Dear Kids,

The homesickness of one small boy at this year’s Summer Camp at La Perouse became so acute that he was permitted to return to his parents out west a couple of days before camp broke up.

The little fellow, bless him, will have the sympathy and understanding of all of us who have known the loneliness and despair of that first separation from our loved ones.

All the excitement of a trip away to the seaside, a first glimpse of the marvels of the big city; fun at Luna Park; picnic adventures; a visit to the Zoo; the thrill of ice-skating; movie palaces; pantomimes; the comfort of a camp with jolly playmates and the kindness of strangers everywhere, could not make up for what he missed most of all—his home and family. His father and mother should be very proud parents, indeed.

The case of our outback boy inspires kindly thoughts of another lonely little boy, in a place in far-off England, whose mother and father are now in Australia.

The boy is Prince Andrew. His parents, our beloved Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh.

Boys at the Summer Camp were able to bring latest news of the North West to Mr. Stan Wyatt, M.L.A. Mr. Wyatt, who has been a member of the Aborigines Welfare Board for 10 years, was reared in the Narrabri-Moree district, and has always taken a keen interest in the welfare of our people.

It will be the three-year-old Prince’s first long separation from his father and mother. The two older children of the Royal Family, Prince Charles and Princess Anne, will be busy at school like the rest of you but they are sure to know loneliness, too.

So you can see just how much these children are forced to give up and what a sacrifice their parents make in taking such a long journey in the line of Royal duty to strengthen the bonds of our great British Commonwealth of nations.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh flew from London to Fiji where they joined the Royal yacht, Britannia for New Zealand and Australia.

On the eve of their departure the Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies, sent a message to the Queen on behalf of all Australian people saying: “We are all looking forward to your arrival and to the renewal of personal contacts with your Majesty and with his Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh.”

Many of our older readers will perhaps remember the Royal couple’s first visit to Australia in 1954.

The Timberry family of La Perouse, particularly young Joe (now a husky youth) have good reason to look forward to seeing the Queen again. The entire family made the trip to Wagga nine years ago and were introduced to the Queen when young Joe presented Her Majesty with a handsome boomerang collection made by his father.

This time the Royal couple will be in Australia 38 days and their tour began in Canberra on February 18.

During her stay the Queen will see a rodeo, surf-riding and a “bushman’s carnival” and as many children as she possibly can.

Let’s hope you are among the lucky ones,

Yours sincerely,

Pete

Our Back Cover

The Big Dipper at Luna Park brings most of the Summer Camp children together in one big thrilling ride

— A Sun Toy Fund Picture