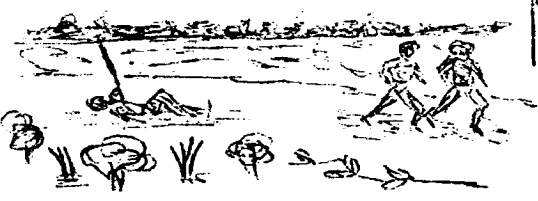


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# MANINGRIDA



## MIRAGE



VOL. 122

Fri. Feb 4<sup>th</sup> 1972.

### Progress Association Meeting

- \* McIntyre Mines are to return in mid-April to continue their exploratory work.
- \* A public meeting will be held shortly to discuss the formation of a Sports Committee.
- \* Following on Fred Luff's plan to plant out trees around the Settlement, the Association will give a prize to the Aboriginal Householder who has the best pair of growing trees at the end of the year.
- \* Stock-taking time will be from 28-30th. of March this year, and volunteers will be sought to assist in the Store Stocktake.
- \* Negotiations are continuing for a much larger oven for the Bakery and to dispose of the present oven to one of the Missions or Settlements.
- \* The auditors have expressed their satisfaction with the Association's books and accounting during the recent audit.

### Dreamtime Story

The Eagle was digging a hole in the ground near the schoolyard. It's talon struck the water main, and broke the pipe. Water gushed out everywhere. The flow of water attracted a Brolga to the scene. When he saw the broken pipe he danced and sang a different song. ( Could not print the words here.)

(Eagle = Eagle Constructions . Brolga = Mr. Bill Beckett , of the Engineering and Water Supply Dept.)

This accident occurred late on Wednesday afternoon. The ditch was being dug to carry new power lines to the new school buildings. Repair work went on until after 10 p.m.

### When The Moon Comes Over The Mountain

The singularly interesting phenomenon of the moon eclipse last Sunday night prompted your correspondent to consult that celebrated orator and philosopher, Mr. Harry Mulumbuk, for an explanation of the more esoteric aspects manifested therein.

An eclipse of the moon is an omen of impending death, either by sorcery or violence. Harry gives an example: - a long time ago he, and others, were involved in a spear fight near Kupanga. One man was struck by a spear and the combatants separated. Harry and his group, the aggressors, "ran all the way back to Blyth River", leaving the injured man and his friends at the scene of combat. That night the moon "turned red" (partial eclipse) which signified to Harry that the man had died. The moon draws its trail of red (blood) right across the sky and causes all people to fear.

J.H.

Big Barney looked up at the darkened moon and said "I reckon those Americans are there nucking around."

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Death : Minnie Marambilma , a Gunwinggu lady aged 71 years on Jan. 29th.

# The National Geographic Magazine

Monday evening saw the arrival of Messrs. McLeash and Tom, two representatives of the American Magazine "National Geographic". They are currently writing an article on the Wet Season and its effect on the people of the Top End. Their 3 days visit was spent taking happy-snaps and recording comments of various notable personages.



On Wednesday morning the two Americans went out with Charlie Mulumbuk and Jacky Bunda-Bunda on a dugong hunt. Also in the boat was Chris Burckett, dead keen to see his first dugong. Unfortunately, the sea cow did not make an appearance. However, a couple of turtles did. Jockey aimed his spear at one of them and scored a hit. But alas, it was the wrong weapon, - a fish spear, instead of a harpoon and it glanced off and the turtle escaped.

The next port of call will be Oenpelli and we wish Ken and Tom happy hunting.

## The Club With No Beer

Fighting at the Club has again caused its closure on Tuesday night. As a result of an extra-ordinary meeting of the council on the matter, it was decided to close the club for at least three nights while council men visited the camps trying to sort out the troubles and personalities concerned. Charlie Fry has handed in his beer ticket as a sign of displeasure over the closure.

## "His Sewer Runneth Over ----"

A feature of the new sewer pumping system, which in its complexity bears some resemblance to Ice Station Zebra, is a device which provides audible warning of a total malfunction. Popular rumour has it that it is just a common old motor car horn - but not so, folks. The fact is that it is a recording - of a seductive female voice which repeats "Hey, Brolga!" until switched off (or demolished by a missile from Mussigs). J.G.



## The Generation Gap.

I went round the camp. First I went to see Michael Brown's second mother. I spoke to her about the early days. "You know what people did then. We used to promise a girl to a man, and then we would give her to him to be married. There would be no trouble for her people. We know about this promise business.

Today ... we have decided to keep on marrying the promise; but if a single girl is not promised she can be a free girl to marry someone else in the right place (skin relation) for her. She will have to wait for the man."

Michael Brown's old mother answered: "It's hard to tell. We old people did not know about the European law, and we don't understand the younger people. Here in Maningrida we don't know what the younger boys and girls are learning."

I said: "Yes. But we have to talk to young boys and girls - and they have to listen. Real hard. Otherwise they run into trouble. We have to stop them from running about until we decide who they will be allowed to marry."

Jimmy Gulerawuna.

Articles expected for next week - "Bantans at the Beach" by Rita Djeta. 'The Spider Story' by Jack Kiritji and a 'Trio in Traralgon' by Charlie Godjuwa.

## An Unexpected Find.

During the School Swimming Sports at the Du-gala-dorna Pool last year, Mr. Roger Pink had the misfortune to lose his glasses. Before the first dive, he carefully removed his watch but forgot his spectacles. And the worst happened. The end of the year came, the teachers departed and the rains came.

Then during the holidays, swimmers too many to number have been out there splashing in the cool fresh waters.

With the holidays almost at an end Mr. Pink came back and was soon on the bank of the Pool ready for another dive. One of the children said "Look, Mr. Pink, there's your glasses." - and diving into the depths brought up the lost spectacles. So one can be lucky sometimes.



## Ask Margaret Musing

Following a death in the Settlement a while back, some senior relatives followed the old custom of mourning by taking a butcher's knife and banging their heads with the sharp edge.

At the hospital, later on, the sister found a series of parallel cuts on one head. The only practical way of dealing with the deeper ones was to darn the lot in much the same way as one would darn a thread bare sock.



## Bringing Home the Bacon - so to speak.

Mr. Fred Mil Mil Kuna and some relatives have been camping at the Cadell River Crossing on the Blyth River road. Toward the end of last week, Fred came across some buffalo tracks leading away to the east. So he followed them and found the beast. It was too far to carry the meat if the kill was made there. So Fred put his six dogs to work and drove the buffalo back to the Crossing. There Jack M'iyarrka took aim with the gun, and soon an excellent supply of meat was lying on the ground, about three hours after the tracking began. On Monday a sizeable piece of the carcass was still there carefully covered in paper bark and the buff's head lay in the water at the crossing with only his muzzle above the water line providing a fine heli-pad for a number of flies, who seemed most eager to be there.



## Bringing Up Father!

- Friday : Child gets serious chest infection and is given the first in a series of penicillin injections.
- Saturday : Child cannot be found anywhere, for next injection.
- Saturday night : Child arrives home.  
Drinks kerosene.  
Sister has to sit up all night at Hospital with her.
- Sunday : Second Child, same family, gets the chest infection.  
Brought to Duty Sister at 12.30 in the morning.
- Monday : This child no-where to be found.  
Taken hunting by parents.
- Monday p.m. : Parents return just as Supt. is about lead a search for them.  
Supt. has a few words to say.

There must be a moral in this story somewhere for the Black Power Boys in Brisbane.

## Forestry

Mr. Geoff Green, the new Forester in charge of the Maningrida area, arrived on Wednesday.

Geoff comes from bleak old Geelong in Victoria, and he trained as a forester in the University of Melbourne.

He will live in the single quarters down near Fisheries - Rear Admiral Brady's old haunts.

Mr John Hauser, the Principal Forestry Officer has been visiting Maningrida this week.

*Week-end  
Duties*

Duty Officer : Mr. CAREY.  
Duty Sister : Sister Ena Pickersgill.

*Theatre*

Fri. *Law of the Lawless*  
(Remould to be a Western  
(Scope))

*Church.*

Sunday "Living in the Christian Community"  
9.30a.m. Sunday School.  
7p.m. St. John's Gospel in Burada . Mrs. K. Glasgo  
Wed. 7.30p.m. Crusader's Fellowship.

Miss Chris. Kilhan tells the story of a man whose wife had died, and a young widow. The man wanted to marry again . The Wik-munkan woman laughed as she recalled "He started coming every day , 'crawling like a turtle' and saying "Harry me." She kept on saying "No.", but he continued to come asking and at last she gave in , and married him. This story has a meaning for us

Jesus said "Ask ...and keep on asking ... and you will receive.  
"Seek ... and keep on looking... and you will find.  
"Knock... and keep on knocking... and the door will be opened to you. "

"He that endures .. keeps on going ... to the end , will be saved."

*People*

The School holidays have been remarkably free from accidents, but the other morning Lucy Yirawanga (sister of Dean Yibarbug ) fell out of a tree, and broke her arm.

Bob and Heather C. landed safely in Melbourne and arrived in Daylesford at 11 p.m. "Boots was very good considering all the travelling he did... Scottie was at (Sydney) airport looking very dashing and full of life, but missing Aningrida - one part of it anyway !" Bob and Heather are spending a few days in a caravan at Queenscliff - the place where Harry Jawudi and family spent their holiday.

April and Jin Elliot are back after their holiday in Qld. and N.S.W. They called to see Sister Helen Miller and the girls in Qld.

The new teachers are arriving to begin work next Monday.

Headmaster Mr. Dave Hassal and family arrived on Monday.  
Mr. Allan Grieve (Alias Grieco) came in on Wednesday's flight.

Miss Newman touched down yesterday morning

Due today is Miss Walters.

Mr. Roger Pink appeared a few days ago.

Another new teacher on the Settlement is Mrs. Margaret Inglis who along with Mrs. Gwen Birchett have been appointed to the School staff.

News of other teachers,

Mrs. Jan Croft has been appointed to Anthony's Lagoon School on the Barkly Tableland.

Miss Yvonne Scott has resigned and has applied to enter the Sydney Missionary and Bible College to do a training Course there.

That occasional bark painter, Mr. Culy Barduguppu , arrived back from Goulburn Is. yesterday looking in the pink of health.

Ada has decided to stay on in Milingimbi for a while , but her mother and younger brothers and sisters returned yesterday.

Next week we hope to have a story from the overlanders Messrs. Jimmy Cooper, Peter Banjurljurl, Johnny Mavera & Co. who arrived back in good spirits last Friday.

Ormac representative Mr. George Alcorn and Rev. Peter O'Connor, Supt. of Goulburn Island came for talks on mining matters yesterday.

Many thanks to Mrs. Margaret Inglis who did several of the drawings during the School holidays.

**Maningrida Mirage**

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"Maningrida Mirage Volume 122" February 4th, 1972.

Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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