Bob Moran’s horses have been making a name for themselves just lately. They have developed a taste for the Matron’s (Mrs. McCutcheon) flower garden. Even though a fence had been put up to keep them out this did not deter them, and every morning the garden was chewed down to the ground. A curfew has now been imposed on the horses and the garden is making rapid progress.

“Unique Record”

John Longbottom, the Handyman at Roseby Park, holds a unique record. He is the first aboriginal employee to earn for himself long service leave.

On 22nd February he completed 20 years’ continuous service as a Handyman at Roseby Park Aboriginal Station, entitling him to three months’ long service leave.

Dawn’s heartiest congratulations to you, John. May you spend a very happy holiday and come back to your work refreshed and ready for another 20 years’ service.

Snakes have been quite predominant on Cabbage Tree Island just lately. A brave effort by the Manager, Mr. E. R. McCutcheon, and Handyman, Frank Marlowe, put an end to a 4-ft. 6-in. “whip” snake which was hanging in a figure 8 from the Manager’s garden water tank. One blow by the Manager missed and Frank was the killer . . . . Perhaps the Manager wants a little experience in snake killing!

A Christian Fellowship Association for the women of Cabbage Tree Island was formed in January. The guest-speaker was Mrs. McDonald, wife of the Presbyterian Minister of Coraki.

The Fellowship is pledged to support Leo Bolt and his endeavours to establish a thriving Sunday School on the Island and to raise money for a Children’s Playground.

The women have taken a keen interest in the Fellowship and elected Mrs. R. Bolt President, Norma Kay Secretary, Mrs. Lorna Kelly Treasurer.

Many boys and girls of Cabbage Tree Island are receiving coaching in table tennis from their Manager, Mr. E. R. McCutcheon. Among those who have shown good promise are Henry (Tubby) Bolt, Fred (Narg) Johnson, Walter (Tiger) Kelly, Barry Marlowe, Clarry Cook, Nancy Kay, Merle Bolt. It is expected that teams will be formed and that these folk, together with others on the Station, will compete with other Stations and Ballina Club.

Good work by the residents of Cabbage Tree Island was recently carried out on the paths around the Station. Roy Cameron started and it is believed that no one else had to be told—they just picked up a hoe or scythe and went to work. As a result the paths are now in tip top condition, and no one is worried about getting paspalum seed all over their good clothes. Good work, and it is hoped the good work will keep up.

Congratulations to Mary McGrath, of Cabbage Tree Island, who recently went to Casino to work. The Manager, Mr. McCutcheon, has heard good reports of Mary’s work. We are hoping that more girls and boys will shortly be placed in employment. Good luck Mary . . . .

Sleeping doll and teddy bear and plenty of company for Lynette Oaley of Glenreagh.