

Perhaps the most unusual feature about John Dinter-Sauer is his bitterness towards the Nazis. A lieutenant, John was a very sincere, disciplined soldier, his mother died in a German concentration camp. As John put it, "She was murdered in the gas chambers." John knew nothing about this until after the war, because he was not allowed to visit the town where she was killed.

Paradox

John Longbottom also has an unusual experience to tell. He went right through the war without a single scratch only to be left for dead by a hit-run driver at Windang.

John was badly hurt in this accident, and had twenty-four stitches in an injury to his head. Police never caught the person responsible.

The only criticism John Dinter-Sauer has of Australia is a fair one—the cost and lack of availability of suitable accommodation. "In Germany you can obtain houses and flats to rent at a much cheaper price than in Australia," he told me.

I met John's charming and youthful wife Anne (she says she will soon be 38, but looks about 28), his 17-year-old daughter Karin, and his youngest daughter Heidi (2½), a youngster with a cheerful grin, a shock of beautiful blonde hair and lovely blue eyes. He has two other children, Heiki, a 14-year-old girl who goes to Corrimal High School, and Uwe, a 10-year-old boy who goes to school at Bellambi. The whole family is very happy. And Karin, how does she feel about Australia? She loves it, and but for a slight accent and the ability to rattle off sentences in German, it would be quite easy to mistake her for an Australian-born girl. And just for the record, Mrs. Dinter-Sauer makes the most delicious cream cheese cakes!

John Longbottom is the son of John Longbottom, Senior, handyman, of Roseby Park, who retired on 6th January after being in continuous employment with the Aborigines' Welfare Board since February, 1936.

—With acknowledgment to the "Daily Mercury".



Some of the Cunnamulla girls recently visited Brisbane. Here we see Evelyn Widgell, Lorraine Robertson, Carol Widgell, Lynette Hooper and Barbara Martin

CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR ABORIGINAL FAMILIES

Aged Aborigines, children, fathers and mothers had a wonderful party in the Kempsey Memorial Hall recently, a Christmas entertainment organised by the Kempsey Aboriginal Welfare Committee.

The guests came from Burnt Bridge, Greenhill, Bellbrook, and quickly settled down to enjoy themselves.

Then sang, chatted and ate . . . and ate.

The children were specially conscious of the occasion and made short work of plates of sweets, thick slabs of cream-topped sponge and well-filled sandwiches.

The Welcome Committee was augmented by many eager helpers who cut and made sandwiches, served teas and then turned about to clear and wash up.

President of the Welfare Committee, Mr. C. Condie, welcomed guests. He spoke of the work being done to improve the lot of Aborigines and stressed that the provision of housing was not the only function of the committee.

It was also to assist Aborigines take their place in the community as useful citizens.

Mrs. M. Morris, the first Aborigine to be appointed to the Welfare Committee, said that her people wanted the chance to stand side by side with their white neighbours.

Kempsey was setting a standard for other districts to follow.

In the last three years, more had been achieved than in the last 30 years.

She went on: "We have new homes in the town. Aborigines are attending High School, they are in Marching Girls' teams and Boy Scouts and various town activities and Church organisations.

"Mr. Pacey, of Burnt Bridge, and myself are members of the Welfare Committee and a C.W.A. for the Aboriginal women of Burnt Bridge and Greenhill is to be formed early next year.

"This will be a wonderful thing for we women."

In an appeal to her people, Mrs. Morris concluded: "To my people, I say keep your chin up, co-operate with the people who are out to help us and prepare the way for a happy future for your children and their children to come.

"To the white community of Kempsey, I say thank you for what you are doing."

Other speakers included the Mayoress, Mrs. A. Slack, and Mrs. J. H. Brown, wife of the Member for Raleigh.

Mrs. R. Melville, Mrs. K. Croad, Mrs. F. Perett and Mrs. C. Condie were others in the official party.

Mrs. Croad undertook to organise the party on behalf of the Welfare Committee.

—With acknowledgment to *Macleay Argus*.