

PLAS
LIBRARY



John Hunter, Projects Officer from DAA Darwin has been touring around the bush stations. He has offered the Mirage his personal journal of his travels to give us some up to date news on the outstations. Here are some interesting extracts.

May 14th. Nakalamandjarar (Navy Landing)

There were a number of Nakara people camped at Nakalamandjarar, all were camping on the eastern extremity of the sand bank which separates the creek from the ocean. Being a very exposed area the mosquito hazard is reduced considerably at the expense of some other advantages, namely proximity of firewood and drinking water and daytime shade. Supper that evening comprised grey threadfin (ANBULABINYA) and long yam (MUNBANDA) - the latter having been gathered that day by the women in the jungle behind BERAJA (eastern side of ANAMAIYARA). This fish, an excellent table variety was caught on hand lines by Andy Hazel and some of the bigger boys - there were several fish taken, maybe 15-20 lbs in all, some being consumed for supper whilst the remainder were consumed for breakfast. An abundance of bush food was evident in the camp - anbulabinya, munbunda, catfish (MULALI) and shellfish (Anbombula and Andarabula).

Tommy Yibberal of course had brought supplies of store goods from Maningrida so the children feasted on Tarax and biscuits leaving the local produce to the rest of us.

May 16th, - Up at about 7.00am Andy Hazel went fishing and obliged with another anbulabinya which was thrown on the coals for breakfast. I went to record details of local residents and to observe the clinic, conducted by the local health worker, Mickey Gunjangawui, son of the local land owner Mick Jundaingu. Mickey is equipped with medical supplies and instruments from Maningrida but was unable to demonstrate his expertise that morning as no-one was ill or requested any treatment. He told me that the major problems were coughs and abrasions in that order but that there were two people on regular treatment for T.B., George Irindilli & Ms. Minnie Manajarli

By this it was about 8.00am and most of the ladies had set off to collect barramundi (from Mr. Jack Nabuleiya) who was camping at BERAJA. I visited the well (same one as last year) about 400 yds from the sleeping camp. It is a rainwater sump in a depression in the sand dunes and is a permanent and useful supply for a small resident group (70 - 80 people were using it last year with no problems).

Mr. Nabulciyas arrival (with 4 barramundi grossing about 30lbs) made it possible to start a meeting which was held under the RULA (Casuarina) trees. Following points were recorded:-

- 1) Living places - the senior men did not wish to return to Rocky Point where they had lived at the end of last year. They intended to remain at Nakalamandjarar.
- 2) They wished to harvest and market fish to improve their income (this is entirely possible with requisite support.
- 3) They decided to use their grant to purchase a tractor and trailer.
- 4) They were concerned at not being able to have beer supplies at

Nakalamandjarar.

In following Mirages we will attempt to bring you John's impressions of the situation in all the other outstations. Unfortunately space (and the paper crisis, and our solvency crisis) does not permit us to print John's journals in full. However we will try to ensure that our readers are given a good picture of what many people believe to be the most interesting and important development in Aboriginal self determinations for many years - the return to traditional countries.

D.G.

CASH FROM CRAFTWORK

An interesting aspect emerging from John Hunter's study of the bush stations is the dependance of the bush people on the craft shop to provide them with income to purchase store goods from Maningrida - mostly bulk carbohydrates to supplement their flesh diet taken off the land.

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>PERIOD</u>	<u>GROSS INCOME</u>
MANDARRG (a painter living approx 60 mls south)	1.7.73 -14.12.73	\$1001.55
CADELL (gardens)	25.1.73 -17.5.74	\$1479.75
BOTGADI(Cadell crossing)	6.4.74 -17.5.74	\$ 107.80
GUYUN	21.8.73 - 2.5.74	\$ 699.20
NAKALAMANDJARAR (Navy Landing)	11.8.73 -12.4.74	\$1118.75
MARAGULIDBAN (Liverpool River)	16.9.73 - 8.5.74	\$2348.85
MOMEGA (Liverpool River)	22.3.73 - 8.5.74	\$3032.15
KOPANGA (Blyth R)	5.1.73 -18.5.74	\$1021.70
MANAKODOK = AJIRRIPA (eastern side Blyth R.)	5/1.73 -18.5.74	\$4574.20
MOGANERA (east of Blyth R)	5.1.73 -18.5.74	\$1381.15

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FOR SALE:

Steel framed compact bedding designed for and used in long wheel base 4wd. vehicle. Consists of foam rubber 6" deep covered with blue vinyl.

Contact Roger Elliot.

ARCHIVES - needs your help

The Editors are appealing to anyone who has a complete set of the Maningrida Mirage. There are several copies missing from our archives, due to the many changes of editorial committees in the recent past. If anyone does have a complete set, or all the copies printed in 1973, would you please contact either Dan Gillespie or Gladys Pascoe. We would appreciate a loan of them so that we can take some copies of them and then fulfil our orders.

We promise to take extreme care of them.

Editors.

Something Else To Think About.

I suppose we all have our pet hates. You hear people criticizing smokers because they smoke, drinkers because they drink and racists because of their prejudice. My pet hate is criticism. Destructive criticism. The kind you hear every day of the week, from everyone you meet.

Everyone knows how to criticize the wrong way. How often do you hear someone with a cigarette in his mouth or a beer in his hand giving their considered opinion on drug addiction. Everyone has his own opinion about what is wrong with the way things are today. A small number have a practical idea of the way things should be but very few have both new ideas and the courage to actively bring their ideas into existence.

It all comes back to criticism. Criticism is the art of careful judgement (straight from the dictionary.) I think the word careful must be stressed. Criticism is a dangerous tool. I have heard subtle hints described as a chisel for delicately moulding a situation. It follows that criticism is more like a hammer destroying good and bad alike. It takes some pretty good first aid in the form of practical suggestions and sound ideas to rebuild what has been torn down.

Racial criticism is probably the most useless and damaging of all. The people who call aboriginals "Coons, Boongs, Blacks or Apes" don't really worry me. Those who do worry me are the people who think the ignorant ones who use such derogatory terms are the norm and judge white society by them. They hold the ignorant people up as a banner and feel proud because they recognise another's prejudice. What they do not realise is that by establishing the ignorant people as a standard they undermine the authority of those who are doing constructive work on the aboriginals behalf. Before you criticize, ask yourself whether the good you think you are going to do outweighs the bad you don't know about.

Criticism should be constructive. Tear down anything you like but be sure you can defend your ideas with sound reasoning and maybe a little bit of experience. I think it is a good thing to have our values rearranged once in while. It would be a dull world if we lived in a continuous Victorian Era but a permanent permissive society would soon lose its attraction too. Those who think we can find a satisfactory mean between the two are not really thinking. The only satisfactory state for a normal person is a state of change. It is really up to you. Your opinion, and in voicing your opinion, your criticism are what set the standards of today. Think for yourself and do something constructive with what you've got.

Gary Moriarty

Footnote:

I don't think the article we printed last week from Rosemary Waslters was destructive criticism. I felt that her argument was well reasoned, concise and constructive.

You say Gary that people who call aboriginals "Coons, Boongs etc. don't worry you. You are not an Aboriginal and you are not being called those names.

The fact is that racist expletives like those and worse are par for the course in Maningrida. We seem to have our fair share of racists in the community. While I realize that there are plenty of people who are doing constructive work for Aboriginal people in the community, it is folly to think that the element of racism is insignificant or that it will just go away if we ignore it.

It was in this spirit that we carried last week's story.

Dan Gillespie.

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MESSAGE FROM SCRUMTH:

The Town Hall committee met on Wednesday and have decided to amend the rule concerning the Balcony. During pictures people are now allowed up there providing they are behaved. Children are not allowed unless accompanied by an adult. The projectionist at the time will have complete authority over this matter.

S.C.R.U.M.T.H.

SCHOOL STORIES:

The school has two new staff members. Steven Joseph has joined as a Manual Arts instructor and Gerald Sellinger, a newcomer to Maningrida has taken over Grade 6/7. A single lady teacher is due to arrive very soon.

Hockey--one--two--three. This Saturday morning on the cricket oval at 10 am. Men women and kids welcome. Remember you don't have to be a superstar to play and have some exercise, fun and bruises.

From Grade 3: Kurt and Roland will go to the jungle.....KURT
Tommy looks at the bird..... ANTHONY
I see an emu.....LILLIAN
I see a snake.....TOMMY
All the boys went to the jungle and we saw a bird. We went swimming and we went in the boat.....WILLIE

PUPPET SHOW: PUPPET SHOW: PUPPET SHOW: PUPPET SHOW: PUPPET SHOW:
The Territory division of the Arts Council is sponsoring a tour of the Performing Puppet Company. They will visit Maningrida on Monday the 10th of June. The company is presenting a show based on the events of a Cobb and Co. journey. The puppet characters include "Mrs. Bumble", Ossie the talking koala, frog and kangaroo. The puppeteers--Peter Oldham, Joseph Newey, and Leonora Beyaek-- are experienced in entertaining children (and adults)

Performances are scheduled for 2pm and 3pm on the 10th June.
Students 20cents. Adults 40cents

M. Ivison

Parents + Friends meeting,
Tuesday 4th June - Resource Centre.

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LANGUAGE WORK AT BERRIMAH:

Two weeks ago I talked with Raymond Bantichi and Charlie Jardula at Berrimah. They showed me the work they had done and were happy with it. Raymond and Charlie wrote Burada stories and did drawings. The stories and drawings are going in a book for everyone to read. The stories are written in English also for everyone to read.

BURADA WORKSHOP.

In September Ms. Kathy Glasgow will live in Maningrida. She is having Burada for people who want it. Some people will learn reading Burada. Some people will become teachers of Burada. Some people will write Burada stories.

Tell Johnny Gwiabaga or Norman Angulagula if you want to go.

Roger Elliot

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ART WORKSHOP:

A mini workshop will be conducted in the School Art Centre Wednesday from

7.30 to 9.30. We will dabble in a little candle making, tie dye, batik and leathercraft, in fact feel free to dabble in whatever is available in the art centre. The main problem is shortage of materials--the few materials we have we would like to reserve till after the foto--so you can learn the techniques of some of the above crafts on gear to be sold at the foto. However, each person should be able to go home with at least one item. There will be a small charge for materials used in the take home items.

CANDLECRAFT: If you would like to make candles bring along some ordinary candles to be melted down and remoulded and if you have old coloured ones or bits of, better still.

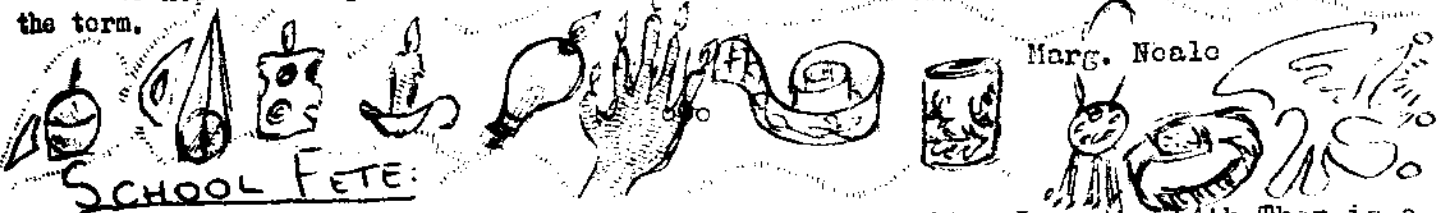
TIEDYE and BATIK: We will practice on school T-shirts for the foto and learn a few tricks. (no charge). If you have a small item you would like to print o.g. wall

(cont. from Page 4.)

hanging, cushion cover, t-shirt, pillowslip etc. bring it along. Charge 50 cents for dyes

LEATHERCRAFT: We can sell you a piece of leather for such items as watchbands, belts, pendants, stubby coolers...charge 50cents to \$1. We will be able to accommodate 12 people only. So those interested let me know before Thursday.

We hope to do pottery, jewellery making macrame and other activities later in the term.



SCHOOL FETE:

A reminder for the school fete to be held on Friday June the 14th. There is a greater variety of items for sale this year...ie there is something for everybody. There will be.....

TUCKER: Popcorn, icecream, drinks, sweets, cakes, hotdogs and tea.

CLOTHING: Tie-dyed batik and silkscreened clothing, beads, novelty candles, decorated bottles, paperflowers, colourful rubbish cans & 2nd hand clothing. There are also many new items such as potholders, patchwork quilts, cushions, laundry tidies, kitchen ware, table cloths, place mat sets etc.

TOYS 'N' THINGS: Lucky dips, balloons, chewing gum, rubbers, biros, toys, comics, books and magazines.

NOVELTY GAMES: Raffles, hoopla, knock-em-downs, darts, chocolate wheel, greasy pole, paint wheel, a spear throwing competition and a photographic booth.

Help to make the day a success and come along---the school needs your support.



FORESTRY NEWS:

More and more pale faced and wretched refugees, evicted from a Berrimah broom cupboard, are being sent to join the forlorn little band now squatting at Bamboo Creek. The United Nations is airfreighting out some cross filing indexes and inter-office memos to keep them amused until a decision is made on their future.

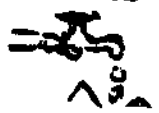
The helicopter to be used by Forestry arrived Tuesday. It will be used by the team checking commercial timber prospects between the Cadell and Blyth River areas. The party will use the helicopter for transport to spots that are inaccessible to vehicles and it will greatly assist in the large area that is being investigated. Growth rates and density patterns of Cypress pines are also being studied by extracting core samples from the trunk of the trees.

Burning off has now started to protect Maningrida from its inhabitants. The bitterly cold weather has however inhibited burning. Those fortunate enough to spend a day in the country, will have doubtless noticed the extensive gravelling of roads that has taken place in the last week or so. All roads suffered badly in the record Wet and will need a lot work to put them into shape.

TROPICAL FREEZE:

According to our weatherperson Jean Canning the temperature last Monday night fell to 13°C....that works out at about 55.4°F according to our computer.

Can old residents remember temperatures lower than this. We'd like to hear any stories of water freezing in Maningrida's taps in the cold snaps of yesteryear.



Church Notes

On Sunday evening service at 7.50pm there will be celebrating of the Lord's Supper in the Church. We extend our invitation to all who love the Lord and have charity with your neighbours to take part in this Communion service.

Theme of study for the week: "The Books of the Law". Read Genesis 17 and Exodus 20 before Sunday. Thank you.

The rest of the programs in church activities remain the same.

WAIT AND PONDER: Galatians 5:22-24.

22 But the spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 humility and self control. there is no law against such things as these. 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have put to death their human nature, with all its passions and desires.

On duty this weekend...

DUTY SISTER: Sister Bernadette

DUTY OFFICER: Mr. Eddy Carey.

Star Theatre :-

Friday:

See the notice board

Saturday:

Clearance Sale

ON THE WEEKEND OF 1st and 2nd June, at CLIVE McMAHON'S PLACE.

1 motor bike (Suzuki) not registered	\$40.00	cushions, pillows, blankets	
1 Mixmaster with attachments	\$50.00	bedside lights	
1 clothes horse	\$ 2.00	1 child's chair	\$ 3.00
1 Infra red lamp	\$10.00	1 hydraulic jack	\$10.00
1 HMV Stereo Radiogram	\$200.00	1 T.V. table :	\$ 1.00
1 Esky picnic fridge		1 picnic set	
1 set bathroom scales	\$ 6.00	kitchen scales	
plastic bins with lids (10 & 5 gallons)		1 electric jug	
1 Mini Moke - 12 months registration	\$600.00	1 coffee percolator	
some linen & towels		1 food mincer	
2 Double Bed quilts		numerous kitchen utensils	
1 Single Bed quilt		1 slot car set	\$20.00
1 pedal rubbish bin		1 table lamp and shade	\$ 6.00
water bottles		1 electric pop-up toaster	\$ 5.00
1 Single Bed rubber mattress		groceries - 1/2 price	
picnic eskys		1 garden tressel and bench seats - large	\$20.00
1 electric sewing machine		other miscellaneous articles.	

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