



Hello Kids,

Well, by this time many of you are back at school again, whilst many others have finished their schooling and set out to make their way in the world. To those at school I would say study hard kids, for education is a wonderful thing and can bring to us untold opportunities. To those who have left school and started work, I would say: Be honest to yourself and to your employer and you can't go wrong.

This is really a wonderful month for us. First of all the wonderful rains have come to break the terrible drought and everything looks fresh and green again.

Secondly, we are privileged to have with us once again, after many years, her Gracious Majesty Queen



Kevin Boney draws a Holden.

Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. As many of you will already know, she was once the Queen of England, but when the King died her daughter, our present Queen, became our ruler. Many of you will be lucky enough to see her and I know she would like to see many of you too, but unfortunately she has only a very short time here and this is a vast country of ours.

It's about time some of my young friends started to send me in some nice drawings and poems and stories and so on. I don't mean those regular contributors, but all those hundreds and hundreds of other youngsters who have never written to me at all yet.

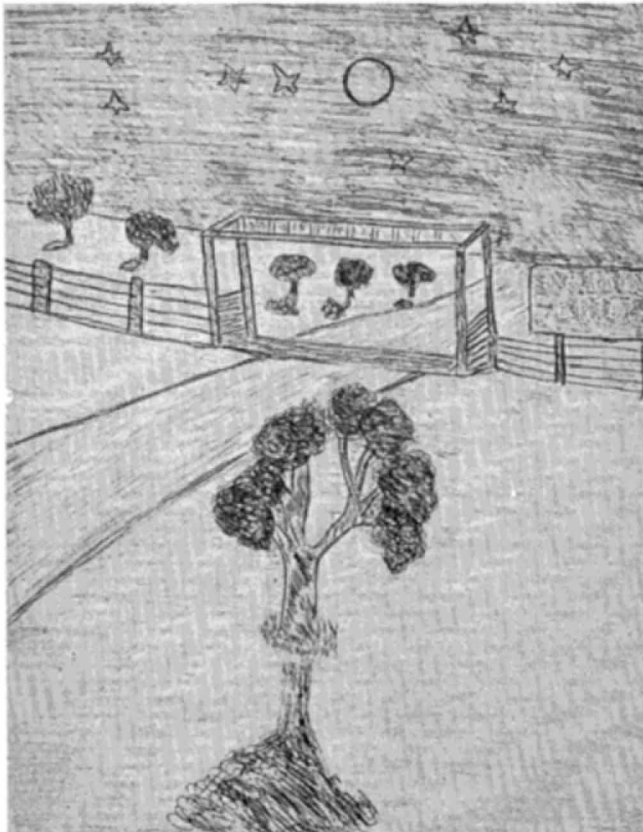
I know it is rather late now but I must say thank you to Charlotte Nicholson, of Moulamein, for the lovely Christmas card she sent me. I have already said thanks to all my other friends.

This month we are including a colour-in competition for you and I hope you ALL send in an entry. It is such fun colouring in pictures, don't you think? You know when I was a little boy, I used to love drawing beards, moustaches and glasses on photos in the newspapers. Have you ever tried that?

Well, Kids, I guess that's about all for this month, so all the best for now,

Your sincere Pal,

Pete



From an unknown artist, a sketch of Murrin Bridge.