

If you see some self-confident children walking around Maningrida in new clothes, armed with plastic 303's and chewing large quantities of chewing gum don't be worried. They have just been to the North Australian Eisteddfod.

We had a very successful time at the eisteddfod. The children tried their hardest all the time and this helped them to win many high awards.

This year the Eisteddfod was "non-competitive", that is, no firsts, seconds or thirds were given. Instead, gold certificates (90% and over adjudication mark) silver certificates (85% to 89%) and bronze certificates (75% to 84%) were awarded. Every entrant did not automatically win a certificate and in some sections, only a few certificates were awarded. This emphasis on gold, silver and bronze certificates meant less competition between schools to see who would win but more striving within each group - gold was the aim.

The highlights for us were the gold certificates awards for the 3 folk songs we sung. The children sang faultlessly. As usual they saved their best efforts for the stage performances. Their appearance and presentation was far superior to any other group. We appreciated the great effort that Gladys Pascoe put into making of the girls dresses. They looked fantastic.

The children performed enthusiastically in the Aboriginal Culture sections. Highlights were Ronnie's solo dance, Kathleens solo dance, the girls group dance and Betty and Alice's duo dance. Thanks must go to the Maningrida dancing men who had the job of training the young dancers. They were a great help and inspiration to the children.

Some of the colour and excitement of previous Eisteddfods was missing because settlements and missions such as Yirrkala, Bamyili, Port Keats and Daly River did not attend. Also, some of the groups that performed were not adequately prepared. Consequently although organisations and venues were better this year the Eisteddfod was not as entertaining as it was last year.

It was a very successful Eisteddfod for us because everybody tried their hardest all of the time. Success was certainly well deserved.

BARK PRINTERS SCOOP THE SHOW

Maningrida is having a big year. As well as our dancers winning many awards and doing such a good job at the Eisteddfod our bark painters cleaned up in the North Australian Show.

Harry Mulumbuk, England Bangala. Bob Bilinyarra. Johnny Bulum Bulum and George Milparrar entered the Aboriginal bark painting section. Harry Mulumbuk won the first prize with his painting of the freshwater well - ARALALA at Kopanga. George Milparrar won second prize with his painting of some spirit people and England Bangala took third prize with his painting of DJINGABARDABEER dreaming (traditional womens skirt)

Peter Bunjurljurl and Don Gundinga entered a section for painting of a Northern Territory subject in any medium - that means they were against balandas painting with their ways of painting-water colours, oil paints -anything. Peter took first prize with his painting of the brolgas and Don took second prize with a painting of his totenic animals - goannas, lizards etc - a mighty effort.

Well done Maningrida painters.

Dan Gillespie

HOSPITAL NEWS

Back from Darwin -

Jacky Bundjuraga after treatment to his foot.

Valerie Yalga Yalga with her new baby Hazel, a sister for John Charles who has been staying at Kupunga whilst his mother was in Darwin.

Glenn Waididi son of Millie Jamu-jan and John Godana after treatment in Darwin Hospital.

Pat Gamawanga has gone on 3 weeks leave, she has been working with Margaret Dawumal in the Infant Health Clinic.

Sister Edith visited the people at Navy Landing on Monday, checked the children, weighed them and gave out medicines.

NOTICE

Call at Cuthberts if you have lost a book. Title - A General Introduction to the Great Books and To a Liberal Education.

Anyone who ordered a book from the Darwin Public Library called "Tropical Plants and their Cultivation" can collect it from Mrs.Clive McMahan.

Notice I wedding car with clean buck scat for hire.

Hipply to R.F. - Forestry Office.

WHAT'S WITH THE VILLAGE COUNCIL.

ROAD SURVEY.

People in the outback have come up with the consensus of NO to the Arnhem Highway, which the Government proposed to build soon.

The choice of the people was the building of better roads to their country. Some tribes which acceded to the proposed access road from Cenpelli to Nhulumbuy want traffic to be restricted only to present users.

SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The council have agreed that 3 or 4 councilors would go around the camp every morning to make sure every Rid of school age is in the school

SUITCASE SEARCH.

The men from Eistedfold objected to police action of searching their suitcases upon arrival at the airport.

The President of the council stated that from them on, only Aborinals appointed by the council will search the suitcases. Like-wise, the council will decide what action to take against men bringing in grog.

BATCHELOR CONFERENCE

Silas Roberts reported that in Batchelor, where he attended a social welfare conference, people were wondering why no aboriginal women participated. He said that women should be encouraged to sit at council meetings and participate in decision-making.

He also stated that the most dire need of the people here in Maningrida is EDUCATION and HEALTH. He urged men to be responsible fathers to their children and be good humbands to their wives.

He is hopeful that the women in Aboriginal society will soon find emancipation.

STAR THEATRE:

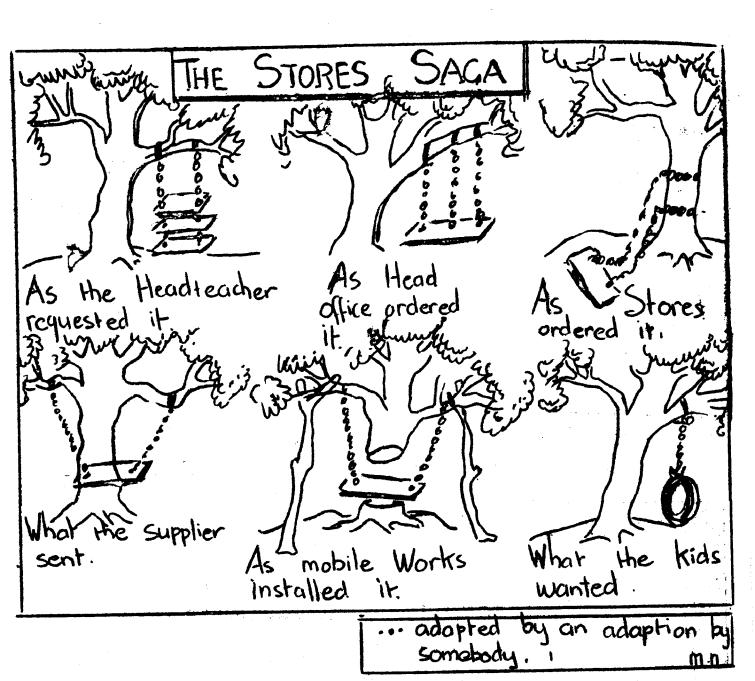
"THEY'RE A WEIRD MOB"

"MAGNIFICENT &"

Notice of Clarification:

B.F" of the Ale Talc was Not

our delightful Bob Fisher



NEW MATHS FOR THE BAR ROOM

2 pints = 1 quart

2 quarts = 1 quarrel

2 quarrels = 1 fight

2 fights = 1 magistrate

1 magistrate = 6 months

This is to be displayed prominently in all bars.

Endless Lament on unpaid claim

Dear Sir, how we hope to write Dear Sir, we recognise your plight But you claim cannot be paid Perhaps it has been mislaid Please submit another, Dear Sir,

MOTTO OF PICKERSGILL - REISTER - OCEAN JUNK INC.

The Captain only goes down with his ship, when the crew is not at fault.

P.C.

Duty Officer: K. TREWIN Duty Sister: ENA PICKERSGILL at the Eisteddfod in 1970.

Delissaville: - the Wagaitj tribesmen who live across the harbour from Darwin. Many of them are friends of Maningrida people.

Yirrkala, Galiwinku, Ngangalala, Milingimbi and Mardbalk - many Maningrida people are relatives and countrymen for the people from these places.

As well as all the people there will be the dancers of and singers from the many different groups at Maningrida.

Each community is paying some money to help for the cost of all the aircraft and the tucker for the weekend. The Aboriginal Theatre Foundation is giving a lot of money to help this weekend.

Lance Bennett the Director of the Foundation will be here to talk with all the people and to hold some meetings so that the Aboriginal people can make some decisions about how the foundation should run in the future.

The council is hoping that thir weekend of dahcing will be a happy time - and a time for many different groups to meet and to make some strong ideas for the future,

Dan Gillespie

PROVING US WRONG !

This year 28 men from Maningrida went to dance at the North Australian Eisteddfod. They went in a chartered DC3 - half of the cost of which was saised by the Maningrida Community and the remainder granted by the Aboriginal Theatre Foundation.

This year for the first time the men went without a balanda supervisor or 'watchdog' - to 'look after them'. There were many predictions by balandas here that they would create mayhem and chaos - get drunk, get into fights, go to jail etc and generally make fools of themselves.

the scale predicted by some of the perennial badnouths around here)

Well it didn't happen. Nobody got roaring drunk, nobody created strife, everybody turned up and performed admirably in the dancing and singing. In their leisure time the men went and had a few beers with their friends in as orderly a fashion as anyone else and in general showed that given half a chance and the dignity of being in charge of their own affairs they can do a dam good job.

The groups that danced were the <u>Gunavidii</u> men with their <u>MITJAN</u>the dance of the mating turtles and the fish, the Murungun group of <u>Diinang</u> men who
took the yam dance and the <u>ANBARA</u> section of the <u>BURERA</u> group who took in the
dance of the <u>DIANA</u> the cockle.

Here are the results gained from the group dancers, solo and duo dances, didgeridoo, singers and clapsticks sections.

- 8 gold certificates
- 5 silver certificates
- 2 bronze certificates

The men not only performed in the adult sections but provided singing, didgeridoo playing and patient coaching for all the kids. Congratulations Maningrida men for a superb job.

Dan Gillespie

Maningrida Mirage

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