry of Magic wishes to extend its sincere condolences to the Goblin community for the losses it has suffered during the past eleven months in the war with Voldemort. We also would like to express our sincere gratitude for the Goblin community's aid in resisting and fighting Voldemort and his Death Eaters. We would like to arrange a meeting to discuss recent events, at Gringotts' convenience, in approximately one week.

Kingsley Shacklebolt

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 9:27 a.m.

TO: *Muggle First Minister*

FROM: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic*

Requesting immediate meeting to discuss matters of mutual interest. Tendering immediate resignation as your secretary/bodyguard. Arriving in five minutes.

Shacklebolt

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 9:28 a.m.

TO: Ollivander, Muriel Prewett's place

FROM: Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic

Mr. Ollivander, you and Muriel may have already heard this from Arthur or Molly, so if I'm repeating what you already know, I apologize. I am happy to report that Voldemort is dead. He was killed early this morning in a battle at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. There have been many injuries. As far as we know, about 54 defenders were killed in the battle. (These include students, faculty, staff, members of the Order of the Phoenix, residents of Hogsmeade, and the families of those students who stayed to defend the school. Most underage students were able to escape to Hogsmeade.) I am sorry to inform you that Fred Weasley was one of the fallen. Ollivander, I will leave it to you how to break this to Muriel. At 108, she's either tough as dragon toenails or frail.

In any case, the purpose of my Owl is to request that you report to Minerva McGonagall, Acting Headmistress at Hogwarts, to take charge of the many broken, lost, and missing wands. A number of defenders will need replacements and captured Death Eaters' wands will likely need to be destroyed. I would like you to take charge of all unclaimed, broken, or confiscated wands until their disposal or return can be determined. Please Owl me with any requests for equipment, supplies, or assistance you require.

Kingsley Shacklebolt

P.S. At some point, I would like your insight and observations on events that transpired at Malfoy Manor.



Ollivander's

Makers of Fine Wands Since 382 B. C.

May 2, 1998, 9:50 a.m.

To: Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic

Muggle Prime Minister's Office

From: Ollivander, Wandmaker; Muriel Drewett's place

Minister Shacklebolt,

I will be glad to help with the recovery efforts at Hogwarts. While I have some of my things here, I will require certain equipment and materials from my shop in Diagon Alley, but I am afraid I am not up to making that particular trip. The collection and disposal of damaged wands is dangerous, particularly in such quantities. I will elicit the assistance of some fellow wandmakers, but would be most happy to take on an apprentice. The lovely young woman who was such a comfort to me during my captivity by Lord Voldemort, Luna Lovegood, has the necessary sensitivity and imagination. Perhaps she would be so kind as to assist me.

Ollivander

Elphias Doge
Special Advisor to the Wizengamot

May 2, 1998, 9:58 a.m.

To: *Harry James Potter,*
Hogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry, Gryffindor House

From: *Elphias Doge*

Dear Harry,

My dear boy, I am so happy to hear that you are alive and well, not to mention that Lord Whatzizwhoey is gone at last. I had feared the worst when you disappeared from the wedding last summer. However, from our brief encounter, I believed you would have all the protection that Dumbledore must have arranged before his own untimely and tragic death. I feel certain that you and Dumbledore must have planned Lord Whatzizname's downfall between the two of you. Such a courageous accomplishment! You have vindicated Albus's faith in you, and brought honor to his memory. I trust you were not overly distressed by that horrid woman's lies and reconstructions in what can only be considered a psychotic take on Dumbledore's true history and character. I could not bring myself to read it through, and advise you not to do so if you have managed to escape thus far. My boy, I hope you will consider me a friend. Anytime you wish to talk over our memories of that wonderful wizard we both were honored to know, I would be pleased to have lunch - my galleons, of course.

With fond regards, I am your most humble servant... Elphias

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry

Office of the Acting Headmistress

May 2, 1998, 10:05 a.m.

To: *Board of Governors, Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry*

From: *Minerva McGonagall, Acting Headmistress, Hogwarts*

Dear Board of Governors:

The families of those who died in battle here at the School have presented a request that those who lost their lives today - or was it yesterday? - be buried here, on the grounds of the School they died defending. While Hogwarts has not traditionally allowed burials on its grounds, exceptions must be made for extraordinary circumstances. Dumbledore's final resting place is here and I believe that his "army" - those who defended the school that they, and he, loved - should be allowed to keep him, and each other, company. The burial ground will also serve as an ever-present reminder of all that the Wizarding community has gained this day, and of the dreadful cost of that victory. It will memorialize those who fought and died this day, and assure that their sacrifice is never forgotten.

I therefore encourage you to grant the request, and to allow the families and the Wizarding Community to honor their dead heroes. If permission is granted, the funerals will take place on Hogwarts grounds tomorrow at dusk.

Sincerely,

Minerva McGonagall

Acting Headmistress

Educational Decree No. 34

2 May 1998

*By joint decision of
The Board of Governors of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry
and
The Ministry of Magic*

be it hereby known that...

A permanent memorial and resting place shall be established on the grounds of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, commemorating the events, participants, and lives lost in the Battle of Hogwarts, during which the dark wizard who styled himself Lord Voldemort was finally vanquished. Any and all defenders of the school may be interred in this resting place at the time of their death, whether they lost their lives in the Battle or survived, and regardless of magical race or status.

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 2:00 p.m.

TO: Arthur & Molly Weasley;
Minerva McGonagall, Acting Headmistress
Hogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry

FROM: Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister

Arthur, Molly, and Minerva,

Thank you for facilitating the meeting with Mr. Potter and his friends. That young man has certainly been through some difficult experiences. We are lucky that he survived. No – that’s wrong. We are lucky that he had the character to stand up to events the way he did.

As we discussed, the following steps should be taken immediately:

1. Snape’s memories in the Pensieve should be bottled and preserved until the Wizengamot can review Harry’s testimony. As Harry requested, they should be handled with great respect for Snape’s privacy. Minerva, I assume you can keep them safe.
2. Before Harry can return to Grimmauld Place, the Order should inspect it to make sure there are no hexes, curses, or poisons awaiting him. Please request that Kreacher lead the inspection of the premises.
3. As we should expect this to take well into the summer, Arthur and Molly, if you could see to Harry’s living arrangements until then...
4. Neville Longbottom, Luna Lovegood and Ginny Weasley need to be debriefed within the next twenty-four hours regarding the actions of the DA in the past year. We also need to question Draco Malfoy. Please make a list of other students who should be questioned – or who want to provide testimony – so that we can complete this before they return home at end of term.
5. The Chamber of Secrets needs to be secured until it can be cleansed of basilisk venom. (Perhaps Horace Slughorn can collect the venom safely. Its properties should be studied.)
6. Any existing remains of horcruxes need to be secured until we can be sure any curse on them has been nullified. Please ask Slughorn to assist. I remind you that no one is to touch these objects with their bare hands!
7. We need to determine if the fiendfyre in this “Room of Requirement” they mentioned has burned itself out. This assures the safety of the school as well as determining whether that resource is still

available. Please identify someone with the expertise to handle this determination, as we seem to be missing a DADA instructor.

8. The faculty and staff of the School will also need to be debriefed, and we will need their assistance in repairing Hogwarts and renewing its defenses. Please ask them to extend their contract into at least early July. Additional compensation will be available and any of their families who wish to join them over the summer will be housed in Hogsmeade at Ministry expense.

9. The Department of Magical Maintenance is available for any practical assistance in repairing the school.

10. The texts Ms. Granger referred to need to be secured until a decision can be made regarding their security or disposal. Minerva, I leave that to you for the moment.

11. Ms. Granger requests assistance in locating her parents, whom she believes to be somewhere in Australia. Someone from the Muggle Liaison Office will do the locating using Ms. Granger's photograph of them (unfortunately a Muggle photograph) and an article of their clothing, but Arthur, as you and Molly have met them, I'll request that you retrieve them and undo the memory charm Ms. Granger placed on them. Minerva's suggestion that it would be prudent to do this in Ms. Granger's presence so that she can reassure them seems appropriate.

That's all I can think of at the moment. If you have other suggestions or input, please forward them to me. Your Owls will find me – I'll not be in any one place over the next few days, as there is so much to attend to.

Kingsley

The DAILY PROPHET

(Barnabus Cuffe, Editor)

May 2, 1998, 3:00 p.m.

To: Mr. Harry Potter, Gryffindor Common Room

From: Rita Skeeter, Special Correspondent, Daily Prophet

Harry, dear, I am absolutely delighted that you are alive... although it might have made a better story if you had died. My dear, you make such a romantic character! So dashing! So brave! Of course, you'll want to tell our readers all about it, won't you? The Man Who Lived... The Boy Who Survived Again... Vanquisher of Voldemort... We'll have to play with the title. You don't mind giving us some updated photos, do you? After all, another two years of maturity... you must have magical muscle to spare now, don't you?! And how's your love life? Me, myself and I want to know! Snogged that beautiful Granger girl yet, have you? Or are you still after that delightfully pretty Quidditch player? What was her name... Chang? Love? Loss? Heartbreak? Oh yes, this will be even better than The Life and Lies of Albus Dumbledore! My dear, we'll make a fortune. Please respond by return owl regarding an interview or three or seven. I will be delighted to see you again.

Rita Skeeter

Best-selling Author of The Life and Lies of Albus Dumbledore,

Special Correspondent, The Daily Prophet

HOGWARTS SCHOOL OF WITCHCRAFT AND WIZARDRY
GRYFFINDOR HOUSE

May 2, 1998 3:15 p.m.

TO: *That busybody Rita Skeeter*

FROM: *Hermione Granger*

Harry is a bit busy right now, and after that smear job you did on Dumbledore, he'll grant you an interview when goblins fly. I'd strongly advise you leave him alone. And don't go thinking you can publish an "unofficial" story, either. No "fly on the wall" business if you know what I mean, or I'll just have to go public with a few facts of my own. Unless you'd like to spend another summer in a jar...

H.G.

HOGWARTS SCHOOL OF WITCHCRAFT AND WIZARDRY
GRYFFINDOR HOUSE

May 2, 1998 3:25 p.m.

TO: *Professor Mc Gonagall, Acting Headmistress Hogwarts*

FROM: *Hermione Granger Lakeside Hogwarts grounds*

Professor

I find it absolutely appalling that the House Elves - a.k.a. Slaves of Hogwarts - are being required to prepare and serve meals after all they have done for us in the last two days - not to mention the last several hundred years! I would like to suggest that we Wizards prepare tonight's meal and serve T.H.E.M. in gratitude for their willingness to defend Hogwarts when they were offered an escape to safety! Hogwarts is in a position to make an important change in how House Elves are viewed by the Wizarding World and nothing would demonstrate this better than a reversal of roles in honor of their service to the school and the Wizarding Community today. This will also honor the sacrifice of Dobby, which we told you and the Minister about this afternoon, if you recall that part of our story.

I will be happy to communicate our willingness to treat them as our equals and as our honored guests at tonight's banquet. Ron, Harry and I know the way to the kitchens.

Respectfully,

Hermione Granger

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry

Office of the Acting Headmistress

May 2, 1998, 3:38 p.m.

To: *Ms. Hermione Jean Granger, Lakeside, Hogwarts Grounds*

From: *Minerva McGonagall, Acting Headmistress, Hogwarts*

Ms. Granger,

While I have the utmost sympathy for your point of view, this is not the time to make a change in Chef. From what Mr. Weasley reports, your culinary skills are not as highly developed as your Transfiguration skills. Rather than risk poisoning our guests, I suggest we let the House Elves get on with what they do so well - unless you have somehow acquired talents hitherto undemonstrated.

Your concern does you credit. Five points to Gryffindor House. However, for the time being, we'll eat what our elves provide.

Professor McGonagall

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry

Office of the Acting Headmistress

May 2, 1998, 3:43 p.m.

To: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic*

From: *Minerva McGonagall, Acting Headmistress, Hogwarts*

Kingsley,

I realize you are insanely busy right now, but did you have any thoughts about Slytherin House's request to reenter Hogwarts grounds? If you have a moment...

Minerva

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 4:02 p.m.

TO: *Minerva McGonagall, Acting Headmistress
Hogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry*

FROM: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister*

I'm sorry, Minerva. I lost track of my Owls.

It's times like these that I miss Mad-Eye... and Snape. Between Mad-Eye's eye and Severus's Legilimens, we would have a much better idea who amongst the Slytherins is likely to need watching, and the means to do so.

Since we have to get along without those gifts, however, we will err on the side of trust. It's what Dumbledore would do. And Harry, too, come to think of it. However, it would be wise to keep some kind of tabs on them...

We need Horace to brew up some more Veritaserum, so he cannot keep an eye on his House for us... There are just so many hands... Tell you what. Assign Lucius to monitor the Slytherins. And as a precaution, ask Ollivander to box up their wands for now. We can be more liberal tomorrow... or the next day. Tonight, let's make sure we can all sleep.

Speaking of sleep, I'd sleep better myself if I knew the halls were being patrolled tonight.

Kingsley

P.S. How's Harry?

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry

Great Hall

May 2, 1998, 4:15 p.m.

To: Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister, Ministry of Magic

From: Arthur Weasley, Great Hall, Hogwarts

Kingsley,

Minerva asked me to respond to your last Owl. She's trying to calm Filch down. Peeves is not helping... I think he's been chucking bits of stone at Mrs. Norris.

I'll admit we thought you'd been confounded, suggesting Lucius Malfoy oversee the Slytherins, but Wilhemina (Grubbly-Plank) thinks you're brilliant. Lucius will want to "cooperate". He's got a keen sense of self-interest, old Lucius has. And Narcissa will jump on any stray misbehavior, too. She's still shaking like a flutterby bush and has "hushed" Draco more effectively than Molly ever hushed the twins.

In any case, Slytherin House has been informed they can join us in the Great Hall, after Filch scans them with a Probity Probe.

After our discussion with them, Harry, Ron and Hermione, along with Neville Longbottom, Luna Lovegood, and Ginny, wandered off around the lake. Hagrid has been keeping an eye on any students who go onto the grounds, and Molly, Bill and Charlie have been taking turns keeping the kids in sight, but we also think they need some time together to talk about what they have been through today. I cannot imagine what Harry's going through, but he's entitled to the company of anyone he wants, and to privacy otherwise.

Anyway, he still seems like he's in shock. I heard from Ron that Rita Skeeter Owled Harry a request for an interview - and that Hermione intercepted the Owl and responded... turning her down in no uncertain terms. Molly was furious that that woman dared approach Harry after what she wrote about him and Dumbledore. He'll have to talk to the Daily Prophet at some point, but we can shield him for a few days at least.

I'm pretty proud of my kids - that includes Harry. And of Molly, of course.

Will you be here for the memorial tomorrow? I don't know that I can handle burying Fred... we could use the support, and it would be important for the other families to have you there.

Sorry... I'm going on. I think I'm a bit tired. I imagine you are, too. Nick and Peeves and the other ghosts will patrol the halls tonight. Nick says they don't need the sleep.

Arthur

MINISTRY OF MAGIC

OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 2, 1998, 4:20 p.m.

TO: Arthur Weasley
Hogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry, Great Hall

FROM: Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister

Arthur,

Of course I will be there tomorrow. I'll be there early, if things at the Ministry calm down just a bit over night.

The Aurors have located a number of Voldemort's followers who were hiding out and playing innocent. Runcorn put up a bit of a fight, but Robards and one of the folks from Magical Maintenance got him with a simultaneous Stunning spell and Leg Lock curse.

If you get the chance, let Harry know if there's anything he needs... and give him my thanks again for going over things with us this afternoon. It's clear we're not getting the whole story, but in light of the excellent judgment he's shown throughout this whole ordeal, we'll have to trust him... which is, after all, what Dumbledore told us to do. I'll check in with him myself tomorrow. Robards is practically jumping out of his baggies to get his hands on him. Wants to offer him a position in the Auror's Department. I don't suppose you know what he was planning to do when he finished his NEWTs, do you?

No need to reply. We'll catch up tomorrow. Let Minerva know I'll check in with her before I go to bed... assuming I can get to bed tonight. You get some rest! Kingsley

May 2, 1998, 4:28 p.m.

To: Minerva McGonagall

From: Aberforth Dumbledore, Proprietor, Hogshead

McGonagall, I'm returning to the Hogshead. All these people are getting to me. I need a drink. If you need anything - food, drink, housing for family members coming to the funeral tomorrow - just let me know. Neville Longbottom knows how to reach me. Smart fellow. Stupidly courageous, but I guess that's why he's sitting there with Gryffindor's sword. I'll be here for the funeral tomorrow, of course. Damn fool people, getting themselves killed. Well, I suppose if they're bent on being heroes...

Been talking to Firenze... Good chap. Nice to talk to. Reasonable fellow. Believe I'll expand my menu. Send Harry by. Got a couple things for him. Be glad to get them off my hands.

Aberforth



HOGWARTS SCHOOL OF WITCHCRAFT AND WIZARDRY
GRYFFINDOR HOUSE

May 2, 1998, 5:43 p.m.

TO: *Department for Regulation and Control of Magical Creatures, MoM*
FROM: *Charlie Weasley, Dragon Keeper, Gryffindor Common Room*

My brother Ronald tells me that there is a blind and badly injured dragon loose in the country, last seen heading north. With your permission, I will take a few of my fellow dragon handlers to seek out and relocate the poor beast before he hurts himself or some unlucky Muggle. Depending on the extent of the beast's injuries, the tentative plan will be to resettle him in Romania. With the information provided to us by Ron and his... travel companions... we believe we can accomplish this shortly after nightfall. This increases the likelihood that we will locate the poor thing, reduces the likelihood that Muggles will see our flight, and means the dragon will be slightly more sedate.

Charlie Weasley

MINISTRY OF MAGIC

DEPARTMENT FOR REGULATION AND CONTROL OF MAGICAL CREATURES

May 2, 1998, 5:59 p.m.

TO: *Charlie Weasley, Gryffindor Common Room, Hogwarts*
FROM: *Bob, DRCMC, MOM*

Hi, Charlie. No one here is in charge of anything... it's just me. I say go ahead. If you can't relocate the dragon to Romania, there's another reservation in Wales. That might be closer. If he's headed north, that might make more sense anyway. If Amos Diggory shows up tonight, I'll fill him in, but otherwise it might be better to handle this on the sly. Hagrid tells me you're good at that. Amos wears his baggies a bit too tight, if you ask me. 'Course if you tell him I said so, I'll curse your testicles off.

Heard about your brother. Sorry for your loss, mate. Bob

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMO

May 2, 1998, 7:14 p.m.

TO: Department of Magical Maintenance
FROM: Kingsley Shacklebolt

Will someone please remove that violently abhorrent statue from the Atrium? I want this handled immediately. And please attempt to determine if the bones are those of actual Muggles or simply an “artistic rendering”. Also, I would like to know the name of the immoral dungheap of a wizard who consented to sculpt or assemble this atrocity and insult to Muggle- and Wizardkind.

Shacklebolt

HOGWARTS SCHOOL OF WITCHCRAFT AND WIZARDRY
GRYFFINDOR HOUSE

May 3, 1998, 12:34 a.m.

TO: ***Bob, Department for Regulation and Control of Magical Creatures, MoM***
FROM: ***Charlie Weasley, Dragon Keeper***

Hey, Bob. Just wanted to let you know we found and relocated the injured dragon. No trouble. He was pretty tired by the time we got to him. Couldn't find water or a decent place to stay the night. He'd gotten a wing caught in a crevice cutting it too close to the mountain tops. Good thing we went after him – he'd have starved to death in short order. He was too dehydrated to put out much flame, and the old fellow is blind in at least one eye. I don't understand how Bill can stand Goblins... the way they treat these poor beasts, you'd think they were animals themselves. It disgusts me, really. Guess goblins are just not my type.

Anyway, I expect you're not around, and I'm off to bed myself. Thanks for your sympathy for Fred's death. I don't know what George is going to do without his shadow.

Charlie Weasley

MINISTRY OF MAGIC
OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 3, 1998, 1:17 a.m.

TO: Minerva McGonagall, Acting Headmistress

FROM: Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister

Minerva,

I trust all is well. I know you're still up, conferring with ... well... someone. I hope everyone there is safely off to bed.

I've made a tentative list of things to attend to that we have not yet discussed. Many of these are in your court. I don't mean to step on your toes – Hogwarts is yours. I'm just thinking out loud. A habit I got into guarding the Muggle Minister – had to think for him as well as myself, poor bloke, or he'd have had curses and hexes coming at him from twenty directions. Check me on this:

Interview Longbottom, Lovegood, and other members of the DA

Interview captured death eaters and chase down the rest (that could take years)

Assemble complete record of events

Determine which cases to present to Wizengamot

Appoint new members of Wizengamot – we've lost too many these past two years

Recruit Harry to Auror's Department – will he have to finish his NEWTs first?

Dispose of Voldemort's remains (I'd rather have acromantulas in the Ministry than his body any longer than we have to.)

Return the giants to their home

Identify any Muggles in need of Obliviating

Trials for death eaters – that'll have to wait until we can assemble a quorum of the Wizengamot

Do something about the dementors

See to the care and protection of families who lost parents or breadwinners – I was thinking of funding their care from the sale of the contents of death eater vaults. This would bring some measure of justice to the situation.

Based on your comments, we may need to redo the entire year at Hogwarts to undo any damage done by the Carrows and other dark arts practitioners on the faculty (not your fault, of course).

We'll need to let people know about Snape. We got it wrong – that was Dumbledore's plan, of course, but the man does not deserve to be vilified. In fact, he deserves an Order of Merlin, First Class. As do a number of others, yourself included. And Harry, of course.

Assign new liaisons to goblins (Bill Weasley?), giants (Hagrid, Grawp if he's up to it, Mme. Maxime?), centaurs (Umbridge? Trelawny? Just pulling your wand. I'll have to think on that. Maybe Hagrid can do double duty.), merpeople (Does any of the faculty speak Mermish? Dumbledore was the only one I knew fluent in the language.), werewolves (though that may be impossible... Lupin was our best hope)... who am I leaving out?

Repair Hogwarts, the Ministry, the Burrow, Gringotts, and other places damaged over the last year

I'm sure there's more, but my brain feels like it's filled with blibbering humdingers. I'll talk with you in the morning. Get some rest. That's Educational Decree #1492 or whatever we're up to now.

Kingsley

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry
Gryffindor House

May 3, 1998, 4:19 a.m.

To: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic*

From: *Arthur Weasley, Couch, Gryffindor Common Room, Hogwarts*

Good Lord - I just realized - Snape's body is still in the Shrieking Shack! We've got to get it out of there, Kingsley, before someone decides to take revenge on it! No one knows he's innocent except the Order, Harry, Ron, and Hermione! And he should be buried here, as well... But we can't do that tomorrow - no one will understand... They'll think we're all been Imperiused or something. Kingsley - someone should get over there right away! Do you want me to go?

Arthur

MINISTRY OF MAGIC

OFFICE OF THE ACTING MINISTER

May 3, 1998, 4:26 a.m.

TO: *Arthur Weasley, Couch, Gryffindor Common Room, Hogwarts*

FROM: *Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister*

Arthur, I see I'm not the only one who keeps waking up thinking of things that need to be done.

No one can get into the Shrieking Shack unless they know how to get past the Whomping Willow. The only people who know how to do that are the people who know Snape is innocent. Go back to sleep. We'll take care of it in the morning.

Come to think of it... I don't like the thought of the poor man just lying there all alone. He deserves better than that. Tell you what - I'll send Robards and a couple other Aurors to bring him back to the Ministry until we can do the thing right. They're usually up all night anyway.

Now, go back to sleep. Everything else can wait until morning. Kingsley

HOGWARTS SCHOOL OF WITCHCRAFT AND WIZARDRY
GRYFFINDOR HOUSE

May 3, 1998, 7:08 a.m.

TO: Kingsley Shacklebolt, Acting Minister of Magic
FROM: Harry Potter, Gryffindor Common Room

Kingsley,

If no one has thought of it up to now, could someone contact Dedalus Diggle and Hestia Jones and let them know to let my aunt, uncle and cousin out of protective custody? I'm sure my cousin is exhausted trying to protect his backside from potential curses. In any case, they'll be a lot happier to return home. And have Dedalus assure them I will NOT be returning to Little Whinging. The Weasleys have asked me to stay with them this summer, and I think I would like to do that.

The house-elves Kreacher and Winkey tell me they would like to take care of Grimmauld Place for me, while I decide what to do next. I'll have to see if Kreacher knows how to remove sticking charms... Sirius has some bikini models up in his bedroom that I'll have to get down, and I really don't want to have to put up with his mother's screaming. Do you know if muffliato or silencing charms work on portraits?

I still want to be an Auror. There's still work to do, isn't there? I mean, we can't have found all the Dark Wizards yet, can we? I haven't finished my NEWTS, tho, so I might not be able to qualify. I'll have to talk with Professor McGonagall about whether I can come back next year and make up the classes I still need to be accepted to auror training. I don't know if they let people back in if they've skipped out on a year. Hermione will be frantic if she can't get her NEWTS.

There are a couple of other things I'd like to discuss in private. I'm sorry I won't be able to tell you everything, but there are a few other things the Order should know.

It's time for breakfast... and then time to say goodbye to those who have gone on... I'll see you later. Thanks... for everything.

Harry