



Hello Kids,

Well, how are you all now after all that Christmas pudding and other nice things we had last month?

It's wonderful weather for the Christmas holidays and I really hope you're all enjoying yourselves. But don't forget though, we can't play ALL the time. Sometimes we have to help Mum and Dad and I hope you all do that without long faces or grumbles.

I went out to La Perouse the other night and saw the youngsters who came down for the Summer Camp. Are they having a wonderful time! I don't think I ever saw so many big smiles or such bright excited eyes



A nice black and white sketch by Betty Black.

There hasn't been very much in my mail the last week or so, but, of course, I really don't expect much during the holidays. You can all make up for it later on.

I did have a very nice letter, though, from Betty Black, who has been in hospital at Turramurra for over a year. Betty said,

"I thought I'd drop you a note, Pete, and let you know what is going on. Last Monday afternoon the patients at the Hospital here had a Christmas party. It was held down under the tall trees in the hospital grounds, and gosh, it was simply wonderful. At night we had a concert.

I think, but I am not certain, that I will be going home next month. However, the Doctor will be making his rounds again today and will let me know then.

I have been here in hospital 14 months now.

The staff here are all wonderful.

A nurse friend here, Betty Edwards, a dark girl from Griffith, is on her vacation at present. I have heard that she was recently engaged to be married.

On Wednesday night a group of boys and girls came up here to sing Christmas Carols for us. I love Carols, don't you?

A couple of weeks ago we had quite a bit of excitement here when a fire broke out only 200 yards away from the hospital. We had lots of policemen, firemen and newspaper reporters here. It was very exciting but, fortunately, only the trees were burned.

Well, that's about all for now, your sincere pal,
Betty Black."

Thanks, indeed, for a very nice letter and the photos, Betty, and I do hope you will soon be well enough to leave hospital. And a special prize to you for your letter.

I also had some nice drawings from little Barbara Haynes, of 112 Palmer Street, East Sydney, and they win her a special prize. Congratulations, Barbara.

Alfred Newman, who is 18 and whose address is c o. Post Office, Karuah, via Raymond Terrace, wants some pen friends between 16 and 19 and interested in all outdoor sports. He will send a photo with the first letter.

Well, Kids, that's about all for now, so with every good wish for a very Happy New Year,

Your sincere Pal,

Pete