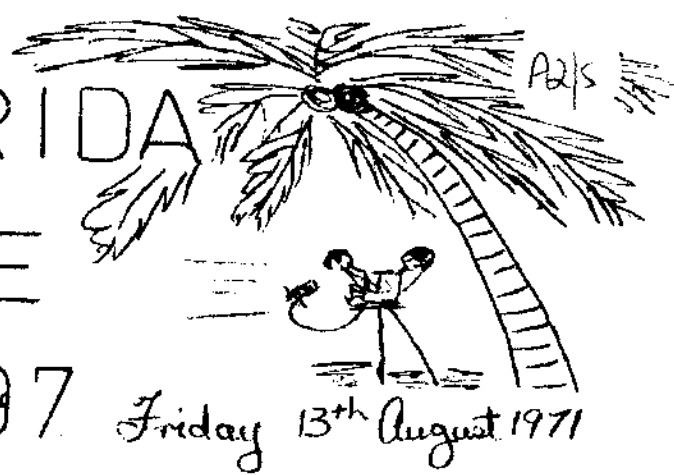




3 1972

# MANINGRIDA MIRAGE



Vol. 97

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August 1971



To Compete in 30 Sections

### EISTEDDFOD:

Today in Darwin, the 1971 North Australian Eisteddfod will get under way. This year Maningrida is represented by 33 children and 3 adults. Supervisors are Cavell Williams, Cheryl Pullen and Dan Gillespie. Maningrida has entered about 30 sections of the Eisteddfod. Our entries are very heavy in the Aboriginal song and dance sections. This year the government would not finance an adult team so the Progress Association is paying the fares for the three men - Paddy Fordham, Crusoe Guningbal and David Irindilly - and the older boys will combine with them to form an adult team. Paddy and David have been very enthusiastic instructors of dance - we have also received assistance from Peter Bunju rljurl and Charlie Jarabili on the presentation of the Butterfly and Emu dances.

It is hoped that we can bring home our fair slice of the spoils of victory - Paddy Fordham says "No one will put it over me" though he admits to being a little apprehensive because his uncle, who 'grow him up' and taught him many songs, Jolly from Bamyili, will be competing against him.

### *Dad, Dad News.*

Attendance at the pictures has dropped to an all time low. In the last month takings barely covered the cost of the films. We think this is probably due to cold weather and may be people not being so keen about pictures as they used to be. Last Friday takings were less than \$150 at the start of the year we were getting well over \$300. This is not because people are not paying - almost everyone who comes to the pictures is paying now. Adults are just not coming. So we have had to cut another picture out - we can't afford to do anything else. From now on there will be a picture each week on Friday only. As soon as the weather warms up and people start to walk away from those warm fires we'll put that 3rd picture back on. We know this is a sad story for a lot of people but we cannot afford to take risks at present as we have a number of big projects under way - school truck, new projector, new duplicating machine.

### *Good, Good News*

In a lightning dash into the Sin City of Darwin last week, Peter (Jet Set) Williams was able to arrange the purchase of a new school truck. The truck is a brand new 2½ ton Nissan Caball and Peter was able to wagglo a very satisfactory deal. We hope to see the truck here within the month.

### *New Projector*

You may have noticed that the projector has stopped eating lamps at the rate of 3 per night. This is because it has been replaced by a new projector of the same model. The old machine, which has survived 2 falls, 2 Wet Seasons and count less John Wayne films, will be retired to the green pastures of Brisbane.

# Council

## MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 5.30PM ON 9/8/71

PRESENT: T. Yibberal (President) and 10 councillors.

ABSENT: 8 councillors.

BUSINESS: Statement by Superintendent:

1. The village was generally very dirty. Efforts had been made by Gunwinggus and Rembarrngas to keep their areas tidy. Other people had to follow suit.
2. A trophy would be donated for a dancing competition to be held at the school fete on 24th September.
3. The prospectors had finished flying the Cadell area and had now started near Junction Bay. They were also looking, on the ground, at Milingimbi. They wanted to have a good look at an area near Cadell River and would be working on this next week.
4. The Army map makers had been at Maningrida for a few days. They were following up work done last few years, taking photographs of new road-works.
5. The Bulman people had started mustering cattle. To date they had branded 112 head. Bulman now had about 210 head of cattle behind fences.
6. The Lands Board was coming to Maningrida again soon. They would hear applications for leases and Tom Yibberal and Bill Yirinyin were members.

CEREMONIES: Superintendent said that there would need to be some change in the business of taking boys away for ceremonies. He wanted to know how this could be worked out to everybody's satisfaction. He wanted to meet with the business leaders, and council, to discuss this matter. President suggested that it might be best for boys to attend just the last 2 weeks of business. Other councillors pointed out that he was not entitled to take such decisions; he was not able to talk for other people. Cr. Munyal said that the school had always co-operated with the council so the council should help the school to keep teaching children.

HYGIENE: Cr. Munyal said the Pine forest was a big mess and full of people playing cards, and just sitting down. He also said that people had to stop lighting bush-fires or they would be fined. Perhaps they would go to gaol.



CADELL GARDEN: Cr. Gangalara said that more workers were needed at Cadell Garden. Cr. Baleiya said that Cadell was only a little place and that one man, perhaps two, was plenty. Others should take their work at Maningrida. Cr. Gangalara then said that he had not got his crocodile money and was finished for the Council; it didn't help him. President said he could be stupid if he wanted to; it was his life.

HOUSES: Councillor Warijil complained that there were not any houses for Gunavidjis; they were hard workers and lived ordinary lives but only a few had houses. President said it was the same all around. Things moved slowly.

Meeting closed at 7.15 p.m.

## *Mirage Subscriptions*

Mrs. Gill Amies, Mr. Jimmy Gulcrawuna, Miss Rita Jetnu, The three Sisters, and Mr. Ron Berryman have paid their subs. Also Mr. Rex Jettner and Mrs. Nancy Williams.

We hope to have a lot more names on this list in the next couple of weeks. This is issue No. 57.

# PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

1300 Loaves.

The Maningrida Bakery in its first week of production produced and sold 1,301 loaves of bread (1½ lbs.), 1,350 buns, 56 lbs of block cake and 300 assorted cakes. Our equipment is not all to hand and shortly we will set about catering for the 1,000 pies a week currently sold as well as assorted delicacies.

Our congratulations to Les Holt for the magnificent efforts he is making, to Sam who is proving a very adept pupil in the baking industry, Melanie who is reaching proficiency in the shop, and to Dora, our slicer and wrapper. The wrapping material is expected shortly, but meanwhile some bread is being sliced and put into cellophane wrapping.

Appreciation to Isabel Holt, who donates her afternoons to assisting and training our girls and generally running the shop part. Also to Mr. Stevens for assistance in teaching money additions and subtraction.

Repeating the Bakery shop hours.

Mon, Tues., Wed., Fri. 2p.m.-5p.m. and Saturday 9a.m. to 11 a.m. and closed Thursday to enable more production to cater for the week-end trade..

Graham and Margaret

In the store, Graham Inglis is settling into the job of managing the increasing volume of store trade, his wife Margaret, an Art Teacher, is already working on greeting cards with an Aboriginal and local appeal.

We need the Cadell Gardens.

At the risk of buying into the local Health debate we feel one of the major dietary problems to be that of inadequate fresh fruit and vegetables. The Store imports nearly 100 cases of fresh fruit monthly and sells an increasing quantity of bananas, but our local problems could be further reduced with a more effective garden set up at the Cadell.

Nothing to smile about - the price of fresh fruit into Darwin from the South rose by \$10.50 per ton freight. See N.T. News of 7th. August.

The Hasty Yasty Bar

The Coffee and Tea Bar at the Hasty Yasty is operating again, and it is hoped the deep fryer will be in action again by late this week to add fish and chips to the range of edibles.

Minerals going up.

It is observed that O.R. shares have risen to 19cents as at 7/8/71. We wonder if this is due to

- Rumours of inter-esting developments in our own areas.
- O.R.'s. announcement of the commencement of drilling operations in the Gulf of Carpentaria (Bauxite).
- The discovery of uranium by PAN + CONTINENTAL only a few miles outside our Mt. Borradaile area. One thing for sure, it has increased the on paper value of our company's holdings. The question is - what of the future?

Here's hoping that the barge is carrying plenty of petrol- fact is we're short. Sales have telescoped enormously.

Congratulations to the Rembarranga People.

The cleanest Camp in the Settlement this week was the Rembarranga. The people there had made a real effort to rake up the ground around their houses. Houses looked neater and more clothes lines had been put up. Paddy Fordham has been making a little swing and a horse for Lurick to ride.



# Fishermen on Film

Mr Bob Kingsbery and the ABC film unit flew in on Wednesday to make films for television. The two main themes are

## 1) Fishing

The Cameras will show the fish factory established some years ago and then the fishermen of today who work for themselves and in their own way all contributing to a fishing industry. Women gathering oysters and crabs, fishing with nets, spears and lines out of boats and the beach at the fishing camp will be features. There will be interviews with Mr John Carpenter who will tell the story of what is being done.



## 2) Scouting

A camp fire sing song of Scouts and cubs in uniform singing traditional camp songs followed by dancing to the didgeridoo and clapsticks will be filmed tonight. These scenes will aim to show that Scouting activities from all over the world can be fitted in with Aboriginal culture (dance singing etc). Tomorrow morning the cubs will form their circle and do the rousing "A-K-E-L-A we'll do our best" call. A six will then mime some emus feeding and being hunted. Later the sea scouts will bring their boats to the beach and show their skill on the water.

# The Great Plane Robbery.



"TAKE ME TO CUBA"

Reports were received last week that a military aircraft had been hi-jacked from a remote Northern Mission and flown to Bulman, a small cattle station in Arnhemland.

Onlookers at Bulman say that the hi-jacker, a long lean latin type forced the crew to land and demanded fuel. On learning the only fuel supplies were 130 octane, not *proof*, he boarded the aircraft again, all the while uttering imprecations in a strange dialect - "Ron Rico", "Coraba" - or was it "Caramba", "Bacardi" and suchlike.

The distraught crew were then ordered to take off again and after making a low level attack on a Government Toyota the plane climbed away to the east. It's destination was not determined but some thought that it may have been CUB - probably CUBA.

J.H.

This matter was not reported widely in the newspapers but Officials of the Royal Archery Club may be able to supply further details.

# Crocodile Farming



Mr. Dennis Puffit, formerly head of Fisheries in the N.T. is now in Papua, New Guinea. He writes from Port Moresby to Mr. John Hunter - "Among other things, I have taken over the crocodile farming project. We have a small one at Lake Murray with 300 crocs. I am going to increase it to 1,000 this year and then start another at Pagive in New Guinea. Lake Murray is in Papua by the West Irian border. We get the crocs. by sending a team around the villages and let them know that we want to buy small crocs, and then go back at monthly intervals to collect them. We get them at about 13" and hope to grow them to about 6' for the skins. They are fed mainly on fish and at Lake Murray mostly barramundi which is plentiful and no way of getting it to market (so they say) ....

I am also involved with deer, birds of paradise, wallabies, and a bird that nests in the hot volcanic sands up by Rabaul.... Also have Reserves and sanctuaries to look at some time. The local people are happy willing workers after the style of Billy Yiriyin...."

Dennis says that the "people here are very interested in the Aborigines..." He would like to subscribe to the Mirage.

We send our best wishes to Dennis in this interesting new work of his.

We express our sympathy to Mr. Bruce Craven who received word yesterday, that his father had died in Adelaide.

## Birdwatcher

The Brolga is a well known bird (and personality) about Maningrida, but lets focus our attention on the feathered variety for a moment. Flocks of up to a hundred birds will be seen here, particularly towards the end of the Dry (Can you think why?!), usually in well-watered grasslands. Until recently it was thought to be the only member of the Crane (Gruidae) family in Australia, but in 1968 a South-East Asian bird, the Sarus Crane, was seen in Queensland, and this rule no longer held. The Brolga builds a nest on the ground, usually in a swampy inaccessible area, and the clutch size is usually two. In this part of Australia they will commence to lay at the onset of the Wet, so that when the chicks hatch there is an abundance of frogs, insects, lizards and grubs - all good tucker to a young brolga - and the survival of the new generations is assured. The antics of the breeding birds before nesting is quite well known, and anyone who is fortunate enough to see the Brolgas dancing will never forget it.



I have already mentioned the discovery of the Sarus Crane. It was first seen at Normanton and then on the Atherton Tablelands, and to my way of thinking there is no reason as to why it should not be at Maningrida, although I have not heard of it being seen in Arnhem Land. It is very similar to the Brolga except that it has a larger red collar, pink legs (Brolga has grey-brown), and stands slightly higher.

J.G.

Maningrida's pet brolga followed people going to the fishing camp at Navy Landing in May and apparently decided to stay in the bush.

## From Another Angle

THE BROLGA: An interesting bird distinguished by its quaint nesting habits. Can usually be located in the vicinity of stray piles of cans, which it deposits, and in this regard should not be confused with the Bower Bird. Care should be observed when approaching, as it has been known to be aggressive, particularly if disturbed whilst reposing. It may be pacified, however, by displaying a carton, or parcel, when it thereupon exhibits signs of friendship. Female birdwatchers should exercise caution when employing this gambit.

J.H.

## Forestry

Water Resources put down two bores at the Cadell this week and preparations for the Cadell out-station will be able to go ahead. The big bull-dozer is making roads between the Cadell and the Blyth R.

Forestry is opening an Applied Research station at Alice Springs. Mr. Roger Smith of the Darwin Branch has been appointed to take charge of it. He will be succeeded by Mr. Rod Smith - a strange coincidence in names! Both men were at Maningrida this week.

A convoy of 4 vehicles came out from Darwin via Bulman, last week-end. Two new vehicles driven by Eric Quick and Kevin Ennis, and two privately owned vehicles, driven by Mrs. Queenie Ennis and Mr. Allan Turner.

## Thursday night's Basketball.

Arnhemland 64 points defeated Cape Stuart 54.  
Roic Mace netted 11 goals and George Puddy 9.  
Jacky Pascoe netted 9 and Terry Darwin got 6 goals.

Dolphins 52 went down to Pioneers 56.  
Jim Cooper netted 10 goals for Pioneers, while Albert W. scored 8 baskets and Albert W. 7.

Seen in town at the week-end from Bulman, were Dan and Lyn Watson. They returned on Sunday.

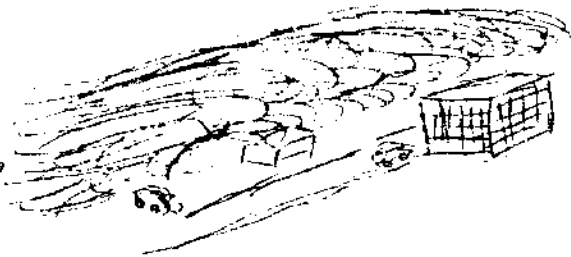
# Earthquakes in New Guinea

Mrs. Padge Ingram writing to tell Sister Cec. of the good progress she is making after her accident, wrote:

"I had been out of hospital one day, when we had the first earthquake. The ground heaved and buckled so much, that I couldn't stand up. It was very scary.

The house is still standing and we are still rocked by after shocks fairly frequently. There have been four quite severe quakes and the one last Monday caused severe tidal waves - one huge one which went through the Travelodge Motel causing tremendous damage - the street alongside is closed to traffic while they have acres of carpets out drying. Lands offices were flooded and lots of maps, files, etc. were ruined. Alan's section is upstairs, so they were o.k. We had to evacuate the house but fortunately it did not come up this far.

Quite a few shops were flooded as well as having breakages and countless cars were swamped - including quite a few new ones on show floors. The salt water has browned off acres of lawn and the foreshore was an incredible mess. A lot of people have left in a hurry, mainly Chinese apparently. The schools are all closed so that safety inspections can be made. It is amazing what the buildings will stand - we watched the house just rocking backwards and forwards and thought it must collapse. All the cupboard doors opened and some things spilled out, but we were lucky to have so little damage. Some people had all their personal effects stored on the wharf ready for shipment, so they had crates of stuff flooded and tossed around; no insurance for such acts of God either."



- - - - -

## Basketball

by Jimmy Pascoe.

On Tuesday's game Cadell defeated Eagles. Each team had a good game. Eagles tried hard but couldn't make the basket.

The points were:

Cadell: 58 - Eagles: 38.

Chalkies defeated Kupanga. Chalkies were winning from the start to the end. BRAVO for Chalkies. Chalkies were steadily dribbling the ball. They did some fast passing as a team, not like last time. So watch out for Chalkies.

The scores were:

Chalkies: 46 - Kupanga: 40.

I was happy to see Pioneer boys on duty. Thank you, boys.

NOTE: Teams that don't have the uniforms, please buy T-shirts at the shop.

Best Players:

Jimmy (Cadell)	-	34 points
Jimmy (Chalkies)	-	20 points
Jim Jam (Kupanga)	-	20 points
Peter (Cadell)	-	14 points
Raymond (Eagles)	-	14 points.

Draw Next Week:

Tuesday, 17/8/71: 7.00 p.m. Eagles v. Chalkies  
8.00 p.m. Cadell v. Entrance

Kupanga have a bye - duty referee, scorer and time keeper.

Thursday, 19/8/71: 7.00 p.m. Pioneers v. Arnhemland  
8.00 p.m. Dolphins v. Kupanga

Cape Stuart bye - duty referee, scorer and time keeper.

J.P.

## WEEKEND DUTIES

Duty Officer: Mr. Bert Ryan  
Duty Sister: Sister Heather Cross  
Fire Duty: Messrs. E. Quick and J. Delaney.

## STAR THEATRE

Friday: CASINO ROYALE. *A James Bond picture.*  
The starting time will be 8 p.m. this week.

## CHURCH

Sunday: 9.30 a.m. Sunday Schools - "The New Covenant."  
7.00 p.m. Evening Service.

Thursday: 7.30 p.m. Fellowship.

Aboriginal people speak of the goanna or the diver-bird as "my dreaming". They believe that their spirits belong to the same country and they are related to each other.

In the old days God spoke to the Hebrew people: "I will be your God .... and you will be my people". They were related.

Jesus came to relate Himself - (be a relation) to all men. He spoke to His friends about the new covenant - the new relationship - between Him and them. He gave His own life for all of us on the Cross. In a supper, the piece of bread and the sip of wine he gave them was the sign of His life going into them. This relationship is for people of every country, race and tribe.

The three men and a choir too, perhaps, coming from Goulburn Island in October, will help us to understand this new relationship.

## BIRTH

Bruce - born to Mara Mira and Micky Mandangu on 7th August. (Gunwinggu).

## BIRTH and DEATH

Tina - born prematurely (too early) on Saturday, 7th August, to Margaret Nalbalga and Harry Mulumbuk, and buried on Sunday, 8th August.

## *A message for the aching teeth.*

The dentist will be here on September 6th for 3 weeks. This is a little later than the time advertised last week.

## *People.*

Mrs. Queenie Ennis and the children took the chance to travel overland to Maningrida with Kevin last weekend. The family are looking well. Chris had a bit of bad luck on Wednesday when the spine of a moon fish ran into his foot.

The newspaper reported that Mr. Brian Jukes had an accident in the Toyota, but we were relieved to hear that he was not hurt.

A young couple who quietly returned to Maningrida from Darwin a short time ago are Jimmy Gulaminda and his wife Mary, and their baby

Mr. Ray Munyal has been invited to attend a ceremony at Croker Island by Mr. George Winunguj.

Two boats piloted by Messrs. Billy Yiriyin and Micky Nalaulmin took some people to Goulburn Is. last week end. Micky broke down at Junction Bay and his signal fire was seen both at Goulburn and here. The latest report is that Micky and his passengers have arrived safely.

Several Gunwinggu women travelled to Goulburn Island this week to take part in the closing stages of the Kunapippi Ceremony there. Among them were Alma (Mrs. Oscar Nalawid) and Marganira.

Stop Press. A baby boy was born to Yiwuluma about a month ago in Gunwinggu country.

**Maningrida Mirage**

AIATSIS Library, RS 29.7/2

"Maningrida Mirage Volume 97" August 13th, 1971.

Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

(r000005900888\_v97\_a.pdf)

To cite this file use:

[http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/lbry/dig\\_prgm/indigenousnewsletters/maningrida/pdf/1971/r000005900888\\_v97\\_a.pdf](http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/lbry/dig_prgm/indigenousnewsletters/maningrida/pdf/1971/r000005900888_v97_a.pdf)

© Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community