

ABORIGINAL GIRL ELECTED

A smiling 17-year-old aboriginal girl has been elected vice-captain of Raymond Terrace High School.

She is Dianne Cook, of Alworth, who will sit for her Leaving Certificate this year and hopes to go on to University.

More than 150 girls and boys in third, fourth and fifth years and the school staff voted Dianne vice-captain.

In a tribute to Dianne school headmaster Mr. A. H. Hodge said: "There is no more popular girl at the school than Dianne.

"The whole school was delighted at her appointment as vice-captain. It is an honour Dianne thoroughly deserves."

Mr. Hodge said Dianne was outstanding in athletics.

"She has been selected as the school's sports girl of the week on several occasions," he added.

WRECK BAY ROUND UP

Our news is rather late, but they do say better late than never! The annual Christmas Party for Wreck Bay Station children held by the Station Social Club, if anything, even surpassed the spread put on the previous year and much praise to the girls who arranged the tables, Misses Grace Brown, Patsy McLeod, Beryl McLeod, Colleen Moore and Norma Ardler. It was noticed in past parties that the adults were more or less left out, there being no greater agony than to watch drinks plus ice cream and cake being consumed on a hot day so in 1960 a buffet refreshment table was added for adults and proved highly satisfactory.

Once the loaded tables were cleared Santa arrived and proceeded to disperse the presents hanging on the large Christmas tree in the Hall. Reg McLeod again performed a wonderful part in the proceedings and was Santa to a tee.

It may be noted that as the Aborigines Welfare Board had doubled its allotment for the party the Social Club did likewise and augmented the Board's sum by another £56. This money had been raised throughout the year by many means for the express purpose of making sure the children spent as happy a day as possible. Stalwart

workers such as Mrs. Timbrey, Mr. Bill Ardler and Mr. George Ardler plus the efforts of Station storekeeper, Mrs. V. Blyth, soon built the sum up.

The party being concluded on Saturday, 17th December, residents were in store for another treat on Wednesday night 21st December, when the Chaplain of the Naval College, Rev. Were, produced a Nativity Play in the Station Hall with the Station children he takes for School scripture. Much preparation was necessary, two full rehersals with costumes supplied by the Chaplain, being held not to mention the amount of time spent well beforehand on teaching parts to the children.

The night finally arrived with Mrs. Were backstage, costumes, stage direction, etc.—Sergeant Stevenson of Jervis Bay Police handling staging, curtains, lightsand stage lighting by courtesy of the Commonwealth Works Department. And what a magnificent play it was, with Rev. Were telling the story, the children acting on the stage and Christmas Carols between stage settings by the audience. Rarely has such a colourful play been produced and the effect was felt more than seen amongst the full Hall. Only one fault could be found and that was that the night was too short. It is hoped next year to put on a full production and it will certainly be awaited eagerly. Special mention to Patsy Brown as Mary and Isaac McLeod as the Inn Keeper whilst Ross Moore's King Herod was a fearsome piece of portrayal.

When the play was concluded and the last Carol sung the Chaplain, Rev. Were, presented the School prizes to the children earning same. This proved a fitting conclusion to a very successful evening.

Congratulations to Elaine Ardler who at her first year at High School won a prize for the most improved pupil in the class coming from 23rd at the first term to be 8th at the finish.

With painters Joe Dixon and Cecil Carter still working industriously on the job, the Station presented a colourful and tidy appearance when holiday guests arrived. Three film nights were held by the Club and each proved very popular.

It was pleasing to see George Brown secure a permanent position with the Commonwealth Forestry Branch, a job which will prove very worthwhile over the years. Knowing George, the Branch have attained a very willing and able worker.

All in all, not a bad year.