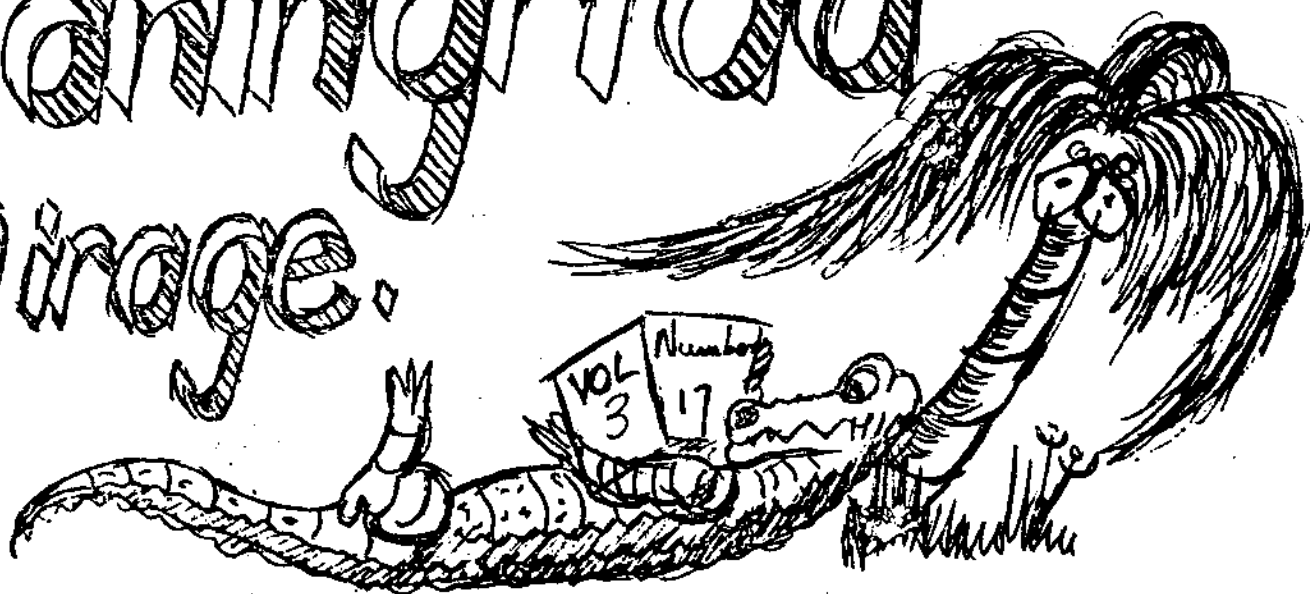


17 JUL 1974

Maningrida Mirage.



After maintaining a 24 hour watch on a crocodile nest in the Liverpool River, the research team was happy to report that the only predators were a few mice who consumed 2 eggs. These met their fate in a bottle of preservative, so that they can be sent away for positive identification.

With the assistance of local aboriginals six nests containing eggs have been located, and these have been examined weekly. Other than the one from which the eggs were removed by people, none have been lost to natural causes.

Heavy rainfall has caused increases in high tide mark in the upper reaches of both the Liverpool and Tomkinson Rivers, with the nests being completely flooded. It was initially thought that flooding would kill the embryos, but after examining a nest that had been underwater for at least three weeks, it was found that the half inch embryo was surviving well and had just developed limb buds, the first sign of arms and legs.



Perhaps the most fascinating find to date has been concerned with the nest temperatures. Three weeks continuous record has shown that the temperature in the eggs never exceeds 34°C and is always above 27°C. However, during the day, when the sun is beating down on the nest, the temperatures on the surface of the nest rise as high as 48°C. The temperatures in the middle of the nest actually fall during the day. During the night, when outside temperatures are low, the temperatures within the nest rise sharply. At this stage, the reasons for this independent nest temperature regulation are not apparent, however it's certainly a fascinating finding.

On checking the records for 1973, some ideas as to growth rate have been formulated. In the first 12 months, salties grow approximately 12 cms. In the second year approximately 11 cms., and in the 3rd year about 10 c.m. It looks as though growth rate slows down appreciably in the larger specimens, but until we have recaptures of marked crocs over a period of quite a few years we will not be able to determine the true growth rate of these.

The last three students working with the team have now returned to Sydney, leaving only a small crew to continue work until hatching time. Miss Shirley Mills has been at the Research Facility visiting her mother for the last fortnight.

The head of the Crocodile Research Programme, Professor Harry Messel, was at Maningrida from 25 Feb. to 1 March. He was casting a guiding eye on all developments, and most time was spent examining nests and recording data. The Research Vessel is expected in Maningrida round June, though quite possibly it will be here earlier. It has undergone all sea trials, and final adjustments are now being made in Sydney.

Dr. Grahame Webb.

Jamason's Victory.

The Jamason Band was voted Maningrida's top rock 'n roll group at the Battle of the Sounds last Saturday night.

The judges gave Jamason Band 392 points, Sunrise came second with 331 and GNUKURR scored 311 points.

After the judging all the bands played again and many people joined in dancing.

Door takings came to \$102. Half of this went towards the Scout Hall fund.

On Sunday the fellows from the groups were fixing up the Scout Hall They have nearly finished replacing all the flyscreens and louvres.



"WELL! TO CUT A LONG STORY SHORT -"

Home Chatter.

This week we have 2½ stories from the ladies at Home Management. The first story is told by Nancy Clark.

This is a story as told by Nancy Clark -

Many years ago when I was young at Goulburn Island my cousin and I used to go to our gardens (which Uncle Paddy always worked in) and steal Namarnbula (sweet potato) and many times my uncle made us ashamed of our bad ways. One night my cousin and I came home from school took a bag and went and stole sweet potatoes. We took them home, and our uncle belted us good and hard for our naughtiness.

Billy Yiriyin and Charlie Ilawalla, were at Goulburn these times and my cousin and I really learned a big lesson from Uncle Paddy as stealing is very bad.

*

Story from Ada - H.M.C. -

I came home at Christmas time for holidays from Kormilda - I never went back, so I decided to go and ask Auntie Gil to work at H.M.C. I started work at 7.30 and worked all day. Hard. I like being at H.M. and I am learning everything. Getting the morning tea for all the staff. Doing washing and ironing for all the girls. I do like sewing every afternoon. I've made 2 new dresses and 1 skirt for myself. I enjoy the ladies club every Thursday afternoon. We all have lots of fun and a cup of tea.

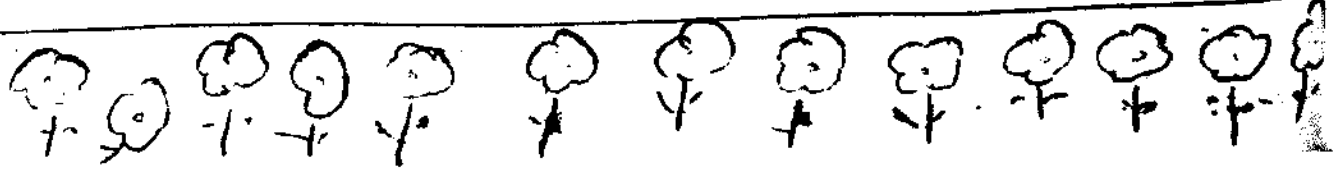
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A story from Shirley -

Oh I am tired Auntie Gil ? ! !

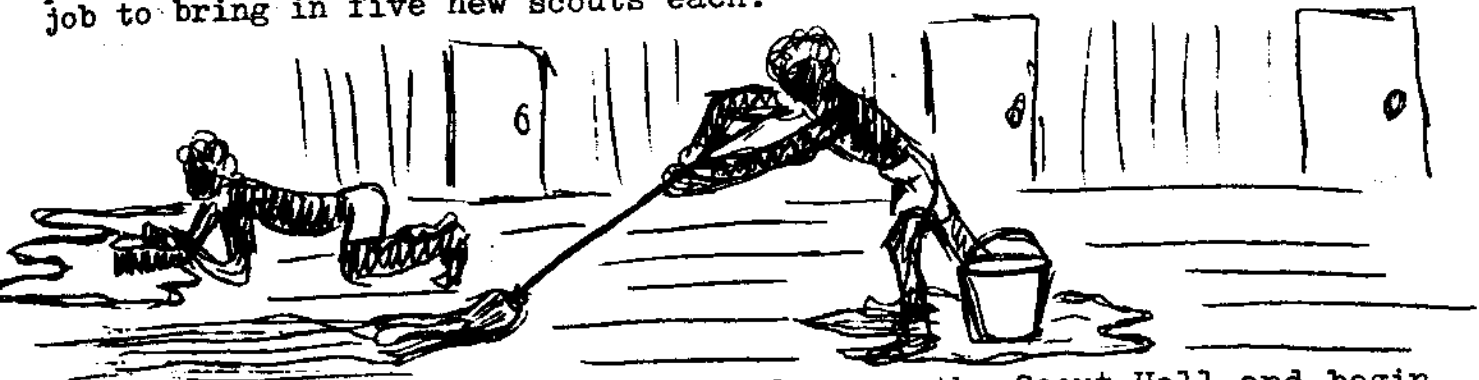


Welcome to new Community Advisor Andy Hazel his wife and children who arrived on Thursday. Andy has come from Hooker Creek to take over position from Arthur Marko.



Doings at the Scout Hall.

Last Thursday night we held our first scout meeting. Despite competition from the band we had a good turn up. The scouts chose their Patrol Leaders and elected Charlie Godjuwa as the Troop Leader. The scouts decided that the troop should have at least five patrols with five scouts in each patrol and it was the Patrol Leaders' job to bring in five new scouts each.



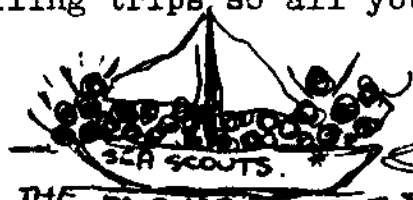
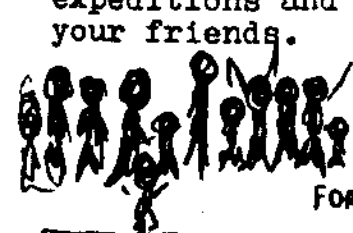
Last Sunday the scouts met again to clean up the Scout Hall and begin repairs. New louvres were put in and fly wire installed on the windows. The whole hall was given a thorough clean up. Next week we will be finishing the windows and building a fence around the road side of the hall to stop the little kids throwing litter into the hall grounds.

One of the new teachers, Roger Elliot, has consented to help with the scouts. He is a Queens Scout and has had a lot of experience in both sea and land scouts.

With the great amount of enthusiasm shown by the scouts we should soon have a proper scout troop in Maningrida. Any boys who are interested are welcome to come to the meetings every Wednesday night at 7.30p.m. All you have to do is come along and Charlie or one of the Patrol Leaders will put you in a patrol. We would still like to see many more scouts at the meetings.

The younger kids need not be dissappointed because once we get the scouts rolling we plan to start up a cub-scout troop.

As soon as we get a full size scout troop we can start going on expeditions and sailing trips so all you kids come along and bring your friends.



Gary Moriarty.

FORGET THE FRIENDS NEXT TIME!!

Progressive M.P.A.

The M.P.A. is negotiating for the agency of the following magazines and newspapers:

WOMEN'S WEEKLY
WOMAN'S DAY
PIX
PEOPLE
NEW IDEA

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD
AUSTRALIAN FINANCIAL REVIEW
NATIONAL TIMES
SUN HERALD

To help with ordering, if you are interested in a regular supply, would you please contact Jean Bagshaw as soon as possible.

*

Without a doubt this year is the one in which we are looking for real production. Presently there are 1300 banana palms of which approx. 2 are producing. There would be 500 hands now in various stages of ripening and the present weekly production of 400 lbs. should soon be doubled. Watermelon, pawpaw, sweet potato, tomatoes, capsicum, cabbage and silver beet will be the chief crops and passion fruit

will be available soon. Vainga and his workforce are doing an excellent job.

Fishing.

Two more boats are on order, one is ready to leave the Adelaide factory, the other is under construction - When these are here the number will increase to 7.

Bakery.

More bread is being made now than ever before. 2,250 loaves per week. It's still not enough as the demand keeps rising.

Store.

Individual shortages will occur for some weeks yet. The news is more hopeful that the line from Adelaide could be reopened within fortnight.

Hasty Tasty.

Bob Cross is back from holidays and the New Hasty Tasty complex will rise during the next 2 months. Equipment is being ordered now for the interior.

Building.

After the Hasty Tasty comes a fish filleting plant, and new storage sheds at Cadell.

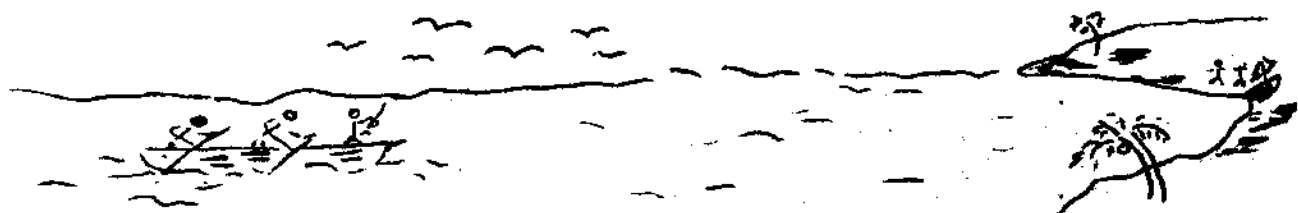
Arts.

A record month for February. Over the \$6,000 mark for Arts & Crafts

Not long after Maningrida started, around 58 or '59 perhaps, many people were moving out towards Kopanga for a ceremony. Harry Mulumbuk was going overland with a big mob of people and Big Barney Geridruwanga was taking his very big canoe that he had then around the coast to the Rocky Point- Navy Landing area - ANAMAI-ERA.

Barney was going to carry all the tucker for the people around the coast. All this tucker was balanda tucker - baladja - like flour and sugar. You could carry enough baladja in that canoe for 200 people says Barney.

When everyone was ready to go a little red plane came and landed on the new airstrip. There were two policemen in it and they told everyone a story. They said that a Japanese pearling boat had caught fire over near Milingimbi and sank. They wanted all the Maningrida people to help them find any sailors still alive. Barney said everybody was happy to do this but the people who had guns took them along in case the Japanese were 'cheeky'.



All the people went searching. When Barney's canoe came to the ANAMAI-ERA coast he went ashore and he saw footprints. One set of prints he knew belonged to Jack Jabalala who still lived at Maganera, as he does now, on the other side of the Blyth and up the coast. But he saw something else - other sets of prints made by "that different one Japanese boot". Soon after the little red plane came over and they waved to tell Barney to come back to Maningrida. Barney headed back and when he came here he found Jabalala, Mulumbuk and many other 'soldiers' with guns and fish spears and the poor old Japanese pearling men who must have been a bit worried for a while.

Barney likes to act the story of what happened when the Japanese found Jabalala, in his Japanese accent.

"They bin say to that old man 'Hey! You got serrement, you got misshun. We broko, we got reporto!'"

The five Japanese were flown back to Darwin the next day - Barney did not say if they gave Jack the money they promised him if he would lead them to safety.

By Big Barney Geridruwanga,
Harry Mulumbuk and Old John
Godowa, as told to Dan Gillespie.

Short-Grass Capers!!

This ^{SUNDAY} ~~Saturday~~ at the M.C.G. !

The battle of the century!

Peter Thompson leads the shuffling Queenslanders of the Housing Association and Dowsetts against the Rest, led by Graham Inglis.

Be there to see the action - cricket at its most terrifying !
Starts at 1 p.m.

T E A M S

Queensland Shufflers

R. Seymour
Peter Thompson (Capt.)
J. Callaghan
Dino
Cricket (eh?)
J. McWaters
D. Shaddock
K. Larson
T. O'Brian
L. Phegan
P. Chalklen

Maningrida Resters

G. Inglis (Capt.)
Terry Canning
R. Berryman
F. Luff
J. Reister
B. Hale
B. Deslandes
T. Ibison
E. Fisher
E. Webber
C. Burchett
K. Moran



Mr. R. Seymour has donated two special surprises. One for the Highest Scorer
One for the Highest Wicket Taker.



You may notice that the Resters have one more player than the Shufflers - don't blame the Mirage ladies and gentelman, these are local rules.

Apologies to the cricketers for the omission of their notice last week.

FROM MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING 25-2-74...

ON GAMBLING:

The Council expressed concern over the prevalence of gambling in camps which has kept men away from their jobs and led women to the neglecting their children. Measures to alleviate the situation were discussed and the following action will be taken:

- a) Billy Yirriyin will get a roster of all Aboriginal workers in the different offices.
- b) George Ganjibala, Johnny Naliva, Ray Munyal, Billy Yirriyin and Peter Bundu-Bundu will reconnoiter the camps every morning at 8.00 and after lunch to have all workers at their posts, Monday to Friday.
- c) Card playing during work hours is prohibited. Cards will also be confiscated and burnt.
- d) The list of non-working Aboriginals will be given to Jimmy Buronyila, the new happy club manager, for action.

ON HYGIENE

The Gunavidji and Burada Councillors admitted that some of their people do not clean their areas at all. They agreed to help the Hygiene women who are working very hard by telling their people to clean their areas. They said that the Hygiene men also need supervision.

LETTERS

- a) The National Aboriginal Sports Foundation has forwarded to the council the idea of starting a sailing club to develop sailing skills and love for the sea. The letter stated that such a club will be ideal for coastal towns like Maningrida. The council decided to talk the matter over with the Scouting Association and the Sporting Club.
- b) Senator Cavanagh has finally replied to the letter of the council about the construction of a suitable storm water drainage. His secretary said:

"The department will look into the matter and he will write again - AS SOON AS HE IS ABLE."

The Council will appreciate ideas from the community on how to make the slow bureaucratic wheels move a bit faster.

PERMITS

Permission has been granted by the council for the entry of one journalist and a photographer from the N.T. News to do a feature article on Maningrida.

THE SHOP

Ray Munyal stated that the shop should not be closed on Saturday mornings. He said that in all other settlements and missions, shops are open even on Saturdays. "Only God can close the shop on Sunday for Christians to pray...." he added. People in the camps are requesting that the M.P.A. should reconsider the new shopping schedule.

The problem of shop workers not turning up on time was also discussed. Johnny Balaya said that shop men should also have their Saturdays off like Government workers because... "We don't get no pay for Saturday

Harry Mulumbuk stressed that he might die of "pickaniny" if the shop is closed on Saturday mornings. He said "the Hasty Tasty open too late and people wait too long and then all tucker gone." The meeting adjourned at 3.30p.m.

from Lee Pinder.



NEWS A team of footballers are going to play against Milingimbi tomorrow. The team, coming from grades five to the secondary classes, will fly to Milingimbi in a charter plane early in the morning and return the same day. Last time Maningrida played Milingimbi we lost, but our team has been training hard this time. Brian Deslandes and Bob Hale are going as coaches. Marg and Bruce Neale will be there to watch too.

OPEN SCHOOL. Teachers are trying to foster the idea of an open school - one that parents and other people participate in as well as teachers and students. Anyone who's interested in what goes on at the school should go along. You may be able to teach something, learn something or just make some new friends amongst the youngsters of Maningrida.

The next story is about new ideas in teaching. It was written by Judy leCheminant and Dodie Cash who spent a week at the Wagaman School in Darwin, in an 'open unit classroom.'

At the beginning of the year first steps were seen at Maningrida to start an open unit with the Infants Three Grade. This involved not only a great deal of preparation but knowledge of what an open-unit actually was. This was the reason why we went into Wagaman School.

At Wagaman we saw four different units at work, each one developing freedom and perhaps most of all curiosity into the learning situation. Throughout the school we saw different levels of freedom in the units - depending on the teachers involved. For example - Unit B had two ranges of children between the ages of five and twelve, with seven teachers for 120 children (therefore no straight grades) within a week children were expected to do a certain amount of work which was recorded by the teachers. It was up to the child where and when he did this work, although creative subjects were directed to the afternoons. Children could choose what to do, whether it be Physical Education, Music, Art or Craft. In the mornings teachers guided children towards much more constructive work in preference to play activities but we found that work was appealing so that the choice was genuinely the child's.

Here at Maningrida we are planning two programmes which we hope will encourage each child's curiosity in learning. Throughout the morning each child has two targets to accomplish in his own time. After this he is free to pursue his own interests. Each afternoon different activities are available, for example - Physical Education, Music, Science or Cooking and children elect two activities of their own choice.

We feel that environment plays a big part in this type of education. Therefore throughout the year we plan to create situations in which the children will be able to freely express themselves. To involve the community we invite you to come and see exactly what we are trying to do or if unable to do this come and talk with us about the ideas or criticisms you may have.

We are not saying that this is by any means the solution to our educational problem - what we are trying to do is find the most relevant type of education with one very important quality; adoption to change.

Judy leCheminant & Dodie Cash.

Here are a few stories and drawings from the school children.

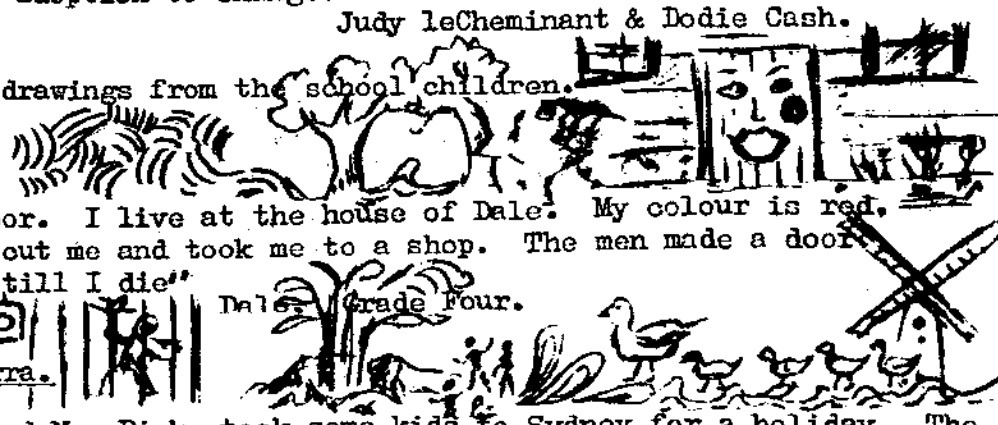
An Autobiography of a Door.

"Hullo everybody, I am a door. I live at the house of Dale. My colour is red. I was a tree then some men cut me and took me to a shop. The men made a door from me. I will live here till I die"

Dale, Grade Four.

A Trip to Sydney and Canberra.

Last year Mr. Stutchbury, and Mr. Pink, took kids to Sydney for a holiday. The first place we went to was the Zoo. After we left the Zoo we went to the top of the Australia Square. After we had been on top of the Australia Square we went down to eat our lunch at the park. Few weeks later we went to meet Rys and Betty at Canberra. We slept at Rys and Bettys house at the bush. It was only 20 miles out of Canberra, we went back around coast way. We stop at Kiama to see the blow hole. We stopped there to eat our lunch and to see the blow hole. We got Sydney at 3'o'clock. On the 25th. of Tuesday it was Christmas we ate turkeys and chickens. After Christmas we went to Armidale to meet Mr. Pinks Mother and Father. We stayed there for few weeks. After leaving Armidale we went to Mr. Pinks cousins farm. We had a nice time



from the school (cont)



at the farm. Then we went to see Trevor King at Brisbane, we stayed for few hours and then went back to the farm.

Evan Maragumba. Grade Six.

An Autobiography of a Fish.

I live in the sea. I got a shining body. I am a fish. My name is Roger. I got a good color red and yellow and green. One day a little boy caught me and took me home and put me in a tank. I was very sad so he put me back in the sea. I am now.

Dawn. Grade Four



Today in the Mirage we start a What's On column. If you are organising a meeting, class, sporting or social function, let the Mirage mob know and we'll do what we can to spread the word.

SATURDAY: 10.30am. Softball at the cricket ground.
1.00pm. Cricket--challenge match at the M.C.G.

MONDAY: 11am. Leathercraft in the Arts Centre--open to all.
7.30pm. Electronics class in the Resources Centre. Mirage meeting at Gladys Pascoe's house.

TUESDAY: 7.30pm. Scouts meet at Scout Hall. Monthly meeting of Y.M.C.A. committee at aluminium house. Driver training films at Resource Centre (if films come), All welcome and free.

WEDNESDAY: 7.30pm. Drop-In club at the town hall all welcome. Womens basketball, new players welcome.

THURSDAY: 2pm. Mother's Club at the HOME MANAGEMENT CENTRE. Talks, pictures, art. All mothers welcome--cup of tea afterwards.
7.30pm. Mens basketball, new players welcome. Gymnastics at the town hall, with the Y.

People...

///+///

Guess who? A male person, wearing pink shirt, faded grey trousers and wrinkled shoes seen striding through Woolworths with his hands behind his back. He says he'll be coming back to visit Maningrida later in the year.

Driving a big yellow air-conditioned taxi in Darwin these days is Bob Collins. Bob meets a lot of Maningrida people in the course of his work.

Bert Ryan is up and about again. He spent quite a bit of time in Darwin having his foot attended to and, on return to Maningrida, he was struck down by a mysterious malady. After a couple of weeks of R&R Bert looks like he'll be going back into harness again soon.

The Cross family returned to Maningrida on Tuesday after a holiday in the South. They visited Dampier, Perth, Port Lonsdale & Ballarat.

A new man on the Housing Association this week is Richard Shaddock. Richard, a carpenter, comes originally from Warwick, Queensland, but has spent the last 7 years in New Guinea.

Jimmy Madarna, his wife Daisy and son Wesley moved into their new brick house on the Airport road this week. Jimmy, who works at the sawmill, has just returned to work after his annual holidays.

The pedalling parson finally makes it? Gowan Armstrong has been seen thundering through the streets of Darwin on a motorbike.

A new teacher has arrived to work on outstations. His name is Roger Elliot.

NOTE:

///+///

A long story from the Housing Association has been hold over to be next week's front page story...ods.

Pre-school Damper.

Today Daisy and I made a damper at the Preschool. First I made a fire and after that I made a damper. Then I raked it on the sand and after that put the damper by the fire.

I took hot sand out of the fire and I put hot sand on top of the damper and it was cooked. Daisy and I were sitting by the fire and we were waiting not very long.

First I took my damper out of the fire and then Daisy asked me, "Katie are that damper already cooked?" and then I said to Daisy "I don't think so Daisy"

All the preschool children were sitting near Daisy and I because they were very pleased to see the damper and I gave some damper to all the ladies who were working at the Preschool.

-Katie Fry Balguda

Adventure Playground.

A meeting was held at the school on Wednesday to discuss the idea of setting up an adventure playground. The three preschool teachers are going to draw up plans and show them to people at another meeting.

On Wednesday night the Y.M.C.A. management committee and other people met at Glen Bagshaws house to talk about the hall.

Four people are going to meet on Monday night to draw up rules for the hall and work out the best way to use it.

The people are Peter Pindor, Bob Cross, Jimmy Burinyila and Bruce Neale.

The Big Women Fly Again.

Last Wednesday night saw a very successful evening's turn-up and play. We've managed to scrape together four teams this year mainly due to the number of calorie conscious balanda women.

The games start at 7.30p.m. The roster for next Wednesday is as follows:-

first game

Betty Wandug's team play Daisy's team.

second game

Gunavidji mob play Judy Sweeties' team.

Second game supposedly starts at 8.30p.m.

UMPIRES - Fred Luff, Tim Darcy.

SCORERS - Andrew Henderson, Noel Soutter.

TIMEKEEPERS - Clive McMahon and others.

Each team is responsible for nominating their own team name, colours and uniforms.

Marg Neale.

Rainfall.

22/2/74	-	1.4mm
23/2/74	-	nil
24/2/74	-	12.6mm
25/2/74	-	20.4mm
26/2/74	-	3.8mm
27/2/74	-	0.4mm
28/2/74	-	nil

Rainfall for February - 142.5mm

Rainfall for January and February 1974 = 507.8mm = 19.99ins

Rainfall for January and February 1973 = -19.73ins

A Boggy Business.

Russel Ainley has gone south for a week. Woodchuck Enterprise shares rose 28c on the Sydney Stock Exchange.

Gudjerama road and crossing is closed and you are advised to follow the detour signs. Forestry will not provide vehicles or men to rescue any one who ignores the road closed signs.



The Old Judah Point road from the main road to the beach is now impassable even to 4 wheel drive vehicles. Russel Ainley will look at the aerial photographs of the area when in town and will try to find a route for a new road that avoids the black mud.

The New Judah Point road is closed and is expected to stay that way until the dry.

Larry Weipa will be going soon on a 3 month course at Darwin Community College for motor mechanics. The courses are run by D.A.A.

Johnny Gwiabaga and Jacky Agarral are being taught the maths required to do survey work by Bob Hale (teacher). When they have finished, there are years of survey work to be done here.

Harry Magabi and family are going to Darwin and Adelaide for 5 weeks holiday next month.

PLEASE NOTE Any dogs, with or without shirts who enter the forestry office will be booted out.

Mr. Ryder wishes to make it clear that the workshop toilet is exclusively for parking his bulldozer in.

R.F.

Church Notices.

SUNDAY: 9.30a.m. Sunday School classes in the church and camp.
7.30p.m. Evening Service with Holy Communion.
Theme of Study "We offer ourselves."

TUESDAY: 5.30p.m. Prayer Meeting.
7.30p.m. Church Fellowship. These two meetings will be held in the church when the bell rings.

THURSDAY: 8.00p.m. Bible Study group will meet at the Cross home. We are glad to see the Cross family returning from their holiday. Come and join the Fellowship with the Lord.

WAIT AND PONDER

Colossians 3:12 and 13 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, Holy and beloved, powers of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long suffering:

Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any, even as Christ forgave you so also do ye.

Weekend Duties.

DUTY SISTER: Sr. Sherry

DUTY OFFICER: Mr. Brolga Bill

Star Theatre.

FRIDAY: "MASH"

SATURDAY: "THE RETURN OF THE 7!"



Maningrida Mirage

AIATSIS Library, RS 29.7/2

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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