

## WEDDING OF THE YEAR

### AT WALLAGA LAKE

Miss Harriet Thomas, the daughter of Joyce and Arthur Thomas of Wallaga Lake Aboriginal Station, was recently married to Leslie Darcy, an ex-Kinchela boy.

They were married by Rev. Keith Wilson, Rector of the Church of England church at Cobargo.

The bride looked radiant in a lovely white taffeta and lace gown, and a Tudor rose coronet held her three-tiered tulle veil. She carried a beautiful bouquet of roses, and was lead up the aisle by her proud father, followed by her two charming bridesmaids, Elaine Stewart and Iris Hoskins, who were dressed in pink taffeta and wore Tudor rose coronets.

The handsome bridegroom stood proudly beside his bride at the altar and unhesitatingly took the solemn vows, while his smartly groomed best man, William Hughes, fumbled nervously for the ring, hoping that he had not forgotten to put it in his pocket.

The reception was held in the Station Recreation Hall, which was tastefully decorated, and provided a very happy evening of dancing and celebration for all.

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## BIG DAY AT MURRIN BRIDGE

### New Brownie Pack Enrolled.

November 13th, 1955, was a big day for a number of the young girls on Murrin Bridge Station. On that day Mrs. Raffin, the Condobolin and District Guide Commissioner visited the Station to enrol the first thirteen Brownies of the 1st Murrin Bridge Brownie Pack. After the enrolment was finished the Brownies entertained the visitors with games and songs. The other main item of the afternoon was the lovely tea party for all the visitors and children.

Both Brown Owl Matron Carlin and the Manager would like to express thanks to Mrs. Raffin who travelled over 130 miles to conduct the enrolment, especially when the roads were so bad and the river in flood.

They would also like to thank the Condobolin Pack, Tawny Owl, and the five visiting Condobolin Brownies, who presented the Murrin Bridge Brownies with a lovely "Brown Owl" wall vase and also for their donation of £2 2s., which went towards the purchase of the girls' uniforms.

Mr. Carlin would also like to congratulate the Brown Owl, Mrs. Carlin, Tawny Owl, Mrs. Robertson, and the following Brownies for such a good effort, showing the visitors that the Murrin Bridge Pack will really be a first class pack. Elaine Williams, Mary Whyman, Valda Johnson, Maureen Taylor, Nancy Whitton, Gloria Williams, Peggy Johnson, Valerie Roberson, Fay Williams, Yvonne Sloane, Merle Kelly, Nancy Johnson, Elizabeth Sloane, and last but not least, little Rose King.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY AT TABULAM

On Thursday, 22nd December, 1955, a Christmas Party with Christmas Tree, was held in the Recreation Hall for the children of Tabulam Station, the success of which was due to the combined efforts of the Aborigines Welfare Board, the Casino Branch of the Australian Red Cross, and the Mallangance and Tabulam Buffalo Lodge.

The Recreation Hall was tastefully decorated by Miss Joan Daley, with fern leaves, streamers and tinsel. On the stage stood the Christmas Tree which was surrounded by sixty-five parcels of toys from the Australian Red Cross, and down the full length of the hall ran a table decorated with flowers, streamers and tinsel. The table was piled with plates of sandwiches, fancy iced cakes and biscuits.

After the children had eaten, Father Christmas arrived to the strains of "Jingle Bells", rendered by three of the local lads, and Father Christmas distributed a bag full of toys as he proceeded around the hall. On returning to the stage he distributed a parcel of toys to each child living on the Station, and then all visiting children were supplied with toys.

Later in the evening, gallons of iced fruit drinks, ice cream, icy poles and fancy biscuits were served, and the adults partook of refreshments.

The catering and serving was done by the Matron with the help of two visitors to the Station, Mrs. Julia Draper and Miss Gracie Daley.

The Manager welcomed to the Station the visitor-donors from the Australian Red Cross and the Buffalo Lodge and thanked them for their wonderful gifts, and the residents showed their appreciation for one of the best evenings they have ever had.

The adults then cleared the hall for dancing, and the visitors were given supper at the Manager's residence.

At daybreak next morning, a squad of children, in column of three, with wooden tommy-guns at the slope, marched around the streets to the cheers of the adults who lined the balconies of their homes. Later in the day, "A Fleet of Boats" was launched in the beautiful Rocky River which runs through the Station property.

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## FAREWELL TO Mr. GORDON.

A very sad farewell was recently given in the Murrin Bridge School Hall to Mr. Bruce Gordon.

All the children have known Mr. Gordon for a number of years and it was easy to read in their faces just how much they are all going to miss him. He was more than a teacher, he was indeed a friend to all, adults and children. We are all pleased to say that although Mr. Gordon has moved from the Station he has only moved into Lake Cargelligo, so the residents will all see him now and again. A leather overnight bag was presented to Mr. Gordon by the children and the adults, and for once he was speechless.