

Life is a pack of cards...

When it's love,

Its ♠s,

When it's engagements,

Its ♠s,

When it's marriage,

Its ♣s,

When it's death,

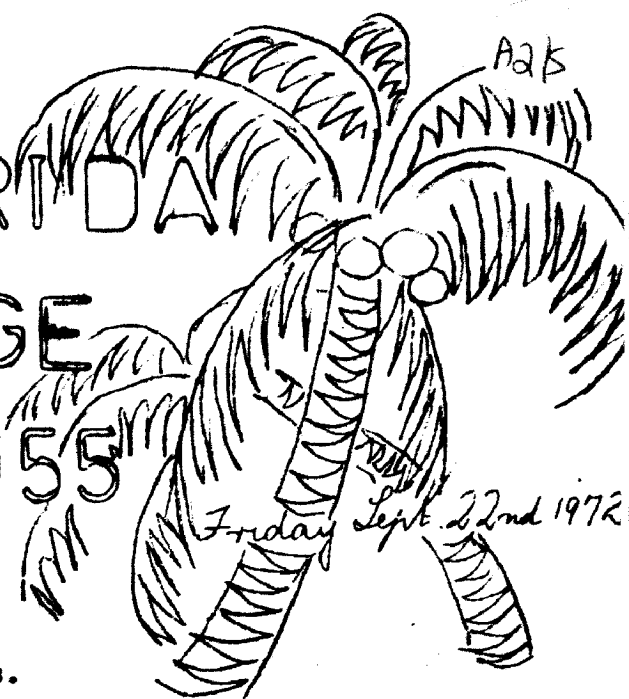
Its ♠s.....

MANINGRIDA

MIRAGE

Vol 155

Friday Sept 22nd 1972



Council Meeting

Present: 10 Councillors and 4 visitors.

BUSINESS
Arising:

President asked the Councillors what they thought of this idea about dogs and gambling.

Cr. Gangalara said he had been talking to Jimmy Barayalanga and he got upset and they argued. President said especially to the old people who are still in their culture, and not believing what we are doing for them.

Cr. Baleiya said the school children should go home after school and they should play in their own areas. He also said the dogs should be kept in the yard otherwise they will run around.

President said he wanted to know about the cards, whether the people agree about not playing cards, or they still want to gamble.

Cr. Gangalara said not many of his people here. He said they sometimes talk about the stories from council meeting, whether they agree or not.

President said it was a good weekend. Maybe next time we should have bungul here. It wasn't a competition, it was a show. All the groups showed their own dancing. He also said he wanted to bring two important things up at the next meeting. He also wanted to see the councillors having a meeting with their relatives around at the villages and talking to their people about the stories they have heard at the council meeting.

NEW
BUSINESS:

Cr Gangalara: "Ningle will be going to Areyonga, and when he returns I will arrange initiation ceremony for Ningle."

President asked the councillors if they had any important matters to suggest.

Cr. John said after the men return to to Bamyili, sometime later they will come back to Bamdibu, except Jacky Waymungar is staying here for a while. President said he suggested they organize things for themselves. Cr. Baleiya: Bamyili men are visiting around the camp tonight dancing and singing their farewell songs.

Gordon (a visitor from Bamyili) said he wanted to thank council for what they had done and for the good hospitality they had all had while being here, and that they all enjoyed themselves, and the games of basketball and football during the weekend, and having a good look around the settlement on Sunday.

President said he just heard that Jinang people don't want Michael Ngalabiya to be their representative councillor. Maybe this is because he doesn't let people know what is going on at the council meetings.

Cr. Yiriyin said the madayin ceremony would be at Goulburn Island and he would like Peter Gangalara with him for 3 weeks.

President said he would be at Kunapipi again this year or next. He said he would check up on his holidays. Old man Djatjangu have travelled up and down waiting for the Kunapipi ceremony to begin.

Cr. Riala said last time he was in Darwin Hospital he heard the story about me and Burada people at Kupanga have talked about me and the laws here. "People of Burada side don't like me. Maybe next year I don't want to be councillor any more and I don't want to be a representative of Burada councillor. Atevery mission and

2. COUNCIL NOTES CON'T:

Settlement I was everywhere helping the other people and fighting over things for their own good and living. I just want to be as I was before; to work and earn my living. People don't want me because I here making laws for them and I'm their representative councillor and they should respect me

President said "Not now."

Cr. Riala said "I'M notleaving now, but next year." He asked about the houses for Aboriginal people and who would build them

Supt told the council that Sister Tilley wanted to have a school for mothers

Meeting closed 7.15 pm.

ACCIDENT

Michael Brown was evacuated to Nhulunbuy Hospital last Friday Afternoon after the vehicle he was driving collided with a light post opposite the air-strip. Michael returned to Maningrida yesterday, none the worse for wear after spending the weekend in hospital. The vehicle was extensively damaged.

BROGGA'S EMUS TO THE RESCUE

The evening garbage detail, peacefully ticking over, tee scrolls of watermelon rind and abandoned brown heads en route to the city dump was brought to an abrupt halt last Saturday night by a shattering scream from the miner's house.

Hastly arming themselves with garbage bins and empty flagons they thrust their fearless leader up the stairs, where, fearing devastation, he found instead a lady in distress.

Would you believe it? She had been trapped in the bedroom when the door jammed shut, and had spent the last six hours trying to attract the attention of passing travellers, to no avail, alas. In her desperation she had saved the last gash for the garbos, and they had heard her cry

All was put to rights in a jiffy. The offending door was forced, and the party proceeded on its way (easy tracked bu the trail of empty Tarax cars and a dribble of assorted debris.

SPENCER

BIG WOMENS LEAGUE

Due to a misunderstanding over the hire of the court, only one game was played.

However it was a speedy game with much excitement over the close scoring. The good play probably had something to do with the large audience - mainly males.

THANKS - A mammoth thankyou to Bob Collins for the offer to pay for all the girls' uniforms - which is a mammoth price and help

Also a big "Thanks" to Betty Trewin, Shirley Armstrong, Jackie Newman and Elva Dickfoss for making up a sewing bee.

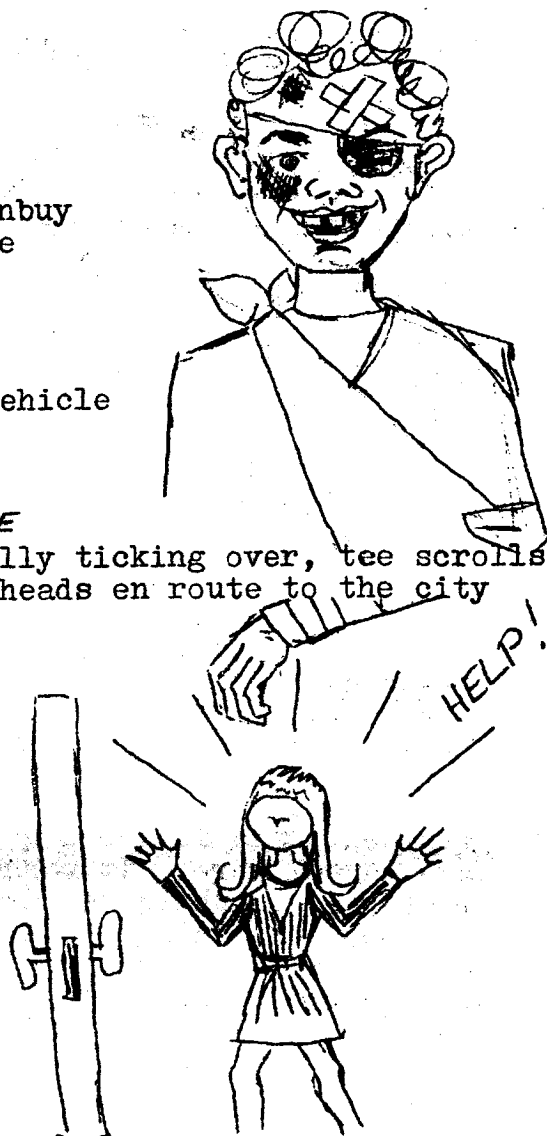
VOTERS ?

Margaret Neale. (♀)

Do you want to vote this year ?

Are you sure that your name is on the roll ?

It has to be on the roll if you want to vote. If you want to make sure, or if you want to put your name on the roll, see anyone at the office; they will help you.



3. Girl Guides

Girl Guides continue to meet in the Scout Hall each Thursday after school. Attendances have dropped off a little but those who attend show enthusiasm in all that we partake in.

The sale of secondhand clothing a few months ago increased our bank balance by nearly \$80.

Dee Uibo has taken Carol Davies place and is a willing helper and good moral support.

Before the school holidays Mr Jack Gardiner graced one of our meetings with his presence and gave us an interesting talk on local birds. This Thursday Mr Phil Green has agreed to take us out and show us the good works he's been performing down at Fisheries as well as explaining to us some points on fish and fishing.

A recent letter from Mrs Buzza in Bunbury, W.A. relates some of the interesting activities of her Guide Company and has promised to send on some photos of her Guides to our Company.



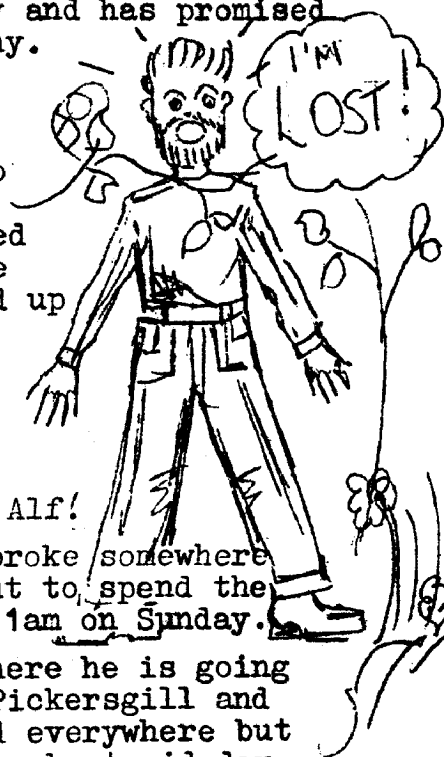
Lost in the Bush

On Saturday Alf Dickfoss went out to Bamboo Creek with his own 2 boys and 3 Aboriginal lads. Out there, Alf went for a stroll but when he turned round - the car had gone. This was about 3pm. He kept walking and walking - and at last he stumbled up to the car - lightheaded by this time for lack of water. He reckoned that he had walked 15 miles.

The boys, dead scared, had collapsed in a sleeping heap in the cabin of the Toyota. One of them heard the approaching steps and thought it was a buffalo - so he yelled. Fortunately it was Alf!

All was well - but not quite. The clutch broke somewhere near Timber Creek. So there was nothing for it but to spend the night there. They arrived back at Maningrida at 11am on Sunday.

Normally Alf leaves word with Elva about where he is going but on this one occasion hadn't done so. So Jim Pickersgill and some Forestry men went out searching. They looked everywhere but found no-one and were very relieved to arrive home about mid-day and see the lost travellers there.



Junior Scouts Ready to Go

The first meeting of the new Junior Scout Troop will be held at 7.30pm on Monday night at the Scout Hall. All the older Cubs, 11 years of age and over, can join. Generally, these are the boys from the school classes of Messrs King, Pink and Stutchbury. Mr Bob Collins will be the Scout Master.

The Assistant Commissioner for Aboriginal Scouting, Mr Bob Phillips, talked about Sea Scouts with Mr Phil Green when he was here last week. Phil used to be a Sea Scouter in his young days and is keen to get the older boys into the water. He has revarnished one of the Herons, and checked over all the sailing gear on it.

Around and About

Big Barney, back from Darwin with a new pair of glasses, is in his element making a big new canoe. He is even losing some weight.

Some of the women are making mats and baskets. When Rhys and Betty come in next they intend to bring a load of cockles to sell through the shop. With the low tides, the women are able to gather them in large quantities.

Bob Collins returned from his southern journey ecstatic about the acres of flowers near Dandenong, Victoria. They are being grown by a number of Dutch gardeners. (What are you doing on the Roper, Skip?)



4. QUITE A LONG WAY TO GO

Flinders Island, between Victoria and Tasmania where Clive and Lee McMahon come from, has about as many people living there as we have at Maningrida. One day we hope that Maningrida people working on their own "Stations" and gardens can grow and gather enough from the land and sea to earn a good living without too much outside help. Given below is what the Flinders Islanders were able to send away in one year.

76,476 sheep to Tas. and Vic.	75,990 Lb shark
6,861 cattle	157,325 Mutton Birds
6,186 Bales of wool	67½ Tons Butter
365,000 Lb crayfish	
263,272 Lb abalone	

Lot of stuff, isn't it ?

From "Island News"

WELL DONE MEN

It is very hard for a balanda person to write about something like last weekend at Maningrida. Balanda's can only look in and understand a little bit of all the things that are happening when Aboriginal countrymen who have not seen each other for a long time come together to talk and dance and sing.

Myself I saw a lot of good dancing and singing and many happy people. Many of the Aboriginal people I spoke to were very happy - The Bamyili men did not want to go home. We can just say that it was a very successful weekend, Bamyili want to have the same show at their place next year - and then we will see people from other places - maybe Hooker Creek and the fine dancing men from Port Keats.

For now we say farewell to our friends from other places, we hope that this is just the beginning and thank you to the many people, Balanda and Aboriginal who worked so hard to make this weekend so good.

Dan Gillespie.

MORE PEOPLE

Dave Parrish, his wife Merle and son Gavin made a lightning visit from Milingimbi to view last weekend's dancing. Dave is a teacher over there, he was very impressed with much of Maningrida and hopes to visit again shortly.

The teacher who accompanied the Bamyili dancers was David Puffet, son of Dennis Puffet, one time Fisheries man and a former Maningrida - Darwin commuter. Dave had news of Wild Child Bill Armstrong who is apparently still wild and making regular attempts at self destruction with his 500cc motorcycle.

New residents at Guyun - the fine old dancer Jolly Laiwanga and his virtuoso bamboo man David Blanas - plus 2 other Bamyili defectors. They intend to stay for a while, giving out the good music, then moving on to see relatives at Oenpelli.

One Bamyili man slept through Tuesday's departure scene and missed his truck - he is a temporary resident with Jack Mentja.

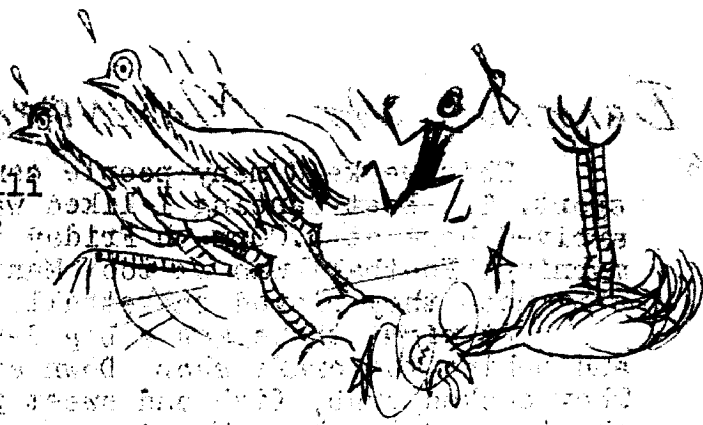
Jimmy Gulerawuna drove across to Ngangalala on Monday in Dick Smith's utility to see his mother and took the Ngangalala dancers. The gear box began to feel sick as they neared the end of the run. So Jim came home with some surveyors on Thursday and left the utility for hospital treatment.

Mrs Mary Smith of the Crafts Council of Australia came on Wednesday to see the work of the artists and craftsmen. She also came to look into the Progress Association's application for financial help to employ a full time supervisor in Arts and Crafts.

5. GOBULLOBILLI

GARDENS

On Sunday morning, we there-all Jinang people and some Burada people. Half way near Gobullobilli Crossing, Phyllis saw three Emus. They were running fast beside the road. Then Robert, he shot one Emu by a running shot with the shotgun. All the girls and boys they were very happy for Emu, for the meat to eat our lunch at the Gobullobilli Creek.



Then we came to Gobullobilli Gardens. I saw a good Garden made by Robert. Then I went looking for the fish in the river, I saw too many fish. After that we went to another Billabong and also I saw too many fish there. Then Robert and Dick Smith they were going down into the water to get some fish for us with Aboriginal Nets. They got too many fish. Some we cooked for us and we ate them all up, because we were very hungry. Some we brought to give to our parents. And I saw good places for living there at anytime. When I will have a big holiday I will go there, and I will stay there for one month. Because I like that place. It is a good and nice place, and there are too many fish there, then we came back little bit darkness time, and I was still thinking about fish. The boys and girls they were looking for Turtles and some kids were swimming and I saw them, too many children there at Gobullobilli Creek. But next Saturday I will go to the same place.

G. Garawani



BOYS

- A. Tuesday 19th September 1972.
- S. Gumurrgurra 36 defeated Jumbulowa 28.
- K. Burada 2 defeated Nakara 0 Because Nakara did not turn up.
- E. Monday Mens Basketball
- T. Banyili 39 defeated Maningrida 31
- B. Highest scorers were Cyril (B) 11 points.
- A. Grade Basket Ball.
- B. Banyili 47 defeated Maningrida 38
- A. Highest scorers were: Talbot (B) 11 points
- A. Brian (B) 10 points.

- L. Next weeks games.
- L. 7.00 Nakara Vs Jumbulowa
- L. 8.00 Gumurrgurra Vs Burada.

Toby.

FISH TALES

Since the last column not a lot of fish have been caught, but what have been caught have been good fish. Greg Hore landed a 15lb barra, his personal best. On Wednesday during my lunch hour fishing from Fisheries Point I had 4 casts for 4 strikes and landed a 10lb and a 32lb barra. The 32lb is my best to date but there are bigger barra swimming off Fisheries Point.

Ken Trewin tells me he had a trip to the stone country and while fishing for barra had numerous strikes but each time the barra threw the lure as they jumped clear of the water.

Seeing that barra are in the news this week - a few facts and the best method to catch one. Barramundi or "Giant Perch" live in both salt and fresh water. There is a lot of argument as to whether the barra breeds in fresh or salt water. Most believe that they travel from the fresh to the salt during the wet season. The barra around this area seem to bite better on the run in tide, feeding on small mullet and prawns in the shallows around the rocky outcrops. So ideally small live mullet and prawns are the best bait, but most of us have neither the net or patience to catch the bait, so artificial lures such as the Reb 2, Abu-killer and Hi-lo are a good substitute, though they will not net the same quantity of fish as live bait. Barra have been caught on dead bait, but you are more likely to catch rubbish, like catfish and sharks. (Next week we'll have a look at salmon, which they tell me should be in, in a month or so.)

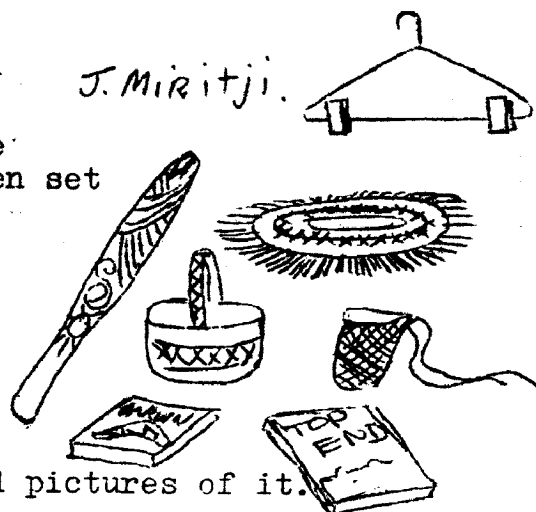
N.P.

7. Seeing Sydney

by J. Miritji.

After the war, when aboriginals were still wards and when the settlements had been set up, I was working in Darwin with Patrol Officers. Mr Jerry Long, a District Welfare Officer, was organizing a display for the Royal Easter Show in Sydney.

The display consisted of many artifacts that Aboriginal people use. These included a woomera, a mat, a basket, dilly bags and also some books on the Northern Territory which discussed Darwin and showed pictures of it.



Jerry Long arranged for Don White of the Malak Malak tribe at Daly River Mission and myself to go to Sydney to assist with the display. My boss, Trevor Millikins, another patrol officer, asked me if I was willing to go.

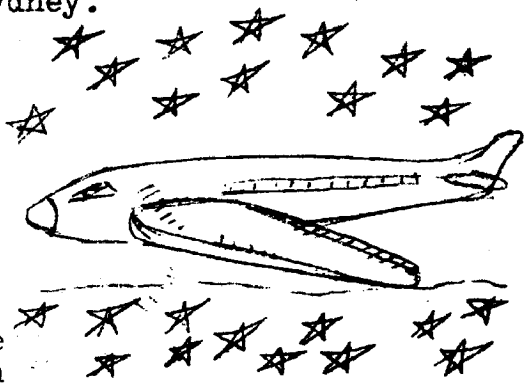
I said "Yes, I'll go."

The Patrol Officers bought our clothes and explained such things as how to wear a tie.

Early next day we left Bagot Settlement and went to the airport in a Commonwealth car. Jerry Long met us there. We saw the BOAC jet in which we were flying to Sydney. The flight number and time of departure were called over the public address system and we boarded the plane. It was my first trip.

I found it very cold and was shivering. We flew from Darwin to Mt Isa where the plane was refuelled. From there we went to Brisbane. The plane was refuelled again. We saw many people and big buildings. I'd never seen such big buildings or so many crowds of people in my life. I started to get homesick. We wanted to stay at Brisbane but Jerry Long told us to go back to the plane. Then we flew to Melbourne. In Melbourne we had a cup of coffee and then went on to Sydney, arriving about 7.00 o'clock.

I looked at the lights of Sydney and thought they were just like the stars. Don and I were afraid. We thought we were too near the lights as the plane was landing. We asked Jerry Long what was happening. He said that we were nearly in Sydney. We landed at the airport and a Commonwealth car took us to the hotel in the city. Two African men were introduced to us, and their employer.



Two people, who were in charge of the hotel, showed us inside. We lived there for a while and every morning we were picked up by a Commonwealth car and taken to the show-grounds where we exhibited items from the Northern Territory. We saw many other people doing the same thing for the areas from which they came. There were four of us - two African men and Don and I. We didn't like the crowded city of Sydney but we had to stay there in order to work for the display.

We were shown the sights of Sydney and we went on trams, lifts buses and ferries. We visited the Taronga Park Zoo and saw the many animals there. We went on a train trip. When we returned to the hotel, we watched television. Don and I wondered if we'd go to see a film but Jerry Long suggested we did not go by ourselves in such a big city. Instead we all went together with the hotel manager and his wife.

We stayed in the hotel for about two weeks before we all went our separate way. The African men and their employer returned to Africa while Don and I went to Darwin. We were very glad to be back.

* * * * *

GRIDIAN GROUP:

Next meeting is on Wednesday night 27th - time 7.30pm at Meryl Hassell's home.

Meryl and Kay.

WEEKEND
DUTIES

Duty Officer: Mr. Brolga
 Duty Sister: Sister Betty
 Duty Policeman: Mr. Perkins (Night)
 Mr. Cox (Day)

★ THEATRE

Friday: "Hippodrome" Gerhard Reidman and Margaret Nunke. A large cast of international circus stars are featured in this spectacular story of the Big Top. Laugh with Dody the clown. Thrill to Camerons amazing sharp shooting act. Hold your breath as Beatrice enters the tiger cage to perform her graceful dance eight snarling beasts awaiting the opportunity that will come. Don't trust Rudy, the tiger trainer


Saturday "Donovan's Reef" with John Wayne, Lee Marvin and Elizabeth Allen. John Ford's comedy adventure film on location in the South Seas, based on original material by James A. Mitchener. The rousing rollicking story of Donovan and his buddies who stay on after the War.

CHURCH

Sunday: 9.45am Sunday Schools
 7.15pm Evening Service, Preacher Mr. Hassall

Tuesday: 7.30pm Choir Practice

In The United Church there has been some concern that Australia belongs to S.E.Asia, and the Church in North Australia is far closer to Indonesia than to the Southern States. Rev. Gordon Symons and Graeme Bucknall visited Timor in mid-year to make official contact with the Church Leaders. They reported that "There was a very intense and obvious interest in the Church in North Australia, and particularly the work among the Aborigines. Many pertinent questions were asked." The Moderator of the Protestant Evangelical Church of Timor will come to Australia to meet congregations here next year.

Approaching Marriage... 

Mr. John Reister and Miss Betty Conaglen have decided upon Saturday October 7th as their wedding day. Father Bryan Healey will officiate at the service in the Maningrida Church commencing at 4pm. Betty is expecting some friends from New Zealand to be here for the occasion.

Birth

Doris daughter born to Dugalwanga and Peter Maralwanga on approx. August 26th in the bush.

People



Sister Helen Miller has been having a rough time with her back and has been a patient in her own hospital at Theodore, and at Rockhampton. "Acute Sciatic" the doctors say. Helen says "its much better than it was" Heather is still a bit "stumpy" but Cathy has grown so much that you wouldn't recognise her.

Mr. Graham McKay is travelling along the Roper with Ray Wood (incl. Mianoru, Mountain Valley etc) doing a survey of Aboriginal languages spoken there and gathering word lists.

Carol and Liz are sharind a flat in Mosman, Sydney. Liz. is teaching at Darlington Infants School. Carol is teaching at Lewisham Primary. Her work involves teaching English as a secong language to migrant children - Greeks, Italians, Turks, Arabs, Egpptians, Jordanians, Portuguese, and lower Slabarans.

MEETING

Monday 7.30pm Parents & Friends Assoc at the school. We want you there for your suggestions. The Asociation is responsible for the expenditure of quite a large sum of money each year, and everyone should voice their opinions as to how this finance should be spent. Any newcomers to Maningrida would be most welcome.

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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