



*Eric King*

## Letters

Dear Sir,

I would like to correspond with some girl penfriends aged from 20-28. I would prefer if they enclosed a photo of themselves.

I am 20 years-of-age, five foot six, brown eyes, black hair and a light complexion. I am a quarter-caste.

Hobbies: swimming, football, playing cards, ice-skating, pop music, dancing, and a very keen boxing fan.

Yours truly,  
Eric King,  
1 Llewellyn Street,  
Marrickville, N.S.W. 2204.

## OPAL's Joyce Wilding Home

The people of New South Wales may be interested in reading of the OPAL organization of Queensland.

The first OPAL House was started by Mrs Muriel Langford and Mrs Joyce Wilding in 1961, with full approval and assistance from the Queensland Government. Prior to this Mrs Wilding conducted a "Helping Hand House" in Melbourne Street, South Brisbane, assisting many people, regardless of race, colour or creed. She gave material and spiritual aid to all who went there.

In July, 1970, the OPAL organization purchased a property on the Pacific Highway at Upper Mount Gravatt, an outer suburb of Brisbane. This had been operating as a motel, but OPAL converted it into a Home for Aboriginal Children, from 4 to 15 years of age, and called it "OPAL Joyce Wilding Home". It was officially opened by the then Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Mr Wentworth.

Matron Sheppard and her husband, assisted by Mr and Mrs Butterworth, very capably attend to the needs of the children and keep the Home running smoothly. The buildings are set amidst spacious grounds and so afford the children ample room for games and recreation. To see them

playing, happy and contented, one knows that OPAL House is a successful venture.

In July, 1972 Senator Bonner and his wife held their marriage ceremony here.

The original OPAL Hostel in Russell Street, South Brisbane is now managed by Matron Olive Murphy and her husband. All the cooking, cleaning and so on are done on a communal basis, supervised by these two capable people. It mainly caters for people coming from the country to seek work in Brisbane, and any person, single or married, can go there for assistance. Here again OPAL lives up to its ideal, in that race, colour and creed have no bearing on who can go there for help.

With more places like OPAL at Mount Gravatt and South Brisbane perhaps in time there will be a lessening of the rift between the two peoples of Australia and the name OPAL will have fulfilled its purpose—One People's Australia League.

Its headquarters is at 418 Ann Street, South Brisbane and the site was purchased for OPAL by the Federal and State Governments. Senator Bonner is the president and Mrs Caroline Archer the executive officer. The beautiful Geerbaugh