

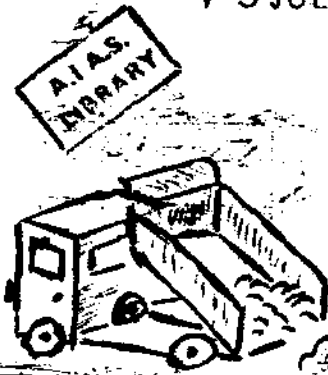
F 3 JUL 1972

MANINGRIDA

MIRAGE

Vol. 99

Friday 27th August



It doesn't happen EVERY day.

Mr. Paddy Fordham just home from the Eisteddfod brought his little boy Lurick down to the Hospital. He was a bit off colour. Paddy was obviously anxious and unsettled.

Presently he stopped Sister Ena and said "My wife has a baby".

"Yes, I know" said Ena. All the sisters knew of little Bethsheba, born 7½ months ago, and weighing only 2lb 8oz. She had been in Darwin Hospital for months gradually getting stronger, and only just returned to parents Nancy and Paddy. "Yes, but my wife has a little baby" said Paddy.

"Yes" said Ena "I know" (well aware of how little.) Paddy continued to say that there was a baby. Other sisters tried to solve the mystery. "The baby is in the camp" said Paddy. He was asked did he have a second wife. "No, only one".

Ena: "You don't mean Nancy?"

Paddy: "Yes."

Ena: "But she couldn't have!"

Paddy: "She did".

Ena: "What's it like?"

Paddy with confidence: "Its still breathing!"

Sure enough, Nancy and Paddy have baby boy called Loy, weighing 2lb 4oz at birth, and born only 7½ months after Bethsheba.

Who knows? Paddy may be a kind of second Solomon. Loy is being given intensive care in Darwin Hospital.

BAT ISLAND BARGE LANDING.

Those big trucks you have been dodging this week are not carting sand to the basketball court job; they are carrying fill (gravel and rocks) to the new barge landing being constructed at Bat Island by Dowsett Engineering.

The reason for this is fairly evident if you have ever seen the Warrender churning away, about 200 yards in front of the present landing, trying to dredge a track in with its propellers. Not enough water there. At Bat Island there is plenty of water about 30 feet from the shore; enough for a barge to come and go at any time without having to do a mud crawl. The problem is, though, that there is a big mob of soft ground and mangrove behind the beach, before you come to the hard road; hence the need to carry fill.

Dowsetts have been carrying about 550 cu. yards of fill from the sewerage ponds excavation, to Bat Island, each day. To the present time they have nearly finished a hard road to the river-bank and will soon be dumping tons of rock into the water to make the landing. Forestry has been helping them, with a bulldozer and grader, and have also cut down a lot of mangroves.

It is expected that the job will be finished next Sunday, and the Dowsett men will leave on Monday.

J. H.

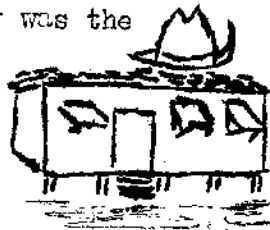
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VILLAGE COUNCIL

During the last two weeks, informal meetings have been held in the Gunavidji and Rembaranga camps and in other areas. The president and vice-president stressed the need to keep the settlement clean. They urged the people to co-operate with the Councillors and to speak up about their problems.

THE ARMY'S HERE (again)

The neat little Army plane which arrived here on Wednesday was the advance guard of another mapping unit. A convoy of Army trucks came up the Bulman track, from the direction of Cove, on Thursday and all the soldiers (18) set up camp at Tomkinson Hut. Under their leader, Major Whitton, they are checking up on all new road works, testing airstrips, etc., for the new Army maps. They will probably leave over the weekend, for Oenpelli.



GADJI CREEK SETTLEMENT PLANS

Mr. Ray Munyal, principal exponent of the "back to Gadji" movement, reports that he has now finalized plans for the exodus. John Maiyara went over to Mangalala last week to arrange the transport and rumour has it that he may return sometime this weekend.

Those in Ray's group, besides his immediate family, include Messrs. Magani (a tear to his memory), Banambarlil, Miritji and Jim Morrduk. All plan to set up a camp in bushland just to the south of the old Gadji Creek Gardens, with "bush" huts and rudimentary facilities. They will try and get some plants from Yatjalamarri garden and set up one of their own, by the banks of Gadji Creek.

Ray says that all will carry on with bark painting, carving, basketry, etc to sell at Mangalala for life's necessities such as tea, sugar, flour and tobacco. The Mangalala station is only 12 miles away and they will go there for medical treatment and also send the children to the school which has been, or is being, set up at the station.



Prospecting News

The air survey of the three mining areas finished at the weekend and the Beaver, that remarkably stable and sturdy plane, has flown away to work around Mt Isa.

All the data collected during the air survey is on a magnetic computer tape (something like a tape-recorder tape). The tape will be fed into a computer which will draw maps and plot the data. This will take about two months to complete.

In the meantime one area of interest in each of three areas has been chosen for preliminary ground survey. Bill Bates has returned in a vehicle from Darwin and will continue his search for bauxite on the Mainland South of Mangalala. Steven, Crowfoot and Willy Heimugeni are making a track into the Mann River area, while four Gwingingu men John Dalngu-Dalngu, Joseph Libuwanga and Bill Dilwanga and Nelson making a road into the Junction Bay area. Roger, Brian and Kim are moving about.

A new man to assist in the work is geologist Kim Stanton Cook from Sydney.

During this week Mr. George Darling, Managing Director of Mac Intire Mines (Aust), accompanied two representatives of the Canadian parent companies on a routine inspection of projects. Also present was Mr. George Alcorn of Ocean Resources.

Burung of Goulburn Is is working in the company's head office in Sydney, and is learning about all phases of the mining exploration and then will be able to act as a liaison officer to the Aboriginal scheme.

Mothers Club

The second mothers club meeting was held in Home Management Centre yesterday afternoon. Eighteen mothers attended and saw a strip film on how a family begins. Sister Edith gave a commentary. Rosie Jingu Jingu arrived just in time for a delicious afternoon tea. The theme for next meeting is budgeting - how to spend money wisely.

SCHOOL FETE (FATE OF TRUCK)



The annual School Fete will be held on Friday, 24th September, at 3.00 p.m. Mr. Giese and Mr. Gallagher and their wives, and Messrs. Evans and Norman have all been invited.

Special features will include a ride in "Snoopy's Carmobile", Baby Competition, Traditional Dance Competition, "Disco", Hoopla, Knock-ems, food, clothes, etc.

Anyone who can contribute clothes, toys, cakes, comics, etc. is asked to contact the school. Also if anyone is prepared to assist on a stall, would you let us know.

Any monies raised will help pay for the new school truck which should arrive this weekend.

STAFF SHORTAGE

The last few days of Term II have seen 100 children attending school without teachers. The problem started a few weeks ago with the exodus of 33 children and 3 teachers to the Eisteddfod. Then last week, following the consumption of a certain non-lacteal fluid, Mr. King decided to enter into some agreement in Brisbane, which, he hopes, will inhibit any desire for future over-consumption - (he's getting married.) Miss Pullen became ill at the Eisteddfod and was admitted to hospital. Mr. Gillespie decided to have a baby and until some action takes place he has to remain in Darwin. On Monday Mrs. Phenister went into Darwin. Then Mr. Grieve, after reading facts on local birds, decided to carry out a study of the birds in a colder area - (Snowy Mountains). He is particularly interested in their appearance, anatomy, etc. Let's hope the results of this investigation are in proportion to the expense involved.

However, the school is still functioning - just - with "newly appointed teachers" - Mr. Jimmy Pascoe, Miss Rita Jitmu, and Mrs. Laurie Magaldagi - who have had to take over complete classes.

FORESTRY

P.R.W.

- (1) As from midday yesterday, the roadway from Barney's Jungle through the mangroves (cleared by the bulldozer) to the water of the Liverpool River was ready for use.
- (2) Not mentioned before - Mr. Bill Blight, the middle-aged man often seen riding on his motor bike, is the sawmill fitter and lives in the mill flat. He comes from Canada.
- (3) A new Technical Assistant, Mr. Luff and his family, are expected to arrive on Wednesday or Thursday of next week and will live in Mr. John Sime's house.
- (4) Mr. Forestry - John Hauser? Dr. Kramer? NO, Alf Dickfoss!!! So Woolworths addressed his perishable packages this week.
- (5) Mr. Bruce Craven returned from Adelaide after attending his father's funeral and shivering in the southern air. He has brought back an interesting copy of "Was of the Never Never", signed by the four men who are the main characters of the story. Mr. Tom Pearce, called "Mine Host" in the book, is Bruce's relative.

FOR Sale.

Fish wires from \$2.75 to \$3.30. Plentiful supplies are arriving from the makers.

Bakery

The Bakery sold 1,400 loaves of bread last week. There were 85 doz. buns and 45 doz. assorted cakes also sold.

The equipment for making pies and pastry generally arrived on the Warrender this week and production in these lines will begin next week.

Poetry Competition

Apologies for the absence of the poems this week. The stencil was not completed when printing time came last night. My fault. Ld

1971 Eisteddfod

Some of the Highlights of the Eisteddfod.

- + A dance by the men from Derby and Kununurra in N.A. These older men wore elaborate head dresses and danced the story of men travelling on a journey. It was their first appearance at Darwin Eisteddfod they were most impressive.
- + Maningrida's star was Dean Libarbug who gave a splendid display of solo dancing and won in a section with over twenty entries
- + Paddy Fordham was also well in form. He was very happy to meet all his brothers and a sister from Bamville.
- + The children from Goulburn Island did not compete in the singing sections but they won the recitation items against all the Darwin primary school entries.
- + An Aboriginal girl from Areyonga entered the open aria section singing with some of the best voices in Darwin. Mr. Chaney gave her a special award.

Quite an important part of every Eisteddfod is the making of new friends from other schools. Our children got on very well with the Docker River children from Central Australia.

The Educational tours included a visit to the RAAF base - seeing a fare fighting display and the watch dogs. Then on to the Legislative Council where question time was in progress. In the La. Courts the Chief Clerk led the children into the dock and explained how witnesses had to swear to tell the truth.

Mr. Dan Gillespie had the misfortune to run a spike into his foot while walking on the beach. Fortunately it was not serious.

Mr. Gillespie appeared on T.V. singing one of his folk songs.

from Cavell W.

This week's Basket Ball.

Tuesday night Entrance defeated Eagles. Entrance began winning in the first half and went on till end of the game.

The scores were;

Entrance 40

Eagles 34 points.

In the Second match, Cape Stewart defeated Dolphins. From the start Cape Stewart was leading 34 to 26. At the second half Dolphins were catching up and when the whistle blew, it was a draw 58 all. At the third time it was a draw again 68 all. At the final whistle blow Cape Stewart won by 76 to 72. So from now on, Cape Stewart, how about winning every single game.

Best Players.

Charlie	34 points	(Dolphins)
Terry	30 points	(Cape Stewart)
Tom	18 points	(Dolphins).
Dick	16 Points	(Cape Stewart)

J Pascoe.

The Magpie Goose.

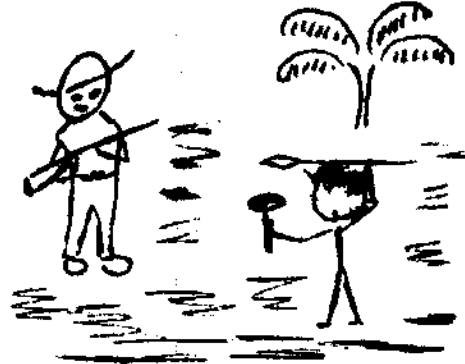
Perhaps no bird typifies the Northern Territory more than the Magpie Goose. Now we hear them flying over every night as they travel out from their daytime roosting places to feed on the plains. The birds' greater breeding area is between Darwin and the Eastern edge of Arnhem Land. Fitting in with our climatic conditions these birds have a cyclic movement every twelve months, following the seasonal availability of food and suitable resting areas, and the young birds follow their parents to learn of these movements.



Come the Wet season, they will disperse out from the permanent lagoons and water holes onto the rain soaked plains and swamps to take up nest building. Each male bird will stake out his area onto which he will let no other male birds trespass and usually two females with him to which he is mated for life. Laying commences towards the end of the wet and by the time the young are mobile the swamps are fast drying up and they soon have to learn to look after themselves. As the dry proceeds the birds move into more permanent waters and congregate in large flocks, numbering thousands. Except by their calls, it is difficult to tell the sexes apart with certainty.

J.G.

Black meets White.



Many years ago the white men came from overseas and inland and met the natives. They (the natives) walked naked everywhere and had little bits of trouble. A couple of white men were killed. Many natives were killed with very strong guns. The natives used stone spears, stone axes, nulla nullas, the fighting sticks, hooked spears and wooden shovel nosed spears and many other weapons that Aborigines were making.

The white men and native men didn't like each other at first and they were killing each other just for sport.

Right and wrong - who knows which one of us were wrong or right - the white men or the natives? You answer - both were in the wrong.

- (1) You white men came to both areas overseas and inland and saw many interesting things and you took what you wanted and needed at first without asking.
- (2) You native men were wrong because you were sitting under the shady trees and dancing the love songs and fighting for flower trees, instead of working. You were just hunting.

You native men were wrong towards the white men, you know. You should have stood watching what was going past just in case you saw the white man coming toward you. You could have run to him and met in a kindly and friendly way, taken him to your place and shown him what you had in both your areas, on the islands and inland. You could have taken the white man to the islands in your canoes and shown him how to hunt and catch the sea shell fish and fish with your spears and shown him how to use your fire sticks to make fire to cook and eat. Shown him the sea foods and turtles. J.M.

The Dance of the Flowers

The two Junkowa sisters told us to use our corrobotees at the initiation ceremonies, dances, and fights at all times. They told us that we cannot go away anywhere else. They left many things to us.

The sisters counted many hundreds and hundreds of thousands of hairs; but no one else knew as long as they used their hair belts and strings of materials and also their songs of music and blossoms of the flower trees.

That's what the Junkowa sisters told us, but we can't count or remember the number of the hairs and the stars, but maybe some other people can - while we are too busy dancing and fighting for the love of the blossoms and flowers.

Jack Miritji

BASKETBALL

Draw for Next Week

Tues. 31/8/71.

7.00 p.m. Kupanga v Eaglea

8.00 p.m. Chalkies v Pioneers

Dolphins Bye - Duty Referee & Scorer.

Thurs 2/9/71

7.00 p.m. Cape Stewart v Entrance.

8.00 p.m. Arnhemland v Cadell.

Entrance Bye Duty Referee & Scorer.

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Comment on the Maningrida team's play at Elcho by some of the Elcho players reported in quoted News & Views "They try too many tricks and fancy passes".

WEEKEND DUTIES: Duty Officers: Mr Brodga Beckett
Duty Sisters: Sister Ena Pickersgill
Fire Duty: Messrs Allan Brady and

STAR THEATRE: Friday: "Dont make waves"

CHURCH: Sunday 9.30 a.m. Sundays Schools "The people of God"
7.00 p.m. Evening Service. Baptism of Lonniece
Leymour.
Thursday 7.30 p.m. Fellowship

It has been said that Aboriginal people, perhaps more than most others know what it means to be "a people." Belonging to each other, quarrelling with each other, helping each other, and being more concerned about people than anything else.

People of all races can belong to God's people". It is not that they are good people. They are sinners like everyone else. But they know that He has called them to follow Jesus as He called the fishermen disciples in older days.

They have decided to follow Him.

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BIRTHS:

Molda to Margaret Barlgud and Harry Maranbuna on Aug. 22nd.

Loy a son to Nancy Warren and Paddy Fordham on Aug. 24th. 2 lbs 4 oz.

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MANINGRIDA AND THE ARTS

This week, Mr Mike Jensen - the News and Information Bureau photographer has been taking photos of various aspects of Aboriginal arts. Mike is not to be confused with Eric J. "Jensen" is a very common name in Denmark."

This photography is part of an Australiawide project and finally it is hoped to produce a book on the subject of "Australia and the Arts."

Mike photographed men gathering and preparing bark and then under a heavy mosquito attack took the women collecting pandanus.

Other shots included painters at work under some old bush shelters, holding their barks in the craft roof against an arranged background of artifacts and women making baskets in an area covered with mats and baskets.

Mike made the following comments on some of the men:

"Bob (Bilinyarra) is a happy fellow - he thought that being photographed was a great joke."

"Don Gundinga went about his bark cutting and painting very seriously. He is a serious artist."

"Mick Magani smoked all my cigarettes."

Mr. Tommy Wogbara has joined the company of 'Bkies' - travelling about about on a brand new motor bike.

Mr. Jim Nussig slipped on a soapy floor in the kitchen during the school lunch hour and bumped his head rather unpleasantly. Within seconds the most alarming stories were spreading across the school yard. "Mr. Williams is dead" "Mr. Nussig was hit by a drunk man in his car" "there was a fight in the kitchen etc."

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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