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Contributed by a
 local reader.

MANINGRIDA MIRAGE

Vol. 42. July 24th. 1970.

A word of praise.

The Superintendent has received a telegram from Mr. Dug Allom saying that the pavilion at the show, set up by the Maningrida representatives, looked very well. We join in congratulating Mr. Peter Williams, Mr. Dave Fryer and all their helpers.

We say farewell.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Buzza will be leaving next Friday to take up their work in Albany W.A. Melva has been the principal typist for the Mirage, and has given many hours of work to help get the paper into print. Some of Ray's drawings have always brightened things up and some of them in particular have been outstanding.

They will be greatly missed at the School, in Guides and Cubs, and in the community life generally. They depart with our best wishes for happy and rewarding days in the future and we look forward to getting a news item from time to time.

Another distinguished visitor.

With the doctors and sisters on the routine medical visit on Thursday came Dr. Grace Warren of Hong Kong. She is, as Dr. Wendy put it, one of the recognised world authorities on leprosy. At home she is the medical Superintendent of the Hong Kong Leprosarium on an island nine miles away from the city. She is a surgeon, has been lecturing in Sydney, and is about to write a thesis (book) on her work.

She said that here in Arnhemland more people have had leprosy - (about 130 of our population of 1,100) per thousand people, but in South East Asia the disease had had much more severe effects on people. Here quite a lot of people have to take tablets etc. but not many have lost fingers, toes etc. Not like people with leprosy in Hong Kong.

She feels that the new approach of treating as many people in their home communities and only taking patients who need special care or surgery to put hands and fingers to work again into the hospitals like East Arm, is good.

Conair Pty. Ltd.

This is the new name for Connellan airways. They are buying two more Herons. A sixth Heron will be brought from England.

In the News.

With Dan G.

You weren't sick Folks.

The Director of Health in Darwin, Dr. W.A. Langsford said yesterday that no Aboriginal settlements or missions had been affected by the recent flu epidemic. This must be of great interest to the 50% - 75% of Maningrida residents who spent several days on their backs, at the height of the epidemic. Its official - your all malingerers (making out you were sick).

Puffing Pete makes the News.

Our steam powered headmaster, Peter Williams, made the headlines True North column this week. While busy setting up the Welfare Exhibit at the Darwin Show in company with Dave Fryer, he fell victim to a house thief. Models of houses at Maningrida had been constructed by Allan Grieve of Manual Arts for display at the Show. Some low beast grabbed two and made off with them. From what we hear, this had been the least of Peter and David's troubles.

Land rights Progress.

A Special Land Board will be set up to consider applications to lease land on Aboriginal Reserves in the Northern Territory. The leases would enable Aboriginal people to undertake special projects such as gardening or grazing. Some people are of the opinion that this new approach may enable the Roper River and Wave Hill people to achieve some success in their desire to retain their tribal lands. It is not expected that leasing will commence till the the end of 1970.

No Grog!

The President of the Yirrkala Council told the Governor General during his visit to the Mission that the people were worried about the introduction of alcohol to the area. The President, Mr. Roy Marika, told Sir Paul that the old people were concerned about the future of the young people at Yirrkala. An application to build a hotel at Gove was recently dismissed on technical grounds. A further application is now before the court and Yirrkala Aboriginals are fighting it.

In the meantime some Maningrida men are beginning to talk about pressing for four cans of beer a night here!

Eisteddfod draws near.

The 1970 North Australian Eisteddfod is fast approaching. Over 550 Aboriginal people will be travelling to Darwin for the big event. About 50 children and adults from Maningrida will make the journey - they are entered in many sections, both choral and Aboriginal.

The New Baths.

This week all teachers received a booklet telling them about conditions in different places where Welfare teachers work and where they may wish to go sometime. It says that in Nov. 1969, Maningrida received two aircraft flights a week, two planes. A little further on, it says that mail comes every day except on Sundays. How come?

GIRL GUIDES

Mrs Elva Dickvoss has kindly offered to supervise the girls for the time being until someone with Guiding experience arrives on the scene. Miss Heather Jackson is very interested and hopes to do a training course on her return to Melbourne, and be able to take over the Company when she returns next year.

At present two girls are representing the company at the Darwin Show, Nellie and Rosemary. During the school holidays three girls will travel to Elcho Island on the 1st September to attend a camp, where girls from Darwin and Elcho Island will camp under canvass for one week, learning the skills of camp life and furthering their knowledge of Guiding. The three girls chosen are Rose, Noela and Ann.

During the 4 months that the Company has been in progress the girls have thoroughly enjoyed the spirit of Guiding and have experienced varied activities, camp-fire singing, barbecue at the beach, picnic to Tompkinson Hole where tracking and stalking games were learnt, and their weekly meetings in the Scout Hall where they have passed their tenderfoot test and are now working for their 2nd class badges.

M.S.

A kindly person to help Mrs Dickvoss organize the games etc for the girls each week and help create a happy full of fun atmosphere. Any person interested please contact Mrs Dickvoss.

STAR THEATRE: Friday: "The Lonely and the Brave" - Kirk Douglas and his dimple (played by Lassie) in a modern cowboy story its been lonesome in the saddle since my horse died. Plus the irrepressible "Crimson Ghost".

Saturday: "The Absent Minded Professor" - Fred MacMurray in a piece of good clean fun in the finest American tradition. Plus short about the famous Harlem Globetrotters.

The Gold front.

On Thursday morning, as the Governor General was preparing to leave the thermometer fell to 40° at Maningrida. Elcho recorded 60° and Milingimbi 52°. So it looks as though it got colder the further west one went.

Imagine the fun Alf Wilson must have had at Campelli, stirring up enthusiasm at 8 a.m. for a welcome to Sir Paul Hasluck.

People here and there.

Mr Mick Magani, of the Tiwi Motel, Darwin, sends greetings to his many friends at Maningrida. He is reported to be living like a gentleman and was seen dining in style at the Don.

Photographer Joe Brian who was here with Journalist Gregson and Mr Alan Jackson taking photos of the Scouts for an American Scouting Magazine, was in the R.A.A.F. during the war. For a time he was stationed at Milingimbi. They hope to return later on to make a story about Maningrida and other Aboriginal communities, for people in other countries to read.

SEEN AT MANINGRIDA THIS WEEK:

George Irindilly: returned from fishing at Navy Landing on his way to "KUNAPIPPY" on Sunday evening with a spear, woomera, and 3 little pups.

Mandarrg: back from the bush for a short stay and painting a bark.

The Goose Truck: after a very successful run of shooting last week, being towed in for repairs yesterday.

People eating geese and long necked turtles at many houses last weekend.

Men rolling huge "tyres" off the Fourcroy on Wednesday. Not playing but working and the "tyres" were long lengths of hose for use on the big fuel tanks to be built near the beach landing.

A Parcel addressed Mr Gordon Sweeney, Maningrida School. N.T.

WEEKEND DUTY OFFICER: MR BARRY TUTTE.

WEEKEND DUTY SISTER: SISTER JUNE

CHURCH SERVICES: Sunday 9.30am Sunday Schools "Law in our Land"
7.30pm Evening service.

Monday: Visit of Rev. Gordon Symons.

Thurs; Fellowship at Sister Maija's.

How kind - by Johnson Roberts.

God is

To make the birds

So beautiful.

Coloured feathers

On their bodies.

They fly around by day -

And chatter to each other

In their languages.

They sleep at night - they sleep warm.

Thank you Lord,

For wind that whistles through the trees,

And fish that swim the glassy seas.

And all the creatures that roam the land.

All this you made, with your own hand.

Mark Bagshaw.

Maningrida Mirage

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"Maningrida Mirage Volume 42" July 24th, 1970.

Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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