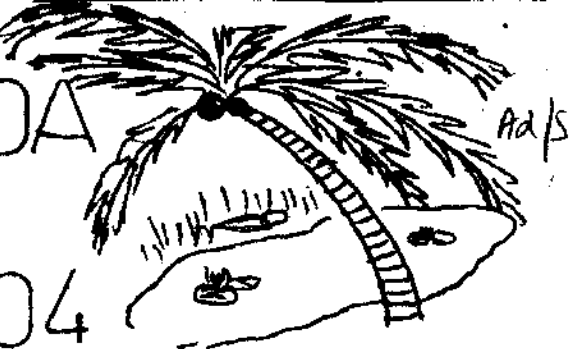
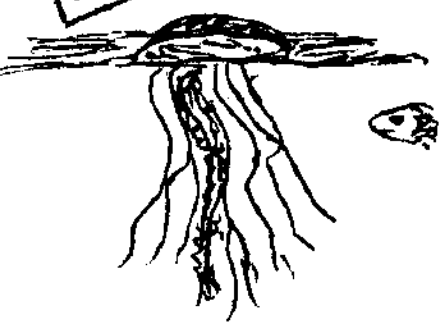


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# MANINGRIDA MIRAGE

Vol. 104

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October 1971



## Sea Wash Danger.

On Monday afternoon, fishermen Willy Jolppa and Johnny Mundurrug were heading home in Willy's new boat. Not far from the beach Johnny sighted something floating in the water, - it was a child! Face down into the water! Quickly they gathered the child, a little girl, into the boat. As soon as they ran ashore, Willy made a dash to the hospital with the unconscious child in his arms.

The sisters quickly examined the child and found neither heart beat nor pulse. She was clinically dead. There was no doubt she had been stung by a sea wasp. There were blue weals and even pieces of tentacle on her legs, back and tummy. The stings had evidently rendered her unconscious.

Quickly the sisters brought oxygen and took other measures while sister Ena began to massage the heart. Within a few minutes the child took a breath and shortly after began to vomit a bucketful (or so it seemed to sister Cec) of sand.

Sister Helen (King), fairly new to these bush nursing emergencies, did her part, too, until all was well about 1 1/2 hours later.

The little girl Dianna, daughter of Mary Walajara, is a lovely child and we can all be tremendously thankful that the fishermen saw her. The sisters were still on duty and had the skill and the equipment needed. We salute them!

## People

Dr. Karel Kupka, artist and authority on bark paintings, arrived on Monday for an overnight stay. He went on to Goulburn Is., Croker Is., Snake Bay and Bathurst Is., and presently will return to France.

Mr & Mrs John Phemister left on Monday to go to Jay Creek School, 25 miles out of Alice Springs. John used to take a turn each week in supervising the Happy Club, and wrote "Book Reviews" for the Mirage from time to time.

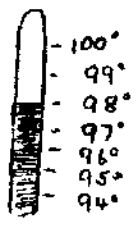
We wish both John and Jay happiness in the Centre.

Sisters Elaine Jardine and Peggy Healy arrived this week to work in the hospital for 3 months.

The Morning Star Dancers led by Tommy Yibberal and George Ganibala travelled to Milingimbi yesterday on the Heron.

## Death.

Cherry, daughter of Minnie Manajarla, aged 2 1/2 months, on Monday 27th September.



The "hot weather" time is here.

The thermometer climbed to 98 degrees on Tuesday and to 97.6 degrees on Wednesday plus humidity.

Whew! Milingimbi scored 26 points of rain on Mon. evening.

# PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Meeting held on September, 28th.

## Bakery

An unqualified success. 7000 loaves of bread per month and 12,000 other items. The new equipment is either on the way or in use. The apprenticeship papers for Sam Gumurgun have been submitted.

## Buildings

The General Manager's office is finished and homes for the store manager and builder begun.

## Bamyili Dancers

Mr. Gillespie suggested that Maningrida invite a sport and dancing team from Bamyili to visit Maningrida.

## Swimming Pool

Mr. Jack Riala urged that a swimming pool be built. There are no funds at present, but land is set aside to build one as soon as the money is available.

## More houses

Mr. Hunter answering a question from Mr. Riala, said that Mobile Works Force intended to build 24 houses for aboriginal people.

## Luck Shop

Mr. Dan Gillespie asked about the possibility of the Hasty Tasty being open during morning recess. No staff is available at present to do this.

## Running water

Mr. Hunter reported that a soil conservation expert would arrive in November to examine drainage problems.

# LUCKY RETURNS

Mr. Lucky Balarka returned on Monday after a 16 week Recreational Leadership Course in Darwin which 10 young Aboriginal men, including he and Raymond Nalur, attended.

During that time, they studied films especially on some of the Olympic Games, and had practical demonstrations in training others to play Basketball, Volley-ball, tennis, Aust. Rules football, soccer. There was also instruction in First Aid and leadership training for Scouts.

One of the highlights of the Course was the Yuendumu Sports - "they had some champions there".

He passed his Examination, and when funds become available, will go to Sydney to do a National Fitness Training V Course.

We wish Lucky well as he tries to help young people.

## BASKET BALL

On Tuesday Cadell defeated Cape Stewart 37-34 points.

Chalkies defeated Entrance Is. 68-62 points.

On Thursday Arnhemland defeated Kupanga 63 to 60 points.

Dolphins defeated Eagles 52 - 48

Draw for next week.

Tues. 5/10/71

7p.m. Dolphins v Chalkies

8a.m. Cadell v Eagles.

Thurs. 7/10/71.

7.m. Cape Stewart v Pioneers.

8p.m. Kupanga v Entrance.

Arnhemland duty etc.

# Council

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 5.30pm ON 21/9/11.

- PRESENT: 8 Councillors  
School Multi-grade class  
2 Visitors
- FILMS: Ray Muryal wanted to know why there were not two movie shows on pay weekend. President said not enough money.
- PROSPECTING: Ray Muryal wanted to know if prospectors had found anything. President answered there was a lot more work for them to do and he did not know anything now. There would be a better idea of what they had found next year.
- TROUBLE: One Councillor outlined his problems with his daughter. She would not obey her parents and was also under the influence of other girls on the settlement. He could not do anything with her. He was disturbed because there were a number of young girls who did not respond to the influence of their own people. They just did what they like and could not be controlled. They were getting mixed up with Europeans. It would be best to send them away to another place, perhaps Elcho or Milingimbi. There was then a long discussion on this subject. In the end it was decided to send two girls away; Council to pay the fares. These girls were the worst, they were teaching bad ways to other girls.
- COUNCILLORS: President said that a lot of Councillors were leaving their job. Once there were a lot of men on the Council; now there were only a few coming along. He could not find good men to help, e.g. on the nightwatchman's job. Council could do a lot to help with the family problems if it were strong.
- CADELL: Cr. Jack John said that the Gunardbas wanted some European to come out and help with the garden. He could teach Gunardbas how to run it. President commented that people should not think of themselves as tribes; everyone should join together.
- BEER ROSTER: M. Brown  
D. Irindilli  
G. Ganjibala (working,  
substituted J. Biriya.

+++++

## From The Mailbag

### MR RAY BUZZA TO CHARLIE GODJUWA

".... I played football for one of the local teams and managed to win a trophy at the end of the season, but I think I might find some other sport next year as I pulled a thigh muscle which took 6 weeks to heal.....Football down South is not played in the sporting "good fun" spirit of Maningrida.

The children are growing up quickly. Jodie goes to school next year and Tonya hopes to go to kindergarten. We also have a little baby girl called Kym who looks like being a blonde. So that makes a blonde, a redhead and a brunette."

MISS NICOLETTE MASON, studying at the Kindergarten Teachers Training College in Brisbane, is writing a thesis on Maningrida, and wants to bring herself up to date on wages, housing, etc.

## Mercy Flight

An R.A.A.F. plane flew in to Maningrida on Friday with 40 bags of mail. There is some doubt about the future of parcel post on Connair until questions of air freight and postal charges are worked out.

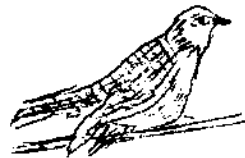
## Editor Returns

Many thanks to Mr. John Phemister, who brought out Volume 102, and to Mr. John Stevens who brought out Volume 103. The "former Editor" is back at Maningrida, and hopes to stay put for several months.

Some readers may not have received the last 2 copies, as the distribution list had gone into hiding. Please ring out if you were one of these.

# The Birdwatcher

One of the greatest songsters we have at Maningrida is the little Lemon-breasted Flycatcher. I have found that one of the best ways to find it is to walk along the mangroves down by the beach in the early or later part of the day. Sometimes I have even heard it outside the office. Although easily heard, it can make itself very difficult to see, being a small bird and well camouflaged in its environment. To make matters more difficult, it seldom stays still for long as it flies in and out of the foliage after small insects. It is also seen in the drier timbered country about the settlement, but not in such large numbers. Its nest is to be seen to be believed, but you have to be very lucky to find one. It is said it be one of the smallest nests of any Australian birds, being only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches across and completely hidden when the bird is sitting on it. It is built with strips of bark, cobwebs etc. Only one egg is laid. Since at Maningrida, I have found a few such nests in the mangroves.



J.G.

## Parents and Friends

THE FETE - an enormous success, - profit in the region of \$1,200. Our thanks to all who helped out.

Surprise Donation - The Canadian Aero Club has sent a donation of \$50 in appreciation of being allowed to use the old staff room as a darkroom for developing their photographs during the aerial survey of the mining areas.

Picture Takings on the Mend - Takings at the pictures have improved over the last few weeks. If the upward trend continues we will be able to bring back the third film every fortnight.

Special General Meeting - A Special General Meeting will be held shortly to consider some constitutional changes.

The School Clock (Chapter 298) - It makes 'The Fugitive' look like an amateur. We are now trying a different approach in an attempt to find it - we cannot give details as it may spoil the plan. Will it be home for Christmas?? Watch for chapter 299!!

The President.

Week end Duty Officer : Mr. Barry Tuite  
Duty Sister : Sister Ena Pickersgill

Star Theatre : Friday 7.30 pm. 'TADA! DANIEL BOONE'  
Bring your own Long Rifle + Bear  
Repellent.

Church.

Sunday 9.30 am. Sunday School.  
Discipleship - Building up the Church  
7.00 pm. Evening Service.

Thursday 7.30 pm. Fellowship.

Mining leaders Mr. George Darling and Mr. George Alcorn have been visiting the prospecting areas this week and will decide whether work will continue on during the \*\* Season.

After 2 years with Forestry at Maningrida, Mr. John Coleman leaves for 6 weeks holiday in Brisbane with his parents.

# School Fete

The School Fete of 1971 was a resounding success in every department - enjoyment, enthusiasm, and rupiah.

The Baby Show was well attended and we were very pleased to see so many shiny and spruce moms and kids. Congratulations to the winners.

The dancing competition was fantastic - old hands say the dancing rates with the best seen here. The enthusiasm of the audience and the dancers (over 100 of them) was very rewarding for all who have had any interest in preserving this vital aspect of Maningrida's life.

All dancing teams received a prize from the Parents and friends for their efforts, in addition to the trophy and prizes donated by John Hunter.

Congratulations to the Jinang men and their inimitable guardian, Mr. Ray Baku - the Emu (Warrapun) dance was really splendid - especially the body painting and feathers. Ray Muryal was a proud man when he accepted the trophy. Thank you to the Murungun men for the Butterfly dance (2nd prize) and the Gunwinggu men and Crusoe for the Mimi dance (3rd prize). People were very happy to see the Gunavidji men dancing those two fascinating stories about the turtle and the fish again - especially to see the very old and the very young in this team.

The Rembarrnga people's "Kangaroo" dance was also first class. Special thanks to the two school teams - especially to the girls who have to overcome a lot of shyness to dance in public these days.

Lance Bennett of the Aboriginal Theatre Foundation was invited to the dancing but was out of town. When he heard how good it was he said that he thought it a most promising sign for the future of dance at Maningrida.

On the money-spending side of things the fete was an all time record. Our stalls were descended upon and demolished in little over an hour and a quarter.

Final profit was in excess of \$1200 - which is going to go a long way towards keeping the school truck and the finance company at a respectable distance.

The people we should thank are too numerous for this small newspaper's editor to type. We hope that all those who assisted with donations of all kinds, voluntary labour arranging administrative matters, and just oiling the wheels will accept our heartfelt thanks from the Parents and Friends Association and the Schoolchildren.

## Insects on bark

In August of next year there will be a Conference of Entomologists (men who study insects - moths, beetles, butterflies etc.) in Australia.

One of these men, Dr. Waterhouse is asking whether bark painters sometimes paint insects, as he would like to give a bark to each of the men at the Conference.

Charlie Gumbuna is a butterfly man, Don Gundinga 'owns' the grasshopper, and others can paint the bee and different kinds of caterpillars.

In Adelaide next week, the Aboriginal Arts Co-operative will hold an exhibition, and among the treasures on display will be 30 bark paintings from Maningrida.



D.G.



**Maningrida Mirage**

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"Maningrida Mirage Volume 104" October 1st, 1971.

Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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