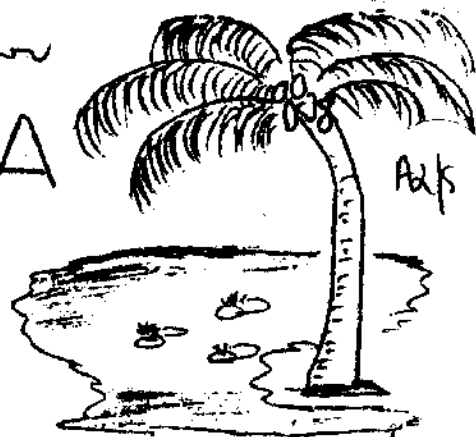




3 JUL 1972

M. Brown

MANINGRIDA MIRAGE VOL. 114



Fri. Dec. 10th 1971

The December Meeting.

The Progress Association meeting on Wednesday evening was well attended, with 14 visitors present.

The Bakery.

As people are eating much more bread than was anticipated (thanks to the excellent work of Les Holt) a quote has been obtained for a larger oven. Milingimbi are building a bakery and have taken an option on the Maningrida oven.

Post Office.

The count of letters and parcels during November was approximately the same as in May. About twice as many letters were received as were sent away. (Surely "Reader's Digest" had something to do with this.)

Banking.

The business Manager, Mr. Glen Bagshaw, gave details of a special account which has been negotiated with the Bank and which will bring financial advantages to the Progress Association.

Building of the Community Hall

All the contracts for the steel construction, brick laying, plumbing etc. have been let and the cost is likely to be around \$65,000. The probable date for completion is about the end of 1972.

Basketball Court.

Mr. Peter Williams outlined the history of the new basketball Court. Cement etc. was purchased with a grant from the National Aborigines Sports Foundation and local contractors were engaged to carry out the surfacing of the Court at a cost of \$1,300. This money has been raised on a loan.

The Association decided to approach the A.N.A.S.F. for a further grant and agreed to act as guarantor for the \$1,300 loan.

Inter - town football matches.

Mr. Tom Yibberal was concerned about the local footballers who write to other centres saying that the Maningrida footballers are coming to play on a certain week-end, without first checking up on whether transport is available. Twice now, players have discovered that either no plane was available or that the charter fare was too high for them.

Houses for Aboriginal People.

Mr. Tom Yibberal also expressed concern that there seemed to be a lot of houses being built for Europeans but very little for Aborigines at present. Mr. Hunter assured Tom that the program for Aboriginal houses would continue and that there were more men trained to build than previously. Mr. Bagshaw said that further Government money for the Housing Association had been promised, and as soon as this arrived, orders for materials for new Aboriginal houses would be sent away.

The auditor's comment.

Mr. Doug Gamble said during his recent visit, that a fall of 2% in the store's profit could put the Progress Association in a dangerous financial position.

Appreciation. Mr. Hunter expressed gratitude to Mr. Peter Williams for the active part he has played in the Progress Settlement's activities.

UMBAKUMBA..... GROOTE EBLANDT

A one hour jet flight from Darwin at more than 600 m.p.h and 45 minutes of corrugated calamity through the hinterland of 'Great (big) Island' will bring the weary traveller to rest at what must surely be one of the most attractive locations of any settlement in the Territory..... UMBAKUMBA.



Situated virtually on the beach, built on sand dunes to face the northerly breeze and overlooking a blue water bay that would do justice to any picture post card, Umbakumba is a government Welfare settlement, like Maningrida. It is very small in comparison with only about 300 people, but is developing along similar lines to our own and of course, experiences many of the problems of a developing community, water shortages, power problems, communications etc.

Built on the site of the original mission station (which has been moved to a place called Anurugu), some of the buildings are the old stone and plaster type so typical of the early mission 'vintage'.

There is a good and reasonably priced store (all buying is done through Brisbane) run by the Umbakumba Development Association, U.D.A. Plans are under way to build a new store facility and the the Manageress was very keen to hear how the Maningrida Store is operated. There is a housing association run on similar lines to our own, Maningrida people will be interested to know that preference has been given to ~~the~~ prefabricated all metal houses similar to the ones to be built at Maningrida. Next year it is hoped to restart the garden which was founded by the missionaries.

The presence of GEMCO and the 'Kailis Groote Eylandt Fisheries' has made a considerable difference to the Islands' Aborigines. There are employment opportunities and where opportunities have arisen to provide service industries, these have been taken. A trust fund which is operated ~~from~~ with royalties from the GEMCO mining is making an important contribution to the development of the Aboriginal communities, Umbakumba and Anurugu.

Umbakumbas' fishing enterprise is run by the U.D.A., at the present time it is similar in size and operation to the Maningrida Project. Next year there is to be a \$30,000 processing plant built, adjacent to the existing 'Kailis' prawn processing plant at Bartalumba Bay which is close to the B.H.P. township, Alyangula, but a good hours journey by road and several hours by boat. Refrigeration for the new plant is to be tapped from the existing prawn factory system and there will be a crushed ice plant incorporated into the new ~~system~~ building. The beauty of the scheme is that because of export regulations the prawn factory is only allowed to handle prawns. The new facility will be able to cater for anything else the trawlers care to bring in for sale. This will include scale fishes, mackerel, shark, butterfly crayfish (Morton Bay Bugs), Scallops and crabs.

On this sound basis the Umbakumba fishermen will be establishing their industry, having the virtually guaranteed supply of fish from up to 40 prawn trawlers to feed their own factory, they will be able to develop their fishery at a pace suitable to the needs of the community.

JC

Forestry

The Ilyth River Road -way was inspected by Mr. Roger Davey from the Survey section, last week. The road has been basically formed and is open to traffic, weather permitting. In the next Dry Season, the final formation and "Crowning" of the road will take place.

Maningrida-ites of a few years ago remember that a week-end's drive could take one to Lada Point or around the Loop Road and that was about it. Now there are approximately 250 miles of roads and several good tracks to various beaches and places in the bush. Further road work and bridge building, including a bridge over Du Galatoma creek is proposed for the next Dry Season. F.L.

School Break-up Concert.

The Concert Hall for the end of the year school concert was the new kitchen rather than the Star Theatre, as there were a number of items with speaking parts, and the likely light sprinkle of rain. The tables made quite an effective stage, and most of the audience were able to watch comfortably from their chairs. No "Sit down in front" protests were necessary!

It was good to see a large number of parents and friends. Then, just as the concert was about to begin, some of the "Eagle" men joined the audience. Nic was given a resounding cheer, but when Mario came through the door the cheers rose to a crescendo and made one wonder whether perhaps Elvis Presley or Tarzan had come.

As the pre-school and the infant classes sang their songs they had to battle against a lot of noise and Mr. Williams spoke sternly to some of the school children. The audience hadn't settled down. Perhaps, if a rousing item from some of the older children - a sing-along with the audience joining in, or such, - had come at the beginning, everyone might have quietened down a little better.

The concert was very good, and the children in every class tried hard. Each item was quite interesting in its own way.

Acting

As sometimes happens in the theatre, the star falls sick on the great night, and an unknown understudy steps into his place and is immediately recognized as a great actor. So it happened on Monday night. The real "Snowwhite" was indisposed and unable to attend; so at the last minute Mr. John Stevens took the part and, with the "dwarfs", brought the house down. The reluctant maiden being taken into the dark forest by the wood man, the eating of the bewitched apple, and the happy embrace with the prince were well done. The "Spirit" in the African play, who danced so gaily about the stage, deserved special mention.



Songs.

The children presented action songs, folk songs and carols. A quite new type of songs to the program was a very old one, - the Rembaranga farewell song. As in this year's Arnhemland Sports concert at the Foreshore Amphitheatre, these traditional aboriginal "folk songs" are a splendid and welcome contribution to the program.



Dressing up.

Dressing up is always good fun and this year we had a number of animals and birds, shepherds and wise men, negro minstrel singers and tribesmen from the Congo.

The head dresses in the "Henry Penny" and "The animals in the jar" plays were indeed a work of art. Then put young Jockey into the skin and head of a bear, and even the people on the stage were beginning to get frightened of this powerful, energetic creature with the long claws.

Recitations.

We would like to have heard more of these, and will have to ask the microphone man for some help in the future.

The Headmaster, Mr. Peter Williams, gave a brief report of the school's activities. The Superintendent, Mr. John Wilders, presented the prizes for academic (school) work and Mr. Lucky Balarka presented the athletic prizes.

Christmas trees for the asking.

Forestry will be happy to provide any family with a Christmas tree. Name the day you need it and they will supply. See either Messrs. Eric Quick, Fred Luff or Bruce Craven.



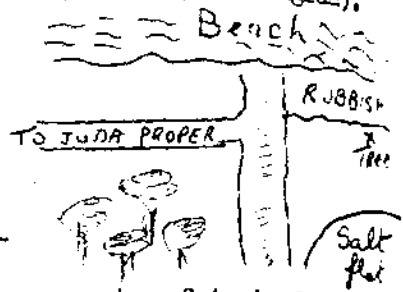
Question : How can you plant ten pine trees in five rows of four?

Answer in next issue . It can be done ...

Keep our beaches and billabongs clean

On Tuesday at the Judah Point beach, the children of Senior and Intermediate classes collected about 200 cans (mostly green medicinal ones) from the area where most people usually camp when they go there for the day. All around the area for about 200 feet is a litter of cans, food wrappers and assorted rubbish. We moved the rubbish we collected into a small gully, and we hope that everyone who uses the beach will deposit their litter there, too. (See diagram). Early in the new year we'll try to organize a party of school kids to bury the rubbish and, perhaps, dig a new pit for the same purpose. Similar deterioration is setting in at Dagarladora and the Tonkinson billabong.

Clean, unspoiled billabongs and beaches are becoming a rarity in Australia - many have already been swamped by the flotsam and jetsam of our disposable container society. It's very little trouble to bury your rubbish or take it home with you. Let's pass at least some parts of Arnhemland on to the next generation in the condition in which we found them.



Dan Gillespie.

Are you travelling by air?

Mr. Barry Tuite goes on leave on Monday and Mr. Trevor King will act as Connair agent in his absence.

Trevor will be at the Government Store half an hour before the plane is due each day to write tickets and weigh luggage etc.

Basketball Finals

J. PASCOE MATJIRI

In second semi finals Kupanga defeated Cadell on points. Both teams played their best and tried hard, but Kupanga was a bit faster than Cadell. In the first half Kupanga were ahead of Cadell. By the end of the second half they were level, and they played for another five minutes. The end of 5 minutes gave Kupanga a win. In the other match between Jinang and Cape Stewart it was very, very hard and a tight game. In the first half Cape Stewart was not fast enough, but the Jinang fellows went very fast and made good baskets in the first half, 28 to 24. In the second half Cape Stewart put more weight and tried their best, though they were not as fast as usual. George Putti Dick Smith, Ronnie Mace and James played well and also Jacky, Dick and Kevin from Cape Stewart. The points were Cape Stewart 58 to Jinang 56.

President's Comments: I'd like to say how happy I was to run this club and I enjoyed myself very much, except for some other matters, such as arguments etc. It is the first time I've run this club. Basketball has never been run by an Aborigine, and I appreciate very much this opportunity. Though I had to learn the hard way, it's the only way to learn the rules and the way they apply to any situation, to guide us how to play properly in this and in any other sport. It is good to see you playing under the direction of an Aboriginal leader who is in charge of the teams. Well, there's nothing more to say, and I do hope to see you again next year playing well and fit.

Your President, J.P.

The Grand Final "Kupanga is King."

The Grand Final of the basketball competition was between 2 teams who hadn't made the final four. Cape Stewart and Kupanga. The game was fast and hard with many fouls being given out. Kupanga played attacking basketball each time they got the ball. But they were slow to get back when Cape Stewart gained possession. On these occasions Cape Stewart scored quite a few breaks. Larry and Jin scored most of Kupanga's baskets to give them the win. Michael Stewart also put through a few good long shots. Cape Stewart played very fast in the first half but in the second half they slowed down and many of their long passes did not find the net. The half time scores were C.S. 24 to Kup. 24. At the final whistle Kup. 46 Bob S.

Weekend Duty Officers: Mr. Ben Barryman
Duties, Duty Sister : Sister Helen King.



Star Theatre Friday : The painted Wagon, will, unfortunately, not be available, instead the film "ALUG" will be shown.

Church.

Third Sunday in Advent. "Do we look for another?"

9.30 a.m. Sunday Schools
7 p.m. Evening Service.

Wednesday 7.30 p.m. Crusaders' Fellowship.

The Crusade conducted by the Goulburn Islanders and the visit of Mrs. Kathie Glasgow with the completed translation of the Gospel of St. John are two events which came near to each other. We could say that both were "messengers" who came "to prepare the way of the Lord." Several people are preparing for Baptism.

Births.

Jo-ann, daughter born to Mullet Melabinyin in Darwin Hospital on 28th November,

A son born to Mandy and Jack Nabalaya in Darwin Hospital on 30th November,

Johnny, son born to Rose Wadagaga and John Mayorra at Maningrida. This baby arrived early, weighing only 2 lbs. 4 oz., and has been sent in on the medical plane.

People

For some years Mr. Lumpy Gandaija has had a bad chest complaint, and sometimes finds it hard to get his breath. A couple of times lately, the sisters have been called because "Lumpy is dead". However, this week Lumpy was dressed in his best clothes and with a smile on his face was boarding the taxi to catch the plane bound for Oenpelli.

Mr. Jim Ankertel is a plumber and joined Yope this week in "Gunavidji" cottage. He will work on the airport rest room (now with its brick walls up) and the 2 partly finished aboriginal houses up near the Rebaranga camp.

Mrs. "B." Quick is now able to be even quicker. The "Warrender" brought her "Welseley" last Thursday.

A gentleman from Canada has written inquiring about the purchase of a didjeridoo. He says: "Basic instructions for playing the didjeridoo would be much appreciated". We feel that it would be easier to send a man over to give some lessons!! A likely candidate may be Jack Gambowa or even a "Ngulabiya for Canada" movement!

A few more words about Mr. Jim Ankertel: Jim was here in 1963 helping to finish off the old kitchen. One Friday night, in the era before moving pictures, someone was showing slides of a trip through Victoria and the main street of a fairly prosperous country town appeared. Commentator: "I can't remember what place this is." Jim: "It's my home town, Warracknabeal!"

Mr. Michael BalilBalil returned from his brick-layer's course in Darwin on Monday and is working on the Town Hall building.

The Superintendent Mr. John Wilders and the visiting policeman made a journey to Ngangalala to see a young Maningrida man there. They made the trip over and back between 7a.m. and 7p.m. Michael Brown was at the wheel. Yesterday.

Mrs. Jan Croft and Mr., and Mrs. Bruce Neal left on yesterday's plane for holidays. Today's plane is expected to be full of teachers going on leave.

Bor Bor and Best Wishes.

To Miss Cheryl Pullen who goes to Tamworth in N.S.W. and then on to the relieving staff. At the end of next year she may be able to say "I've been to every place."

To Mr. and Mrs. John Stevens who will be in Brisbane for Christmas and then to Goulburn. We send our best wishes to Mrs. Williams who will return to Kornilda College. We send our best wishes to Mrs. Williams and the children too.

Between Christmas and New Year

Service	Christmas Days							Mon. 31/1/72 New Year's Day Holiday
	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tues.	Wed.		
Hospital	Ordinary	Sr. Eng	Sr. Eng	Sr. Cec	Sr. Helen	Sr. Eng	Sr. Eng	
Duty Officer	Working Day	Bert R	Bert R.	Bert R.	Bert R.	Bert R.	Brolga	
Kitchen	Christmas Dinner	closed	←	Open for Breakfast	Breakfast	→	Open for Breakfast	
Shop	Served	closed	closed	closed	open	closed	closed	
Post Office	9 ^{am} - 1 ^{pm}	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	
Bank		closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	closed	
CLUB	←	OPEN		-AS - NORMAL			→	
Hasty Tasty		closed		Open	Open	open	open	

On Christmas Eve - Carol singing around the settlement.
 On Monday (after Christmas Day) Spear Throwing etc.

Passrs. Jimmy Olsen and his mate Michael Stewart are returning to the settlement after 2 months of roadwork in the bush. They will now use the bull dozer to clear lines for the planting out of 30,000 cypress pine seedlings.

Mr. Bob Fisher and Digby alias Dennis Coleman, travelled to Darwin yesterday. Bob to go to Melville Island and Digby to escape the rigors of life at Mingrida for a few days.

Maningrida Mirage

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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