

MIRANDA MIRAGE



HOLY MARCONI BATMAN!
WHAT'S THIS???



FRIDAY XXVII JULIUS 1973
VOLUME 1 ISSUE 194

GREAT
CAESARS
GHOST!!

RESOURCE CENTRE FILMS.

on Wednesday 11th of July we saw two films. one was filmed in south Africa. we saw large Animals like elephants, buffalo, tigers, lion, and leopard. there were many different dogs doing funny tricks. one dog swinging on a tyre from the trees. we saw another film about ants in the Australian bush. the ants live in ant hills or under the ground. the queen ant lays eggs. the eggs hatch into grubs called larvae. later they spin cocoons. the ants hatch at last from the cocoons. we saw many ants sting a centipede to death and then eat it. centipede means a hundred legs. and eggs became grubs called larvae they spin cocoons.

Mr. G.R.Garawun.

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ANIMALS OF THE AUSTRALIA.

our country has many marsupial animals. A marsupial animal has a pouch or pocket where the baby ~~ant~~-is-e- animal is carried. these baby marsupials also drink milk from their mothers. some of the Australian marsupials are the kangaroo, the wallaby, the koala baer, the platypus and the echidna. some people call the echidna a por-cypine because it has prickles. but we Aboriginal we call them different names.

Mr. G.R.Garawun.

CRICKET BALLS AND PUSH-BIKES

Word from Gowan and Shirley Armstrong tells that they have settled into their new home at Stuart Park after their travels up the Eastern Coast. There does, however, seem to be a hind in the letter that there is big mobs of gardening to occupy the time of any volunteers. They have met up with all kinds of Maningridians and ex-Maningridians in their travels, among them being Bob Collins, Dave Hassall, Liz Wicks (back at Deddissville), Dave and Dianne Fryer (Kormilda), Silas and Rosie Roberts, Lee McIlhion, plus an enormous number of Aboriginal folk at Kormilda Opening Day. They said that the opening Day was very interesting for the 5000 people who came. Ruth and John Mann (Elcho), and Brod and Sue Harris (Milingimbi) are both living near the Armstrongs and both waiting for stores to arrive.

It is mentioned (with caution) that Bapa has taken up the cricket bat and ball, and plays for YMCA in Darwin. In his first match for many, many years he made a catch and was 18 n/o. That's the South Australian blood coming out (ask Glen Bagshaw). He also has a set of bowls but hasn't yet tried his hand at it. It is good to see Gowan's interest in variation, but your correspondent was horrified to learn that Bapa has taken to riding his bike again around Darwin; no wonder he wouldn't donate it to our Museum when he left.

Shirley has taken up teaching again but only on a very restricted basis. John and Roslyn are both at high school but apparently spend most of their time day dreaming about Maningrida and their friends there.

It's rather sad to see them asking about their beloved poincianna at the parsonage, and if it had sprouted leaves, because it now seems evident that the beautiful tree has breathed its last and that wonderful flower is something we will just have to remember. It's hoped to see Gowan out here soon for a few days-- anyone got a push bike to loan?

ARTICLE TO BALANDAS AT MANINGRIDA

The Council supports the Craft Shop at Maningrida. It provides many people at Maningrida with good money. It also brings good money to the people in the bush stations. We do not want the Craft Shop to get weak.

We want all the balanda people who want to buy bark paintings or other things to buy at the store. We want painters and other workers to get the best money. We do not want you to buy off people in the camp

Billy Yiriyin
President
Maningrida Council

LETTER FROM CRAFT SHOP

I would like to draw readers' attention to the notice from the Council President in this issue of the Mirage: I recently went to a Council meeting with a number of bark painters & asked the Council for an expression of support for the Craft Shop. Our problem was that a large number of people had been buying art & craft in the camps and bypassing the shop. If this continues the shop will become starved and could be forced to close down. We cannot remain open without a reasonable volume of sales, particularly of barks.

If the shop is threatened, the incomes of many people are threatened. Last week the shop paid out \$1400 to artists and craftsmen. Last year the shop put 30,000 into the community. The bush people depend to a great extent on the craft money they obtain to purchase sugar, flour and other European parts of their diet. Without craft money, life for them would become very difficult.

Some balandas who are buying in the camp are paying for less than the prices paid in the Craft Shop. It's a lot cheaper shopping in the camp" as someone said last week. The Aboriginal people who make the goods in these cases get precisely the rip-off the Shop is trying to prevent. The Craft Shop at all times attempts to maximize returns to the artist. We are not interested in how little we can buy something for-- we are interested in getting good prices in

steady markets for Ianingside peoples' work. Aboriginal people do not get robbed in the Craft Shop.

We are not attempting to interfere with Aboriginal peoples' right to give presents of craftwork or trade it for services rendered by Balandas.

For those who feel that we have an ulterior motive in encouraging sales through the store you can rule out profit right now. Last year the store made the tiniest of profits, in the first 3 of this year. The Progress Association is carrying our deficit of \$3,000.

If I obtain any evidence that balandas are buying art and craft against the wishes of the people and at prices that are against their interests, I will see to it that the proper authorities are informed.

Dan Gillespie

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

MR GORDON BRYANT

The Australian Government was determined to assume full responsibility for the Aboriginal Affairs, Mr Gordon Bryant, said today.

He was speaking at a conference in Cairns attended by more than 300 Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders from all over Queensland.

The conference carried unanimously resolutions calling for the Australian Government to take responsibility for Queensland Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders and for it to legislate to override the Queensland Aborigines and Islanders Acts.

Mr Bryant said he did not (not) believe there was any place in Australia for those acts.

He said: "I don't believe that the situation should be allowed to continue where people on the Islands or Reserves are controlled as though they belong to the State Government."

Mr Bryant said that over the past few years nearly all the things that had been done for Aboriginal and Islander communities - from schools to housing - had been paid for by the Commonwealth Government.

"In my view, if we are going to continue to deal with the people in this way, it's no good posting the cheques to Mr Bjelke-Petersen. We don't do that with Social Services or Repatriation."

The South Australian Government is in the process of transferring to us their policy planning and co-ordination functions for Aborigines. We're negotiating with the Western Australian and N.S.W. Governments very successfully."

"Unlike the Queensland Government they don't think this is Commonwealth Imperialism, they see it as common sense," he said.

"Surely the Queensland Government cannot continue to disregard the result of the 1967 Referendum and ignore the wishes of its Aboriginal and Island Peoples."

Cairns and Canberra 22/6/73

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Despatch just received at Forestry office.

Dateline: St. Petersburg.

Time: 09.30 OCT. 6th 1977.

'CZAR HAS REACHED UNTENABLE POSITION WITH DUMA. GREAT UNREST IN ARMED FORCES. ALL PORTS CLOSED. FAMINE EXPECTED.

Note: This despatch was sent Express 2nd class on Perkins Barge.

THE SOCIAL EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

Betty and Rhys said good-bye to the Plym River with a giant party on Saturday night. All through last week the people from other areas assembled at Lalangadjiripa and prepared for the party. New dresses from Dorothy Bennett of Darwin, hair shampoo from Maningrida and other social commodities began to appear and by Saturday night everyone was ready.

At sundown David Bandarpi assembled. Inagarnbal's sail as a screen and Rhys's local movies began to roll, to the accompaniment of can top popping. The menu included sizzling diama, delicious goanna meat, cakes, biscuits, chips and oranges. The movie stars were definitely David Bandarpi, with his 48 shots for 12 kills and 110lbs of barramundi and Kirabelle with her naked victory dance around the watermelon that she had just cruelled with a shovel nose.

Everyone was very happy, especially Big Barney, who made sure that his family will get 1st class treatment from Sister Maija in the future.

Finally, people started "moving" away to their hearth groups and the area drifted to sleep to the sounds of laughter crying, shouting and joking.

GOODBYE RHYNS AND BETTY.

Bob Stutchbury.

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G R I D I A N S

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO SPEND A PLEASANT EVENING
AT
THE RESIDENTIAL MANSION
OVERLOOKING THE PICTURESQUE LIVERPOOL RIVER
OF
MRS. DAWN CUTHBERT
ON
WEDNESDAY 1ST AUGUST 1983
AT
7.30 P.M.

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ON DUTY THIS WEEKEND !!!

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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