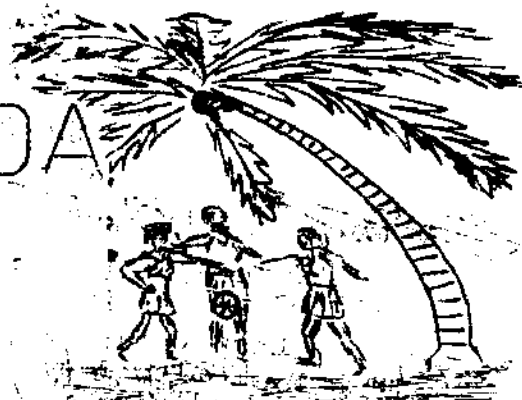


# MANINGRIDA

## MIRAGE

VOL. 91

Friday July 2nd 1964



### More of the Old time Dances

Mr. Lance Binnett, the director of the Aboriginal Theatre Foundation, visited Maningrida for two days this week.

The Foundation is trying to revitalise and preserve aspects of aboriginal culture in Northern Australia, especially dancing and singing. They hope to interest young people in traditional music so it will remain strong and not be lost with the passing of the older men.

Lance has spent some time at Maningrida and Milingimbi before and many people remembered him and were pleased to see him. He spoke to the Council and held another meeting on Tuesday night to outline the Foundation's ideas. Most people were very enthusiastic about the plans and many men joined the Foundation.

The Foundation's plans for the future include inter-community visits by dancing groups and the teaching of dance and song in schools.

Lance has recently been to Port Keats and to Western Australia. He said that this year two dancing groups from Western Australia will be at the Eisteddfod and Arnhemland dancers should be interested to watch them in action.

Lance will now visit W.A. again and then visit the settlements and missions of Arnhemland to speak to the dancers and singers there. He hopes to return to Maningrida in about 2 months for a longer visit and possibly to establish a local committee.

Lance's visit seems to have already had some effects - on Tuesday night Paddy Jatjangu led a very lively Mandjala session which included some remarkable displays from that well-known nightwatchman Mr. Michael Ngulakyja and on Wednesday night the Gunwingu men were dancing some Mini stories under the leadership of the inimitable Caruso Guningbal.

D.G.

### Our Girls do Well

Opportunities for our school children to participate in Inter-School competitions are limited because of isolation and the resulting high cost of transportation. Grade 5 girls made the trip to Elcho for only \$64 and this seems to be an ideal way of fostering inter-school relationships.

The girls were billeted in staff residences, where they had all meals except lunch, which was eaten at school. Activities included a tour of the station, a party on Monday night, films and the basketball games.

On Monday afternoon, our team played 3 teams from Elcho including their top team. Maningrida girls, though considerably smaller, played vigorous basketball and won all games. A large crowd gathered for the main match on Tuesday afternoon and our girls weren't disgraced by losing 18-22.

Elcho Island is beautiful - tall natural trees, hills and plenty of space. The people are friendly, and our girls wanted to stay longer. It is hoped that similar excursions can be made in the future.

P.W.

# Wombana Men

The Secretary of the Hooker Creek Village Council, Mr. Morris Djuburula, and Councillor Sandy Djabaldjaridjara wish to thank the President, Mr. Tom Yibberal, and all the councillors for their help and friendship during the visit of the Hooker Creek men last week.

Morris was most impressed by

- (a) the houses. A large number of people are living in houses. He intends to tell his people about the self-help houses and the Housing Association.
- (b) The Council Meeting. When Councillors speak they begin by addressing "Mr. President". He felt that this was a good custom and would introduce it to Hooker Creek.

The men were also interested in the Cadell garden and other projects that the people are running themselves.

Hooker Creek call their Progress Association "WOMBANA". Their theatre is "Wombana Theatre". Wombana is the name of the little wallaby who has a dreaming place at Hooker Creek.

Their truck is called "DJIKALANDJI" - the whistling hawk - because the truck whistles along the road.

When the MIRAGE reaches its second birthday, it would be good if we gave it an aboriginal name, "Maningrida .....,??"

## One Way of Stopping a fight.

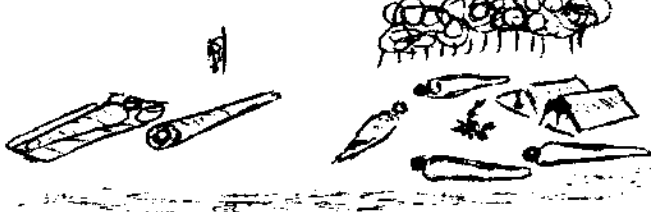
Recently some trouble flared up among people living near the beach. Women were "talking hard" and waving sticks. Men in the nearby workshops looked up to watch the approaching battle.

Then one of the onlookers saw a canoe manned by half a dozen small 2 or 3 years old hunters being carried by the tide further and further from shore. He yelled and pointed at the canoe. Everyone turned to look at the drifting children and began to worry.

Peter Waynunga who was at the beach, dived into the water and swam out to the sailors whose daring had now given way to tears. All the hard words stopped and menacing sticks fell to the ground. Shortly after, the canoe and its crew were paddled to the shore.



## Scouts and Cubs



A few weeks ago the Scouts chose a camp site in the bush a few miles east of Maningrida. They then set about clearing and preparing the site with great gusto.

Last Saturday they had their first camp there. A midnight supper, followed by a gradual dropping off to sleep put everyone in good form for waking Scoutmaster Alan Grieve with the question: "Where's breakfast?" The lucky fellows had barramundi and coffee! After breakfast further work was done on the camp site. The boys wish to thank all who helped with food and transport.

### Well Deserved Honour for Skip

News has been received from the District Commissioner that Senior Scout Leader John Wilders has been awarded the Long Service Decoration, for scouting in Holland and Australia.

### Beaver Badges

At this week's Cub meeting Rodger, Trevor, John A. and Evan received their Beaver badges. Three or four other boys are well on the way toward each earning 33 for jobs done.

# Birdwatcher.

We welcome an experienced birdwatcher to this column, Mr. Jack Gardiner. Jack belongs to the Royal Australian Ornithological (birds) Union and has seen eighty different kinds of birds around Meningrida.

## Whistling Kite

When you visit the rubbish dump you cannot help but notice the large eagles that seem to live there. They are, in fact, Whistling Kites, and are given this name because of their loud whistling call uttered on the wing or when perched. The whistle is usually followed by a rapid series of short ascending notes. They are scavengers and have a special liking for dead fish. They are trusting and inoffensive birds.

J.G.



## ELCHO GIFT THEIR GAME

To let the boys get used to the court and the baskets a practice game was played on Monday afternoon.

Sam and Albert grabbed the initiative and potted many quick baskets; this must have disheartened Elcho a bit because they were very slow to fire. Towards the end of the first half they put on a burst and were only two points down at half time.

In the second half both teams looked tired and many shots went astray; School were able to make a few more count and so this game ended up a 54 to 32 win to School and the stage was set for a thrilling main game Tuesday night.

TUESDAY. With lots of cheering spectators around the court, a really exciting atmosphere was created. From the jump ball, the boys were into it. Elcho made another slow start and this let Sam and Albert again knock up a quick lead; Elcho got in the swing and fought back trailing 18 to 34 at half time. The second half saw Elcho passing the ball and looking for the breaks and making points count. Some beautiful baskets from Timothy saved School in what was a very entertaining and hard-fought game. The final score 50 to 42 shows how close it was in the last half.

Congratulations to Timothy as best and fairest, and Sam for fine shooting and to Rendhekpuy of Elcho for his points score and team play.

This gave Meningrida School two wins and ended a very enjoyable visit from which both teams must have gained some new friends and created goodwill between the schools.

R. Pink.

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

23rd July      SHOW DAY  
2nd August      PICNIC DAY

## A GOOD SIGN

Since the opening of the post office many more letters from aboriginal people are being sent and received, particularly among the boys at the Scout Hall. Mrs. Dickfoss says that it's quite usual for a boy to post a couple of letters a week.

### Who is the wise mother?

On a cold morning

Later

☀ at dinner time.



Baby with no clothes  
"Mother has warm"



Mother and Baby  
both with warm clothes.



Baby with  
only pants on.



Baby all covered  
in warm clothes.

WEEKEND DUTIES: Duty Officer: Mr Bill Beckett  
Duty Sister: Sister Christine  
Nightwatchman: JACK JOHN.

STAR THEATRE: Friday: EXPECTED TODAY  
Saturday:

CHURCH: Sunday 9.30 a.m. Sunday Schools "-Love- fruit of the Spirit"  
7.00 p.m. Evening Service. Film "Dawn of Victory" and another film about the work of the World Council of Churches in India.

When we are friendly with some one, we like to be with them, we are happy when we do something to please them and sorry when we do what hurts them.

Love toward God is much the same.

We like to keep in touch with Him by prayer and worship.

We try to please Him by helping others. We remember His words and try to carry them out in our life. When we do wrong we have failed Him but He is ready to receive us back into His Friendship with forgiveness.

+:+++++

BIRTHS:

Lonnice Marco - daughter for Kayleen and Rodney Leymour born at Lady Musgrave Hospital Maryborough Qld. on 24/6/71.

PEOPLE:

Sister Cec. received word at the weekend that her sister Mrs Padge Ingram had fallen from an unfinished bridge in New Guinea and a stake had pierced her lung. There has been some improvement in her condition but Padge is still very seriously ill. She may be flown South for further treatment.

Allan and Padge were at Maningrida 1963-66 and used to live where Eddy and Sister Cec. live now.

Bunappi who literally travels to every place Darwin, East Arm, Milingimbi Ngangalala, Elcho, Maningrida ..... is spending some time with Maningrida relatives in Jack Miritji's household.

Mr Daniel Jangaywara, who used to work in the kitchen was out at Navy Landing last week and had a stroke there. He is in the hospital.

Schoolboys Bob, Basil, Ted and Tony are being prepared for their initiation ceremonies - possibly finishing this week end.

Readers who paid thier "Mirage" money this week.

Mrs Tom Eperjosy (for 2 years)  
Mrs E. Jones (for 1 year)  
Mr Joe Gridara  
Mr Tom Wogbara

Mr Glen Bagshaw  
Mrs Elva Dickfoss  
Mrs Susan Malagrid

The treasurer is now 'Jack' Gardiner.

People cont.:

Shopassistant, Mrs Ganwarbi is in Darwin waiting for her baby to come.  
Councillors Tom Tibbels, Billy Ditingin and Jack John are due to travel to Barkly to meet the Council there.

**Maningrida Mirage**

AIATSIS Library, RS 29.7/2

"Maningrida Mirage Volume 91" July 2nd, 1971.

Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

(r000005900888\_v91\_a.pdf)

To cite this file use:

[http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/lbry/dig\\_prm/indigenousnewsletters/maningrida/pdf/1971/r000005900888\\_v91\\_a.pdf](http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/lbry/dig_prm/indigenousnewsletters/maningrida/pdf/1971/r000005900888_v91_a.pdf)

© Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community