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MANINGRIDA MIRAGE.



Vol. 138

Friday 26th May 1972

The Gays of Love

An urgent telegram arrived this week requesting spears, woomeras and feather dancing decorations for David, Dick and Talbert who are back in Sydney now (from Fiji) and were to give two special performances in Sydney yesterday evening and this evening. It seems that whilst in Fiji, Talbert had his heart captured by a fair damsel and made her a gift of his feather pendants. It seems that a similar fate overtook one of the spears. David and Dick are scheduled to return on Monday.

Hot Trading in the Craft Room

Last Thursday, Friday and Saturday there arrived Messrs Ed Ruhe, Jim Davidson and Jerome Gould respectively - all worrying for bark paintings. Ed bought quite a number of barks including some fine examples of the work of Messrs. Lumpy Gundaitja and Dick Butji which is always in demand in the art capitals of the world. Jim Davidson also bought a considerable number of barks for his Melbourne gallery. Jim entertained us with stories from his incredible life. Before the war Jim walked an east-west crossing of New Guinea through proper head hunter country. It took him eighteen months and during that time he lived off the land. When he returned to his base camp there were two Christmas mails waiting for him. Our third visitor Mr. Jerome Gould is a photography enthusiast. He exposed film all over the place, and many Maningrida identities were recorded for posterity. Jerome was the major buyer of the trio and left with some fine barks including one which Jack Meritja sold privately to him on behalf of his brother Dan Gundinga, for \$100 Australian.

D.G.

Fishing at Mawurrk

During the school holidays some men and boys went out fishing at Mawurrk Creek. We left in the morning about 11 a.m. in the Goose Truck. Mawurrk is about 30 miles or less from the settlement. At 12.30 p.m. we came to the road leading to the creek. We turned off the main road going to Bulman etc., and took the small road. We climbed the mountain and down. When we reached the plain we got off the truck and went ahead to see whether the road was dry or wet.

Jacky parked the truck about 50 yards away from the creek. Some of us ran to see the drag net which was left from the other time when Jack Miritji and his brothers went fishing. Everything was prepared - the drag net, the fish wires etc., and we sat down beside the creek and were watching the net. Three boys went fishing and caught 2 catfish. We were there from 1 pm to 4 pm but we couldn't catch anything. While we were there we saw the rain coming towards us, so we hurried back to the truck. We left the drag-net behind in the water. We arrived here about 6.30pm.

The next day on the 15th Jack M., Don, Dick, Robert and three boys went to Mawurrk Creek to see the net which was left there from the day before. When they came to Mawurrk Creek they saw many barramundi floating around and in the drag-net. There were 35 or more barramundi. Somewhere around 4 pm they drove back and while on their way back the truck slowed down and the engine stopped. They got off the truck and were examining it to see which part had broken. Later on they heard the truck coming back from Dam-dam.



Lucky they caught the truck, and it took them back and brought 16 barramundis. A few of them stayed back until the truck went to pick them up. Last of all, they got here about 11 in the evening.

J. Pascoe.

Thinking About The Game

Whenever the game was played among the 4 teams on Tuesday and Thursday, one or two people especially the referees and scorer have sometimes barracked for one of their relatives or friends' teams not knowing what they were doing. That's how it got muddled up.

The Scorer and the referees MUST concentrate on their own work - for example -

- a. being referee he must do his job on his own
- b. the scorer must sit alone.

Last Thursday when Cape Stewart played Kupanga the scores were Kupanga 52 and C.S. 54 - the points score were being written on the sand. But somewhere it was some one's concern to give points to give points to Kupanga and win the game.

So what I suggest is - we must have a scoreboard so that everyone can see the scores. This year's basketball season was well run. Somehow it is starting to fall into a deep sleep now and everyone of course is a bit worried about this. Those of you who are running this club should do something to cheer us up and make someone the Sportsman of the Year. We also need two referees for a whole year but first they have to learn more about refereeing. At present we are copying each other and some of us don't regret it.

J. Pascoe

Grand Final of Woman's Basketball

The competition was brought to a successful close last Monday with Dots'n'Dashes defeating Marrijalas 40-30 in the grand final. The team received a trophy, and each member a spoon, all generously donated by Bev Caddies. Many thanks also to Skip Wilders for the presentation.

The latest is that the junior schoolgirls plan to fill the empty basketball time slot on Monday evenings with a competition of their own. Hope its as successful as the women's competition. Hopes are also that the women will be able to find time for another competition a little later on.

People

On Monday Benny Mudurrug and his family travelled toward the Blyth River where Benny is one of the "bosses" of the Kunapipi ceremony taking place there.

Mr. Johnny Ruria and Charlie Jarabili have been invited to Croker Island to take part in a ceremony there. Johnny travelled on Tuesday.

Yope and Wim. Yope is returning from 2 weeks holiday in New Guinea and is about to become Maintenance Carpenter with the Catholic Missions. Wim is still with Mobile Works Force and is believed to be at Eldo doing some work on Dhupuma College, sister college to Kormilda.

Michael Balarka returned from Darwin this week. He said - "I was in gaol for 3 weeks and 4 days."

The Village Council Conference got under way at Galiwinku this week. Mr. Joe Fry went up on Thursday.

LOST

One gold purse belonging to Mrs. Tricia Carpenter. It contains some important papers including driving Licence and about nine dollars. Finder please see Mrs. Carpenter.

Our best wished to Sister Bernadette who goes into Darwin on Monday for an orientation course and then down to Pine Creek for a month. The two new sisters arrive on Monday. Broлга and Roger have the welcoming arrangements. The girls are from New Zealand. in hand.

Warm Cloths For Cold Nights

The cold nights have come and a lot of coughing and crying of small children. Mother may wonder why the child cried, but he cannot tell his mother that he feels cold. His crying is the only way that baby can say that he is cold.

You see a lot of older people coughing and being sick all the time. They go to the hospital for coughing medicine, but it doesn't help them, as these older people with bad chests got their very bad chests while they were small children and their mothers did not put any warm clothes on them when they were cold and they cried.



Now the store has got singlets, T-shirts, cotton baby gowns and warm blankets for the children and babies. Fathers, you see that your wife has got these for your children. Keep them in a suit-case in the day time, and when the sun goes down, take them out and put them on your children and babies. Wrap them up well and they will sleep well - no coughing, no crying. You, father, will be able to sleep well and then get up early and go to your work. Your wife will not be cranky and tired if she has been sleeping well too. When the sun comes up and it is warm again, take the clothes and put them into the suit-case again for the night time. Mother may need to wash them only once or twice a week.



Then your children will be eating and drinking well and sister at the Baby clinic will have a big smile when babies come up to be weighed, and their weights are going up, up, up....

As these children grow up, they will all have good chests, no sickness and coughing all the time.

It is the same with big people. They need warm clothes and blankets as well. Not like one young man last week. He was playing cards in the evening and lost 10 dollars. During the night he got very cold and could not sleep. When morning came he was too tired to get up and go to work. So he lost 5 dollars on wages that day. \$15 gone altogether. It may have been better for that young man to go to bed early. He could get 2 or 3 blankets from the shop, sleep well and be ready to go to work, have his full pay on pay day and blankets to keep him warm at night as well.



So all you people. Sit down and think hard. What is the best way of living. It may be to get dresses, T shirts, baby gowns, napkins and blankets, have a warm and good sleep and have HAPPY BABIES with HAPPY FAMILIES enjoying a HAPPY LIFE.

School Notes

The School has a new thermo-copying machine which has been supplied by the Parents and Friends. The machine has already had a few busy moments. We hope one day to add a photo-copying machine to our arsenal which will make for a very versatile copying and duplicating facility.

The tourist season is with us and the school is being inundated with wise men from all sides. This week Mr. Ted Robertson, Inspector Darwin visited us. Also visiting at present is Dodie Cash from Geelong Teacher's College. Dodie is doing her four week prac. teaching spell here, before returning to the alma mater of such famous characters as John Phemister and Dennis Strand. Yesterday Mr. Keith Boyd, Dodie's Supervisor, arrived to look about the place. Next week we expect Mr. Graham Bishop, Mathematics Specialist and Mrs. Lorna Hillier, Supervisor Domestic Science. Mr. Gil Jennix, our audio visual expert, is also headed this way.

Preparations are under way for two large excursions toward the end of this term. The first is the North Australian Eisteddfod to which a party of 20 children will be travelling. The second is a special tour through the desert to Areyonga Festival of Song. 16 children will be travelling to Warrabri, Pampunya, Yuendumu, Amooongoona, Areyonga, and maybe Santa Theresa and Jay Creek. It is hoped that the dancing of the children from Maningrida will encourage the Centre people to take a stonger interest in their own dance. D.G.

Control Burning Programme

No doubt some people will have noticed that we have started burning off grass areas around the settlement, and possibly wonder why we do so.

The annual control burning programme is extensive in that this year once again we will be using an aircraft to light up the outside of our management area.

The plane will commence from Bat Island, and from there will follow our new firebreak near goose road and then down Cadell River Road to the crossing; from there along Shotgun Straight and up the Juda Point road to the beach.

The other area is all that country bounded by the road between the Cadell and Blyth Rivers and north to the junction of the same rivers. The annual burning will not commence for at least two weeks, and before we start, we will notify all persons likely to be effected.



Forestry

Rumour Has It - - - -

- forestry clerk Gary O'Donohue is going into Darwin in June for recreation leave; seems he chatted up the young lady while doing weather reports.

A BEEKBEQUE will be held at Bruce Craven's old house this Saturday night. Geoff Green and Bob Fisher are now living there and extend an open invitation to all for the house warming. Bring meat and refreshments.

Forestry single quarters has been the "honey pot" for gamblers lately - care should be taken on entering the building as there is a savage dog guarding the premises.

FORESTRY

Alex Hood

The Arts Council presents Folk Singer

ALEX HOOD

Who will give a concert at Maningrida at 7.30 pm on Monday June 12.

Last Weeks Woman's Basketball

There hasn't been as much excitement at Maningrida since the Brambles man nearly lost his head when his crane ran amok and ended up on its side. Marrijalas defeated Cobras by one point (21 to 20) in the final on Monday night, after a match in which the scores were never more than two points apart, and Mandy threw the winning goal in the last ten seconds of play. Many of the spectators were noticeable by their hoarseness the next morning, and our one and only Superintendent feared another "Papunya".

As a result of this match, Marrijala will meet Dots'n'Dasnes in the Grand final on the 22nd. Umpires for this battle of champions are Fred Luff and Jimmy Pascoe.

Mrs Neale

Reminder To Readers.

Readers are reminded that subscriptions for the "Mirage" are now due. Cost for the "Mirage" for local readers 50¢ per issue and \$2.60 per year. People living outside the settlement note that all issues and postage costs \$4.42.

BOYS' BASKETBALL

We have nothing to do on Maila week saturday night. We like to play basketball so we are going to start a basketball competition like the junior girls are going to start on Monday night.

There are four teams:- Balpanarra (Ningle captain)
Lala-gujida (Bob captain)
Gunejangga (Ramond captain)
Anabadaga (Steven captain).

We are going to play proper rules like the men. Only young boys will play, no big ones. We start on this Saturday night at 7.00 pm

7.00 pm Anabadaga Vs Gunejangga
8.00 pm Balpanarra Vs Lala-gujida

Steven, Ningle, Ray & Bob.

MEINS' BASKETBALL

Results Last Week

M.P.A. 40 D Jinang 21
Garatpu 38 D Cadell 34
Jinang 47 D Cape Stewart 18
M.P.A. 46 Drew Garatpu 46

Next Week

Tuesday 30 th May
7.00 Jinang Vs Pioneers (Last round 22 - 30)
8.00 Cadell Vs Eagles (Last round 41 - 40)
Thursday 2nd June
7.00 Garatpu Vs Kupanga (Last round 34 - 58)
8.00 M.P.A. Vs Cape Stewart (Last round 36 - 34)

SPORTS NOTICE

Most people at Maningrida have lots of fun playing and watching sport here. There is still time to pay 50 £ to be a member of the new Maningrida Sports Club - money to Larry Weiper or Trevor King. This money is already being used to buy new racquets, balls, lights etc.

HIGH ACTIVITIES

Last week a reporter was typing the line about the number of Children in Peter Maralwanga's family, when in walked Chris Burchett

"How many children, Chris ?"

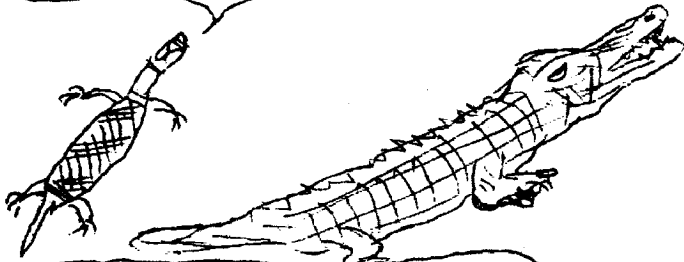
"24", he said, "I know, because I have just applied for assistance for him !"

" On what grounds ?"

"Overworked and under paid !", said Chris without hesitation.

15. Corroboree . I wish to report that initiation (Bungul) hawk should arrive soon.....

16. Soon?



17. He's been here almost an hour already.

18. Well, I'll be jiggered !!!

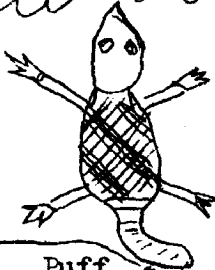
19



bee

20. He must know a short cut that I dont know.

21. Thank-you for Corroboree.



23. Puff...Puff...
Hello Tribesmen ...
I'm (puff) bungul hawk here for your initiation. (Puff)
I'm here to defend you.(Puff)

22. Now, I'll let you meet my boomerang clapsticks and things so you can show them in your bunguls if you agree to protect the men on their sacred ground.

24. Beat it, Hawk !! I don't want an initiation. I'm guilty and they know it.



Lyre bird.

Notes. - The hawk is the totem of the person being initiated . Also the hawk founded the ceremony. He is calling together all the totems for a ceremony.

The words used in the story are Jack's own.

M.N.

Notices

Maningrida Sports Club.

7.30 p.m. Roger Pink's Classroom on
Monday May 29th.

Agenda.

Registration of Club - Constitution
Darwin Festival Games.
General Business.

SOFTBALL

A meeting on Monday night at 6.30 p.m. May 29th.
Room 13 at the School.

Business - To discuss the Soft ball Season starting on Sat. 3rd. June.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Starting Monday night at 7 p.m.
Wombats v Seagulls 7p.m.
Crocodiles v Blue Wrens 7.40p.m.

Umpires. J. Pascoe and M. Neale.

B.N.

Weekend Duties

Duty Officer Mr Ron Berryman
Duty Sister Sister Helen
Fire Duties Saturday Mr Bob Fisher
Sunday Mr Randall Scott

Star Theatre

"Under The Yum Yum Tree" Jack Lemmon, Carol Linley

Lothario landlord Lemmon rents his apartments only to pretty girls. Riot from start to finish.

Church

Sunday: - Trinity Sunday
9.30 am Sunday Schools
7.00 pm Evening Service
Wednesday 7.00 pm Crusaders' Fellowship - *Choir.*

"THEY"

Its a wonderful thing to sit at the place
Where the sages and experts, sit
To refer to the rest of the world as "They",
and to judge with infallible wit.

"They" ought to do this and "They" ought to do that,
And "They" ought to get cracking today.
Its as plain as the end of the nose on your face -
Providing you're "them" and not "they".

Its funny how "Them" just never seem wrong
And "They" have never seemed right,
And funny how we who are "They" become "Them"
Just as soon as its us in the fight.

D.J. Silver

People

YVONNE SCOTT (Teacher 1971) writes from evil Sydney town, "At S.M.B.C. we are not allowed to have electric blankets so you just ought to see how much gets piled on at night - 2 pair woolly pyjamas, dressing gown, bed soxs, four blankets, and fluffy sheets! That was at the beginning of May, imagine what its going to be like by July! I'll probably feel like hibernating. Tomorrow is the last day of the three week vacation. I've had a really good rest; I think I could say the best since I went to Portugese Timor. The next few weeks I expect will be spent in hard slogging again. We have another five assignments to be completed by the 9th June."

"I spent an afternoon ploughing a paddock ready for sowing. Admittedly it wasn't a very big one, but it had been fallow for several years and had to be ploughed four times."

"I've not heard anything of Brolga for quite a while. Is he still around? Say "Hullo" to him for me please."

Ted Tonkin hasn't spent all his days on the golden sands of Manly. he was born in Rabaul where his father lived for many years. Several members of his family have worked in the Pacific Islands. Ted has been with us for some weeks and shortly will leave for ASOPA where he will settle down to study with Warren, Chris and Co. Other places he has visited in the Territory are Bamyili and Wave Hill settlements.

A great migration has begun from the political centre of Australia. The fourth Canberra citizen to settle in Maningrida is Mr. Graham McKay. He has taken up residence in the "Glasgow Mansions" and begun a study of the Rembarrnga language. He expects to stay for about 6 months, possibly longer, and may visit some other places where Rembarrnga people are living. His aim "is to understand the language and how it fits together".

Maningrida Mirage

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