



Almost everyone knows that Father Christmas travels from his home at the North Pole in a sleigh pulled by reindeer, but very few people have the opportunity of seeing him. However, when he stopped at Boggabri for a few minutes these two lucky little girls came out and had a yarn to him. Weren't they lucky?

## SUCCESSFUL FUNCTION AT TAREE STATION—FUNDS RAISED FOR PICNIC

The residents of Taree Station (sometimes called Purfleet), always endeavour to augment the allowance provided by the Board for the annual Children's Break-up Picnic by some special effort near the end of year. This year they really "let their hair down" in a very enjoyable concert programme and dance held in their beautiful Recreation Hall.

The whole of the programme was organised under the capable leadership of Mrs. Marjorie Maher, assisted by willing helpers. Local, talented landscape artist, Dick Simon, gave a lot of time to the painting of a beautiful, tropical background scene for the stage. When natural greenery was added to the decorations, the effect was very pleasing indeed.

Mr. Bill Eagling, a well-known Taree business man, performed the duties of chairman in a very efficient manner. He also brought along a public address system which boosted up the voices of some of the stage-shy performers.

Highlights of the programme were musical items rendered by the Purfleet Melody Makers, with their instrumental combination of guitars, mandolin, zither-harp and gum leaves; Miss Bessie Leon, with her piano accordion; Dick Simon, the loose-jointed tap dancer, in a gorgeous silk Chinese costume and coolie hat; Rex Morris and Cecil Leon in a Spanish guitar duet; Les and Ron Mafr, with their merry gum leaves; and so the list goes on, each item having its own special appeal according to the individual tastes of the listeners.

Three lassies from the Salvation Army brightened the programme with their lively trio of piano accordions.

At the conclusion of the programme, the floor was cleared and the young people enjoyed dancing to the strains of music provided by the Purfleet Melody Makers. To those of you living in districts where racial prejudice is strong, it may be surprising to learn that among those enjoying themselves on the dance floor were a young doctor and his wife and other specially invited guests representing the professional and business community of Taree.

Everybody had fun and a little more than £16 has been made available for expenditure on the Break-up Picnic.



A spot of good hunting out along the Condobolin Road. And they say these goannas are only little fellows!