

▶ A full-blood Aborigine visited by Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip at his home in Darwin in 1963 was awarded the British Empire Medal in the Queen's New Year Honours List. He is Phillip Roberts, 48 (tribal name Waipuldanya), a medical assistant employed by the Northern Territory Department of Health. Mr Roberts and his wife, Hannah, have eight children—seven girls and a boy. He told a *Sydney Morning Herald* correspondent on 1st January: "I feel this is a great honour for me and my people." Mr Roberts is a member of the Alawa tribe from Roper River.

▶ In England late last year the wife of a snoring man dug him in the ribs and woke him. It's not a new story, but this time the wakened man smelt smoke, dashed from his room, and saved his wife and 15 other guests from death in the hotel, which was destroyed by the fire.

▶ **More from Deniliquin.** Welfare Officer Hall reports that 20 Aboriginal children from Deniliquin area were given a wonderful two-weeks holiday in Tasmania at the start of the year. They went by bus to Melbourne, and Ansett-A.N.A. 'plane to Devenport; in Tasmania they stayed in the homes of their hosts, who paid all travel and other expenses. Another group of 21 Deniliquin children descended on Melbourne and stayed for seven weeks as guests in private homes associated with the Harold Blair Project. Mrs Hall said that a total of 260 Aboriginal children enjoyed a Melbourne holiday because of the kindness of their hosts.

▶ Nine years old Lee Combo, or Revesby, received the *Daily Telegraph's* Junior Cricketer of the Week title and a Bobby Simpson/Slazenger bat late last year. Why did they think he was so good? Well, he bowled 8-4 and 7-5, and on top of his 15 wickets for nine runs he made 68 runs and took two smart catches. The *Telegraph* compared Lee with Eddie Gilbert, famous Queensland Aboriginal speed bowler who had Sheffield Shield batsmen hopping before the last World War.

▶ Lionel Rose, defending his Australian bantam-weight boxing title in Sydney last December, easily defeated challenger Rocky Gattellari. Rose, who was a 5-2 on favourite, was never in danger of

losing his title to the ever-pressing but ineffective Gattellari. Lionel Rose would like to fight Walter McGowan for the British Empire bantamweight title, but he will have to wait quite a while before McGowan is available.

▶ One of Victoria's best known Aborigines, Mr Bill Onus, died in Melbourne early in January, aged 61. Mr Onus was president of the Aborigines' Advancement League. He was the League's representative on the Victorian Aborigines Welfare Board for seven months until its abolition at the end of last year.

▶ A group of six islands near the mouth of the Hunter River at Newcastle are to be given the Aboriginal name of Kooragang Island. The islands are Ash, Mooscheto, Dempsey, Walsh, Spectacle, and Goat. They are being reclaimed to form one island for a \$50 million industrial development. The Aboriginal name of Kooragang was selected by the recently created Geographical Names Board, whose policy it is to give preference to pleasant-sounding Aboriginal names.

## PEN FRIENDS WANTED

Valma Donovan of Eungai Creek, N.S.W., would like to correspond with boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 17.

Valma writes to people in Japan and New Zealand and would like pen friends from other parts of the world.

Her hobbies are dancing, writing letters, collecting stamps, singing, cooking and meeting new friends.

Send your photo when you write to Valma. Her address is Tamban Road, c/o Post Office, Eungai Creek. 2492.