

- 3 JUL 1972



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# MANINGRIDA MIRAGE



VOL 133

Friday April 20. 1972

## MAVING A WHALE OF A TIME.

Although the sea was pretty choppy on Tuesday, Billy Yiriyin had a good catch around the reefs at Juda Point and Entrance Island. Their catch filled 5 trays! Trevally and mackerel caught from trawling and several varieties of rock fish on hand lines.

Out to sea Billy said that they saw a whale spouting "shooting up big smoke". He came from the direction of Namangora and was frightening the fish. Billy reckons that he was a long one 60' or 70'. In Dennis Puffett's time he went up to within 50 yards of a whale, and when Dennis said to him later "You ought to be careful" Billy replied "I don't mind, he's my friend" - the whale is his totem (dreaming). He says that there are whale bones at Nardilmug, the reddish cliffs near where the road comes out on to the Arafura Sea.

## BUILDING ON EVERY SIDE

If we look around Maningrida these days, it seems that everybody is building something:

- Bob Cross and his team of stalwarts are busy on the Town Hall now that the crane has overcome its slight illness and finished placing the steel framework.
- Charlie Godjua and Michael Dennis are putting the finishing touches to the self-service facilities in the Store.
- Jacky Pascoe and his merry men are busy producing standard and fancy cement bricks for the new hall in their modern factory up in the old stockyards.
- Skip continues to labour on the construction of the Carpenter Jimmy Memorial Highway and Overpass.
- Eagle Construction & Wolpers' troopers are approaching the end of their big job. Supervisor Phillip tells us that the Police Station, Court House, Jail and residences should be finished by next week, and the Preschool and Resources Centre at the school will be ready for use by the beginning of 2nd school term.
- There are also unconfirmed reports that Jim Pickersgill and Bob Collins are constructing a luxury motel out of surplus army blankets and 44 gallon drums at the Cadell Gardens.

D.G.

## To Dig

Betty Meehan (used to be Hiatt) has written to say that she will be coming back in late June to excavate prehistoric sites (dig up old camps) at Blyth River. She is going to drive out from Darwin and is accompanied by Mr. Rhys Jones, of the ANU. She hopes to stay at Blyth until early December, and wants some of the Anbara people to accompany her. Readers will recall that Miss Meehan visited Kupangu briefly, last, in August-September 1970, with Messrs. Guramanamana and Galbaranga and their wives.

## ANZAC COMMEMORATION

At the School on Monday April 24th at 10.30 a.m.

Citizens of Maningrida invited to attend.

# MEN'S BASKETBALL

RESULTS 13th April: Kupanga 58 defeated Garatpu 34  
M.P.A. 36 defeated Cape Stewart 34  
18th April; Kupanga 32 defeated M.P.A. 26  
Cape Stewart 50 defeated Pioneer 42

Many people said the basketball on Tuesday night was the best they had seen at Maningrida for a long time. This was because all four teams tried very hard to win. We were sorry to see Bob Stutchbury hurt and have to go to Darwin.

NOTE: Next week all players are asked to pay \$1.00 (school boys 50¢) to Tim or Lucky. You are only asked to pay ONCE. 50¢ will go to the Maningrida Sports Club, and the other 50¢ will be for the new basketball gear and maybetrophies at the end of the season.

NEXT WEEK Tuesday 25th. 7.00pm Cape Stewart Vs Cadell  
8.00pm Garatpu Vs Jinang  
Thursday 27th 8.00pm M.P.A. Vs Pioneers  
8.00pm Kupanga Vs Eagles

From next week, each team will be asked to say who is captain of their team. Then this man will be the only one allowed to talk to the umpires. In the last few weeks, too many men have been talking to umpires.

## GIRL GUIDES

The Maningrida Girl Guide Company is once again in operation. Each Thursday afternoon the thirty or so girls meet in the Scout Hall for a variety of activities. These range from the more serious aspects such as understanding the Guide Laws and Promise, to games, singing and tracking. Soon we hope to include cooking, sewing, camping out and community aid projects as part of our programme.

We are also planning a jumble sale to raise funds, so if you care to help by donating old clothing etc., the Guides would be grateful.

Heather Cross and Carol Davies.



## FROM THE SCHOOL

Headmaster, Dave Hassall has been in Darwin this week participating in a conference on the teaching of dis-advantaged and Aboriginal children. About 80 teachers from all parts of the Territory are attending, as well as local and interstate educational experts.

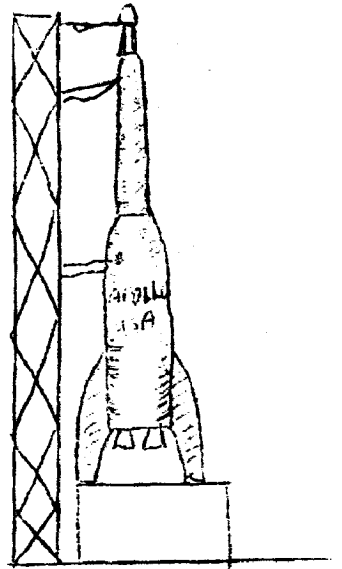
Manual Training Technical Instructor, Alan Grieve, had a bad fall off his motorbike whilst on route to Juda Pt. last Saturday. He got back to town and was evacuated on the Medical plane with possible bone damage in the leg. By the time you read this he may be back with us, but to date we have no information on his condition. We believe Alan had been contemplating some accident insurance, but unfortunately hadn't taken it out before his fall. We hope he will be back on deck soon.

On Tuesday at the school, acting headmaster Mick Uibo conducted a short remembrance assembly for the recently deceased wife of school yardman Barney Beibananga. As it was impractical for the whole school to attend the funeral, it was felt that this was an appropriate way for the school as a group to express our feelings for the lady and her relatives.

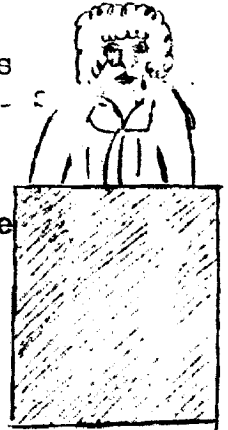
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# From The Newspapers

**OFF TO THE MOON:** Three more American men have gone in a rocket to the moon. They left the Earth early last Monday morning. Two men will go down to the moon in a small rocket ship while their friend goes round the moon in a bigger ship and waits for them. While they are there they will pick up many pieces of rock and dirt to bring home so we can learn more about the moon. They will drive around on the moon in a special little car. When they are finished they will fly back up and join their friend - then they will come home to Earth. They are already having a little bit of trouble. While they are in space and on the moon they send back television messages and people all over the world can watch what they are doing.



**ABORIGINAL COURTS?** Pastor Albrecht, who is the Superintendent of the Finke River Mission near Alice Springs was talking to Government men in Canberra this week. He said that the Government should give power back to the Aboriginal people. The Aboriginal people on each settlement should have power to make their own court and fix up troublemakers themselves. He said that there should also be Aboriginal policemen on settlements and a jail where troublemakers could be kept. In this way the Aboriginal people would become better leaders and they could show their own people the right way.



D.G.

## Womens Basketball

Saturday, 15.4.72: Marrijalas 48 defeated Cobras 32  
Dots'n Dashes 36 defeated Albatrosses 26

Best Scorers: Marrijalas - Mary (18 pts.) Cobras - Mavis (30 pts.)  
Dots'n' Dashes - Marg.N. (14 pts.)  
Albatrosses - Norah (20 pts.)

Monday, 17.4.72: Dots'n'Dashes 46 def. Cobras 20  
Marrijalas 32 def. Albatrosses 28  
(a close game all the way through.)

Best Scorers: D'n'D - Marg.N. (16 pts.); Cobras - Connie (10 pts.)  
Marrijalas - Betty W. (22 pts.)  
Albatrosses - Norah (18 pts.)

### Competition - Point Scores:

Dots'n'Dashes 13;	Marrijalas 11;
Albatrosses 4;	Cobras 0.

Draw for Monday, 24.4.72: 7 p.m. Marrijalas v. Dots'n'Dashes  
8 p.m. Albatrosses v. Cobras.

Umpires: Roger Pink  
Jacky Pascoe.

B.N.

## Notices

MEETING OF MANINGRIDA SPORTS CLUB: Monday, 24.4.72, 7.30 p.m.  
in Roger Pink's room.

(1) Festival Games (2) Basketball  
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GRIDIAN GROUP: Meeting on Wednesday, 26th, in B. Quick's home.  
Bring along your favourite colour slides, girls, - also a pen and  
one or two (or three!) favourite recipes you'd like to share.

Maxine & Barbara.  
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BARBECUE and CAMP-OUT at Juda Point, Saturday night and Sunday  
morning. Leaving here approx. 4 p.m., Saturday. Bring your own meat  
and liquid refreshments.

C.D.

## SCHOOL NOTES CONTINUED

On Tuesday night Bob Stutchbury dislocated his shoulder once again during a basketball match. This is an old injury of Bob's, and the second time he has pulled it out on the basketball court. He travelled to Darwin on Wednesday after an uncomfortable night. We hope Bob is soon O K and ready to take up his new hobby - stamp collecting.

D.G.

## HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Health Committee met on Tuesday afternoon. The hookworm film was screened and it was generally accepted as a good film, but unsuitable to show at the "Mothers' Club". Mrs Amies noted that flour, meat, rice and water were being eaten and that the smaller children were becoming more demanding in their eating habits. Dr Soong suggested that high-protein biscuits be sold at the Hasty Tasty. Mr Hunter said it was more important to promote eating in the camps from a selection of several reliable foods (such as fish, vegetables, meat etc.) rather than promoting the kitchen. Also the possibility of selling chips at the Hasty Tasty was discussed and, on his return from Darwin, Mr Bagshaw will be asked about the bulk buying of pre-cooked chips.

## THEY READ THE BOOKS!

Maningrida was visited last week by two French people (wearing genuine jungle greens) and one <sup>celebrity</sup>, who were very interested in the Aboriginal way of life. They especially wanted to see them living in their natural surroundings to get a first hand picture of how they lived, and under what conditions.

We first went to the Guwangu camp, which is a new Rembarranga camp about ten miles this side of the lower Cadell Crossing. The visitors took pictures of the women and children, the camp site, and an old flour tin being filled with water from the Toyota. They asked if we had to transport water to them very often. I told them that water was close by and it was only because I had water in the truck that I gave it to them.

As we were about to leave the camp and head down to the river, the Frenchman rushed to the Toyota and pulled out of his little bag rows of glittering gold chains and bracelets, which he gave out to the puzzled women and children. They then took photos of the people wearing the gifts

After several pictures were taken we then headed off to the crossing where much the same thing happened. Also pictures were taken of Brian playing various didgeridoos and of the women and children wearing the famous gold trinkets.

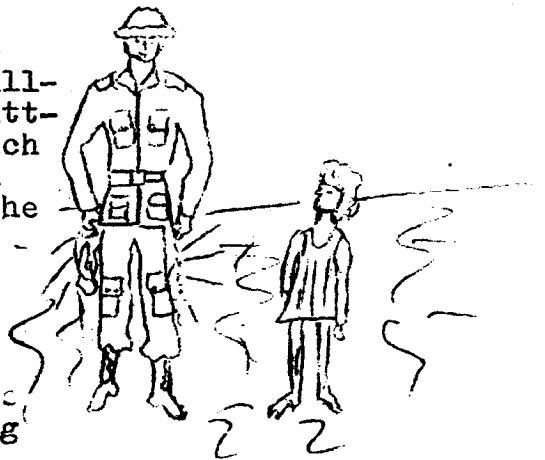
We arrived back at the Settlement about 11.30 am when I dropped the visitors at the Air Strip, and wished them the best of luck on the rest of their trip.

Unfortunately I did not receive a gold chain, which disappointed me.

Warren Paul (Tourist Guide in Training)

## SISTER BERNADETTE

Bernadette comes from New Zealand and has been a Northern Terror only since Christmas. She has been working at Yirrkala since then. She describes herself as "wrapped" in the beauties of Maningrida. "I haven't met too many of the people yet but those that I have met have been very kind and especially helpful". She told me that Yirrkala does not have a hospital like us, but has a team of medical staff working on preventive medicine. Minor Conv.



FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

injuries may be sent to Darwin, but most get no further than Ihulunbuy. Yirrkala has a "lovely" beach front, and in all it is very similar to Maningrida. She finds the Aborigines here more easy to communicate with, especially the children. "Last night I was walking along the beach when I was besieged by small children. I had my hair down. They told me they loved long hair, and that they loved me. They walked along with me for ages. I love it."

As told to J.G.

## POOR SHOW

Maybe the person(s) responsible for leaving the pile of rotten fish under the shelter at Ent rance Island did not realise, care, or know that a week later someone else wanted to use that same shelter, and could not because of the smell.

Poor Show

Upset

## PICNICING PICKERSGILLS

The great expedition leaves Maningrida today (the whole lot! ) to fly to Brisbane where the party will disintegrate and each go their own way. Jim and Ena will hire a vehicle and tour around Southern Queensland (Jim has no fewer than six brothers to look up, all on their own farms) Jim hopes to be able to pick up some plants for the Cadell Gardens.

The other half of the party will be going to meet Jack's parents who live off the cows around that Toowoomba country. Jim and Bev will be returning earlier than Ena, as Ena has more leave up her sleeve and will spend the rest of it at Tennant Creek.

WE'LL MISS YOU, MATE . . . . . J.G.

Mr. Warren Paull leaves Maningrida on Monday and we'll be sorry to see him go. He will be stationed at Bagot until mid-May and then go on a patrol into Western Australia. At the end of June, all being well, it will be back to school to do the Patrol Officer's Course.

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Tuesday	25th. April	Anzac Day.
Monday	1st. May	Labour Day
Monday	12th. June	Queen's Birthday

## CUBS LEARN SOME LOCAL GEOGRAPHY

Last week Mr. Joseph Mangudja took the cubs on a journey along the coast near Maningrida, and told them the Gunavidji names for various springs and headlands etc. and something about them.

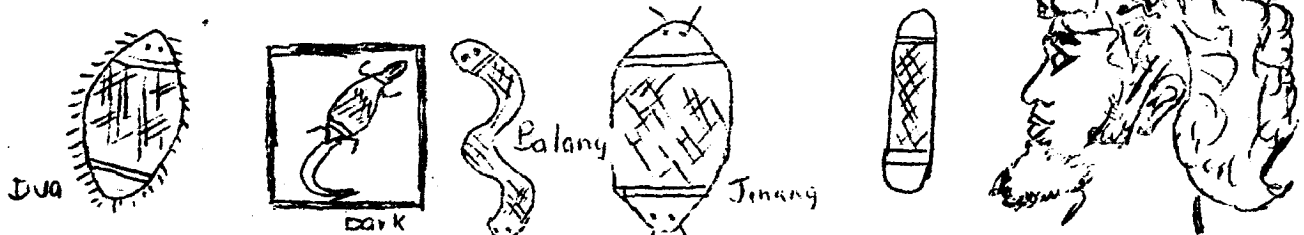
- \* The spring by Mr. Hunter's place - The 'Jormi Place' Jormi is like a yellow eel. Billy Yiriyin says that he and Mr. Dennis Puffet caught one some time ago.
- \* The little creek we cross over on the way from the Settlement to Fisheries. Called "Maningrida" creek.
- \* The <sup>Point</sup> where the Forestry Flat and Shed stands (near Mr. Carpenter's house). Balawurrwurr ganora means The Wind is sleeping there.
- \* The Spring at the bottom of Fisheries beach. "Gan-ngala-ngada Na-budba Galaradba" meaning the White breasted Sea Eagle went through. He washed himself in the water of the spring and then came out underneath the reef which is seen at low tide a little to the south and called Ngerneri. On the rocks of this reef, Joseph said that people used to sharpen their spears and axes etc.
- \* The Point up at the Southern end of Fisheries beach - its name means "The paddle was broken there."
- \* A spring which is dry during the Dry season. The name means "They killed the Baland there." Balanda Birri Borna
- \* Driving off the small loop road down over the rise - A (kind of) shell is standing "Mordardi-ba garaynjiya." G.A.

# A Stick Message or Letter from Jack Miritji

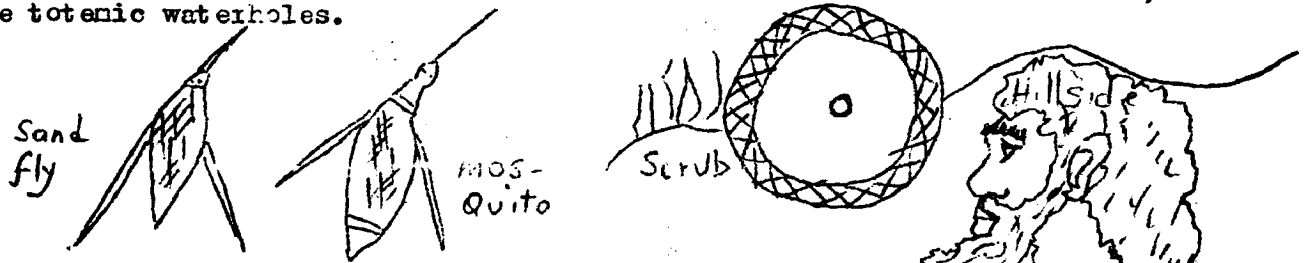
with drawings from the bark paintings.

(Jack is from the Jinang Tribe, Balang Skin, and Dua Moiety.)

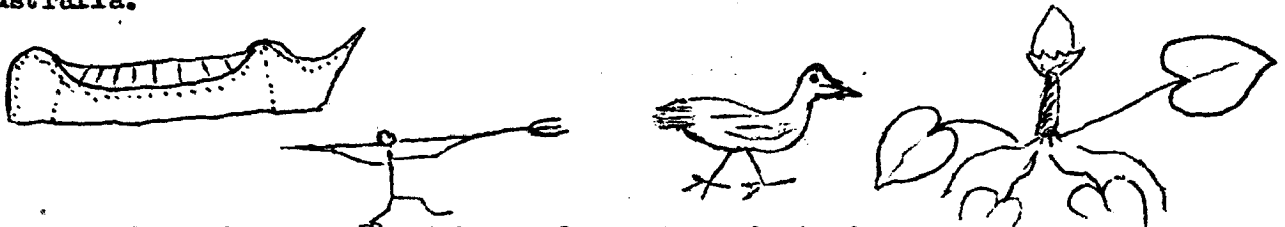
If you are interested, I am a full-blood Aboriginal who comes from the forefathers living in tribal villages in the bush, but who thinks differently from them - a new breed.



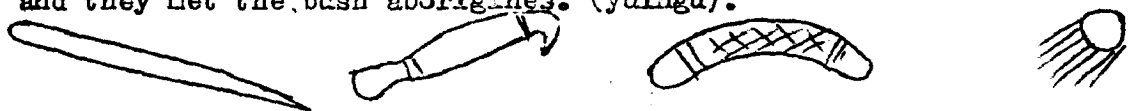
I am teaching the school children my arts. I have seen the sandflies (ninka) and mosquitoes (Bupinni) in the bush, way back in time, and I have followed after my grandfathers and great-grandfathers (Manarang) who have lived on the hillside (Bukulmirri) and in the scrub (Lurrurmirri) for many many wet seasons, and who believe in the stories of the Dreamtime, and the totemic waterholes.



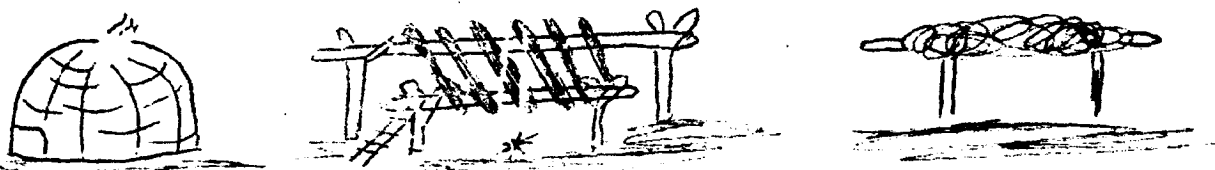
Then the Dutch came from another part of the world and named Arnhemland. Next they brought a huge number of flags, materials and marked landmarks and states all over the Territory. Later on, World War II started around Australia.



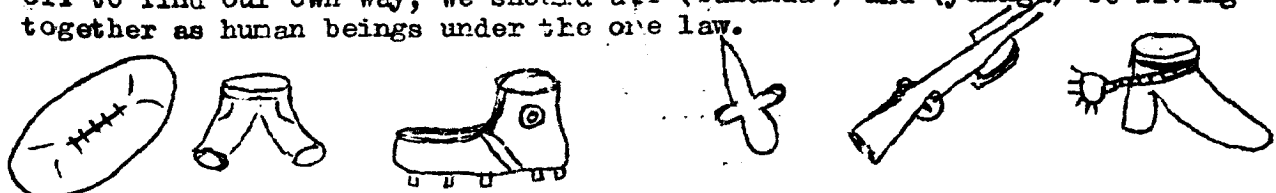
After the war, English settlers started missions and stations and towns, and they met the bush aborigines. (yulngu).



Many other Balanda (white men and women) have come and taught the Aborigines about the Balanda way of life. These white people have given us many things such as guns, knives, clothes, materials and so on.

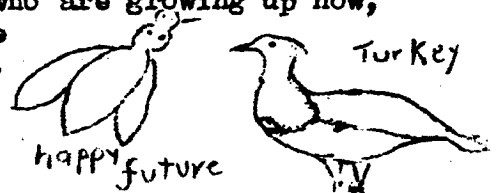


But now, today, they are taking back many of the things which they gave us, and are telling us that we now have to get these things ourselves. We have to live without help from other people. Why? I think that this is not right. Instead of giving us back our nulla nullas and sending us off to find our own way, we should all (balanda) and (yulngu) be living together as human beings under the one law.



The old Aboriginal people live a very hard time trying to understand the balanda way of life. So it is the young people who are growing up now, who will have a very happy future if they forget the old ways and live only by the rules of the balanda.

Thank you and I'll see you very soon  
Good bye, Yours Faithfully,  
M.D.B. (Buwarda) Turkey Miritji.



# Weather.

	Max. Temperature	Min.	Maximum Daytime Humidity	Rainfall
Friday	89.5	70.0	74 %	Nil
Saturday	88.5	73.5	80 %	Nil
Sunday	89.0	71.0	74 %	Nil
Monday	89.5	70.5	74 %	Nil
Tuesday	89.5	73.0	79 %	3 points
Wednesday	90.0	72.5	79 %	Nil
Thursday	91.0	71.5	78 %	Nil

## Break-downs, Visitors — The Forestry Story

Problems, problems, problems all week long; will our problems work out right or wrong? Bruce is that busy he doesn't know whether he's coming or going or has been. The grader's down, Randy's truck is down, the trailer's down, the grader's up, the dozer's down, the dozer's up, the grader's down, the grader's up, the dozer's down - water on the dip stick!?!?? Hey, Bruce - got a match??

Visitor this week was Senior Technical Officer Col Wilson who managed to find a lot of various barks, berries and flowers of most of the many species of trees around Maningrida that we take for granted and that many people have not seen in Darwin. Col's samples will assist those people studying biology at Darwin Adult Education Centre.

Randy and Geoff spent 3 and 5 days, respectively, in town office, returning with a little more knowledge of chain saws. Jimmy has finished the new Juda Point road, and on the way back touched up the Gudjerana Creek crossing, quite a surprise to all the workers travelling that road. Lance and Max are living with nature at Anamajirra Creek billabong whilst giving Shotgun Straight a straightening out or touching up. Boss nearly joined the bird watchers club this week, approaching Anamajirra Creek there appeared (at first thought to be) 4 good sized Wallabies, but turned out to be 4 Emus (or similar) - haven't seen them this far north before, perhaps someone can enlighten me?

The grass is drying, the leaves are drying, the days are dry, and fire season gets closer. Some trees live on fire, but the good timber ones for houses die, - so let's hope you "dig" the trees, so we don't have to dig the fires.

N.F.

## To come from Yirrkala.

Last week, I received a letter from Stephanie Djilirrina Munungurr of Yirrkala. She asked my parents and me if it would be possible for her and her parents to come here during the holidays and spend a couple of weeks here. She also asked me to find out how much the fares will cost to come from Yirrkala to Maningrida and back again. Because the family is coming over to Maningrida there will be a few discussions about family matters. Stephany loves Bobby.

I've written back to her, "We are looking forward to seeing you and your family. There's nothing to be afraid about and you will be warmly and sincerely welcome."



J. Pascoe.

## Snakes and Lizards.

Two were killed by the Mussig's this week, and a third was studied at close quarters by Sister Cec.

Jim shot one of the snakes at his place (Margaret is thought to have been up the nearest tree), and young Mark took it and put it in the rubbish tin. When the garbage trailer came around next morning, the man on duty casually lifted the lid and saw the serpent there, He jumped about six feet in the air!

A blue tongued lizard took it into his head to creep into the office where the Mirage is printed, and have a look-around.

## Weekend Duties

Duty Officer Mr. Bert Ryan  
Duty Sister Sr. Helen King.

## STAR THEATRE

Friday: "Hombre" - Paul Newman is Hombre, a white man who had been carried off as a child and raised by the Apaches.  
Saturday: "Battle Hymn" with Anna Kashfi & Rock Hudson.

## CHURCH

Third Sunday after Easter.  
Sunday: 9.30 a.m. Morning Sunday Schools  
7.00 p.m. Evening Service.  
Wednesday: 7.30 p.m. Church Council.

Rev. Gordon Symons will make his regular Easter visit next Wednesday and will speak to the open Church Council meeting in the evening.

## BIRTHS

Vicky born to Mary Ngulmilarga and Harry Mugarbi on 7th April 1972.

## IN AND OUT OF DARWIN

Honour, a son born to Stella Gaibardi and Charlie Mulumbuk on 11th April.

On Friday Jacky Miriwulwul and Mary Dadbalag returned from Darwin Hospital and 2 year old Jack John went in after a not so healthy holiday in the bush.

Mrs. Topsy Kalaidjing, for a chest investigation, and Beryl (wife of Jumbo Wonggi) accompanied Dr. Hargrave into Darwin yesterday.

Elaine (daughter of Nancy Gunanwanga) returned after recovering from meningitis.

Rosalie Gandwanga went to Darwin to wait for her baby to come.

## People

Mrs. Betty Midilwanga and six children travelled to Goulburn Island this week.

Mr. David Gulpulil arrived from Nangalala in time to be measured for a suit of clothes in readiness for the dancing trip to Fiji.

Cheryl Pullen, now on teaching relief staff, continues to hurtle around the Territory at amazing speeds. From Wave Hill she moved to Dhupuma College, the Kormilda style residential college at the old Eldo station at Gove, and now she is living a life of luxury at Garden Point. In a recent letter to the Grade 4 children she said that she was very impressed with the place. She is contemplating a visit to Maningrida in the May vacation.

Doug Scott, the Manager of the Artifacts Shop attached to the Aboriginal Affairs Foundation in Sydney, visited last week. Doug is touring Arnhemland with a party of French people and he is looking for material for his shop. The Foundation in Sydney provides recreational facilities for Aboriginal people, attempts to bring people of aboriginal descent together to work for their betterment, provides welfare assistance to poor aboriginal families and engages in many other activities. Doug was a member of the Redfern All Blacks - a team of aboriginal footballers from Redfern, an inner Sydney suburb where many aboriginal people live. Doug had stories to tell of his youth in the N.S.W. country areas where discrimination made life hard at times for aboriginal people.

Mr. Bob Eggers writes to say that the District Welfare Officer at Roebourne in W.A. has been reading the Mirage and would like to write a couple of stories about aboriginal people in the area. We say to Mr. Bob Hart "We look forward to hearing from you."

Bob E. has been visiting several cattle stations in Kimberley region and missions such as Mowanjum and La Grange. Some aboriginal stockmen have to be laid off work during the Wet and are paid unemployment benefits. Unfortunately they find their way to various hotels, where they camp for a "Wet" season.



**Maningrida Mirage**

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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