

Memorable Experience for Murrin Bridge Girls



Firm bonds of friendship were formed when eight lucky girls from Murrin Bridge Aboriginal Station recently spent six days in Sydney as guests of pen-friends at Blakehurst Primary School.

The great adventure started earlier in the year when Mrs. M. Cleal, a teacher at Blakehurst, wrote to the Aborigines Welfare Board asking for the name of a school with which her pupils could correspond.

Mrs. Cleal was referred to the Murrin Bridge Primary School. Murrin Bridge is about nine miles from Lake Cargelligo in the central west of New South Wales, and about 360 miles from Sydney.

The letters began last March and April, and the upshot was that the Blakehurst girls thought it would be nice if their pen-friends could come to Sydney so that they could meet in person.

In Sydney the Murrin Bridge girls were billeted in the homes of their pen-friends.

The visitors (with hosts in brackets) were:

Patricia Johnson (Christine Hiland); Raylene Johnson (Lynne Rouse); Evelyn Johnson (Rosslyn English); Coral Parkes (Jennifer Isles); Theresa



Above: The Murrin Bridge team with (at rear, left to right) the Blakehurst Headmaster, Mr. J. Brakespear, Mrs. Cleal and Mr. Green

Below: Guests and hosts together, with Mrs. Cleal in the background