



*Mrs Munro being congratulated on her award by Mr Barry Rafter. Mr Rafter is Resident District Officer of the Child Welfare Department at Grafton and is Citizenship Director of Tamworth Apex Club. (Photo courtesy of Northern Daily Leader.)*

## CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

**The Apex Clubs of Tamworth and West Tamworth recently chose Mrs Florrie Munro as the Apex "Citizen of the Year" for 1972.**

Mrs Munro is better known to the local community as "Granny". She is a 77-year-old widowed pensioner and lives with her granddaughter at Oxley Vale. In addition to raising her own ten children she has been responsible for the upbringing of seven adopted children.

Mrs Munro has been associated with the Australian Inland Mission for 50 years and was responsible for the formation of the Tamworth branch of the AIM Ladies Fellowship. In 1913 she went to Tingha to work as a missionary, welfare worker and midwife and went from there to Tamworth in 1940.

She was responsible for the commencement of schoolteaching for Aboriginal children in the Ashford area. Although she received only three to four years schooling herself she organized and

taught the children for half a day for 5 days per week until proper schooling arrangements were organized.

The AIM Ladies Fellowship set up by her meets every week. Its primary aim is to seek out needy people in the Aboriginal community and to arrange assistance. One area of work associated with this Fellowship is the collecting of clothing and the forwarding of it to Aborigines at Tingha, Ben Lomond, Guyra, and Ashford.

Granny Munro is highly respected in the community to which she devotes her attention. She continues her work while struggling with less than good health.

Mrs Munro believes herself to be the last surviving member of the Kamilroi tribe which came from the Bundara/Tingha area. Mrs Munro married into the tribe. She can still speak the language and has worked with the University of New England in tape-recording it.