



The poor old postman could hardly stagger round with all his Christmas mail, and one big parcel contained a lot of lovely drawings from the Bellbrook youngsters.

They came from Claudette Quinlan, Betty Holten, Greg Ellem, Barrie Cohen, Bill Scott, Stan Murray, Bill Little, Joan Dunn, Esther Scott, Julia Holten, Dawn Little, Flossie Quinlan, Jim Quinlan, Lloyd Shepherd, Joe Quinlan, Margaret Kelly, and Ron Cohen.

I also had a very interesting letter from Dorothy Mitchell of "Kurrajong," Muttama. Apparently poor old Dorothy is having a lot of trouble up there with her broody hens.

Vivien Laurie of Yamba, on the Clarence River, is only twelve but she can also write a very interesting letter. Vivien is very proud of her footballer father. Good for you, Viv!

Emily Walker of Bellwood Creek, Nambucca Heads, also wrote a nice letter and sent me some photos which we'll publish soon.

This month's painting prizes went to Collen Snow (14) of Burnt Bridge, Allen Ferguson of 1 Wingewarra Street, East Dubbo, Hilton Wightman of Boggabilla, Florence Bowden of Cootamundra, and Margaret Carney of Armatree. Congratulations, Kids.

I also had some fine paintings from Clarence Haines, Lloyd Dennison, Ron McGrady, Henry Binge, Cyril Knox, Dale Forster, Fred Binge, Teddy Cubby, Ian McIntosh, Don McIntosh of Boggabilla; Judith Darcy, Betty Mundy and Alice Adams of Cootamundra; Margaret Kelly of Burnt Bridge, Lorna Welsh of Wingate Street, Coonamble, Ambrose Brown of Wreck Bay, Mac Cutmore of Moree and Larry Kelly and Carol Donovan of Bowraville, also Barbara Masters of Armatree, and Bruce Ellis, Cecil Dickson and John Armstrong of Kinchela.

In my very big mail we also had some excellent drawings on all manner of things, from my old friends, John Duncan (one in this issue), Hilton Wightman, Don McIntosh, Bertram Prince and Lewis Orcher of Boggabilla.

Well now, Kids, I want a lot more drawings and photographs, and how about a short story or two? See what you can do.

All the Best until next month.

Your sincere friend,

Hello, Kids,

And how are we all enjoying the holidays? I'll bet all my young friends are having the time of their lives.

I had some lively Christmas cards and letters from boys and girls during the holidays, and after reading them all very carefully I hung all the cards around my office. They looked grand.

One of the loveliest cards I received was from Pam Tighe of Wallendbeen. It had a Namatjira painting on the cover and Pam said, "I selected this card especially for you as it is by an aboriginal artist whom I am very proud of, being an aborigine myself."

Thanks indeed, Pam, it was a lovely thought and a lovely card.

A lot of the Boggabilla youngsters made up their own cards and they were lovely. I was really amazed by the beauty of the flowers on Coral Binge's card.

I had other cards from Isabel McGrady, Neville Binge, Pearl Mackie, Pauline, Hayden Paines, Teddy Cubby, and Lewis Orcher.



"The River," a clever drawing by Claudette Quinlan (14) of Nulla Creek, Bellbrook.