HELLO KIDS,

I have had a nice long letter from twelve-year-old Eileen Donovan of Bowraville. Eileen, who is a sister of one of my regular pals, Carol, is a real Dawn fan. In one of her usual interesting letters, sister Carol said:

"I am writing to tell you that I received the prize. When I opened it up I was so surprised I couldn't wait until I got home. I started a banking account for myself with the money, and I thank you very much for this prize. I am sending in a photo of myself. My Auntie Julie took this of me before she went back to Forster and I also want to know do you send the photos back again. I asked in the other letter that I wanted pen-friends, from anywhere, as long as I have some pen-friends it won't be so dull. Everybody is so excited up here, they are all planning the evening frocks and ballerinas for the dance at Nambucca Heads. One afternoon when I was coming home from school, I trod on a sharp bottle which cut through the side of my shoe and a deep cut is on the side of my foot. Robyn, my little sister, is cutting her first two teeth, and she can almost crawl and it will be good when she can walk because she gets tired of sitting down. Lots of the people who went to Sydney for the test said it was too cold for them, that they were glad when they were home again. Well I am afraid there is no more news, because I am getting sleepy, I always write letters in the night, mostly than in the day.

Well that was quite a letter, wasn't it? And now until next month, I'll say Cheerio to all my pals.

Sincerely,

PEN FRIENDS WANTED.

Joan Kelly, whose address is Box 89, P.O., Balranald, would like some pen friends from Burnt Bridge, Murri Bridge, Dubbo, Kempsey or Wilcannia, between the ages of 15 and 18.

Joan's interests are hill-billy music, horse riding, basket ball, collecting film stars' pictures and sport.

Richard Ballangarry, of Auburn, wins a special prize for his letter. Richard said—

"Dear Pete,

I am just writing to let you know how I'm getting on, because it is so long since I last wrote to you. Last month forty-seven boys from Granville Secondary Technical School made the trip to Newcastle. We met at Central Railway Station and then boarded the "Newcastle Flyer."

On our way we saw the orange orchards at Gosford. We saw a sulphur mine and passed a coal mine not very far from the sulphur mine.

We arrived at Newcastle at 11.40 a.m.

When we were on the train we saw Bud Abbott and Lou Costello and some of the boys managed to get their autographs.

After driving round for half an hour we went to see the steel works.

After we were shown through the works we returned to the bus.

It was soon dark and nothing could be seen on the way home.

It was a wonderful trip and we all enjoyed it very much."

J. Rhodes, of Cabbage Tree Island, wins a special prize for his excellent black and white drawing.