

Hullo, Kids

And here we are once again. Right in the middle of Winter now. I just had a nice letter from my pal Brian Irving of Armidale Road, South Guyra, and what he told me really made me feel cold. He said he gets up very early in the morning to bring in the wood and then goes out to catch some rabbits for the cats. Doesn't that make you feel cold?

Brian sent me a nice sketch too, but it just missed out on a prize. Better luck next time, Brian.



A prize to Brian Budge of Burnt Bridge for his sketch, "Teddy Bear".

Also had a nice letter from my pal who writes so regularly, Carol Donovan of Bowraville. It was most interesting, particularly the part about the floods. Carol said "Quite recently it had been raining very hard for a couple of days and the river was rising rapidly. No-one was going to town so Eileen and I had to go, as we were the only ones who had raincoats. When we crossed the bridge the water was just under it but by the time we finished our shopping the river had risen higher and was three feet over it. Of course we could not cross it so we had to stay for the night at the home of one of our friends. We thought we would never



Les Franks of Cobargo, wins a special prize for this delightful drawing.

get back home again, but the river went down the next day and everything was alright". Now wasn't that an interesting letter? Some of these youngsters in the country certainly have some exciting times, don't they?

Another letter the mailman brought me was from Barbara Solomon of Balranald. Barbara wants some penfriends, so how about some of you writing to her. She has promised to answer all her letters.

In another letter I just received, Mavis Clarke of Booberoi Station near Condobolin, I learned more about the floods. Mavis said the Station was surrounded by flood waters and all the men were busy building banks to keep out the waters. Anytime anyone wants to get out they have to be taken out on tractors. Think I'd rather be in the city. Mavis sent me a poem (which won her a prize) and which I think you will like.

It said :--

The Weather Bureau Reports . . .

It isn't as cold as it seems you know

Which may comfort you obscurely

Though if it seems cold, with a biting wind

It's as cold as it seems to be, surely !

But if it seems cold, and one's feeling cold (I'm examining this sincerely)

Yet it isn't as cold as it seems to be,

Then tell me, how cold is it really?

Well, Kids, that's all until next month (when we'll have better weather, I hope).

From your sincere pal,