



# MANINGRIDA MIRAGE



6th. Oct. 1972.

Vol. 157

## Big Meeting at Blyth River.

On Sunday the people of the Kupanga (on the Blyth River) gathered for an important meeting with the Superintendent, Mr. John Hunter. All (or nearly all) the powerful men of the Burada nation gathered - Big Barney, Frank Gamanamana (who sponsored the gathering) Jacky Jabilali, Benny Mudurrug, Jack Guraraya, Joe Mangoluda, Darky, Johnny Mundurrug Mundurrug, Jacky Bitjuraga, Alec Wimala, and Tom Galbaranga were there along with Council President Tom Yibberal. They had cleaned up the camp so that it looked superbly clean and built a proper house for the meeting. They represented the 110 people now living there.

Some of the topics discussed were:

- \* A road to be built to the Blyth River. Eight men will work on the project with Fred Gunamlili in charge of the operations. The men will look around over the black soil plains to find some high ground for an all weather track.
- \* A one-teacher school - preferably a small canvas-tent like structure which could be moved from time to time.
- \* The general potential of the area, water supplies, etc.

There is quite a lot of other action in the area at present.

Big Barney with the help of David Bandirippa and David Mirwana is making a splendid 24' canoe.

Work on a log coffin for the bones of David Bandirippa's father continues. Les and Betty watched the men dig up the bones 12 years ago on the other side of the Blyth River. Johnny Mundurrug Mundurrug is singing, Frank playing the didjeridoo, and Peter Banjuljul is singing and dancing. Minnie Marabajima is busy making mosquito houses.

From Rhys Jones.

## Fishing

The Progress Association has decided to buy a secondhand fishing boat and a big Freezer unit (similar to the one in the shop) to be part of the Fishery project.

Jim Pickersgill is now busy preparing equipment for fishing and crabbing. More information on the de-nippering of crabs later.

## Gove Highway Survey.

The mining men report that a survey team has pushed along from Oenpelli across the Liverpool to a point 4 miles this side of the Mann River. Their graders and a big front end loader (like the Eagle Terex) have travelled 18 miles down the miner's road to link up with the Bulman road. At this stage the party seems to be widening and grading the tracks to provide access for future survey work. They hope to reach Gove within 5 weeks.

Messrs. Glen Bagshaw, Bob Cross and James Wilson expected to leave today to travel overland to Mt. Borrodale for a meeting.

J. P. Congratulations to Glen Bagshaw whose appointment as Justice of the Peace was recently gazetted.

# Young man addresses the Council.

Council Meeting held on 2nd October 1972.

Present: 11 Councillors and 7 visitors

Library: Headmaster informed Council that the school library was open from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays; all people were invited to come in and make use of the library.

Cr. Baleiya said that on Wednesday nights there was an opportunity for people to learn reading and writing. Three men were going to the class now.

Views of a Young Visitor: Tim D'Arcy addressed the Council at some length, mostly in Burada. His points were:-

- \* The Scout Hall Councillors did not help when the boys had to shift out of the Scout Hall recently.
- \* The Council did not consult with the Scout Hall residents when the visiting dancers were lodged there. This was the Council's job to do but they didn't. Also the men left a big mess.
- \* Promise Business. It was too hard for young people to fulfil the old law; the old people had to change it. Council didn't help to change the law.

## Social Roundabout

If perchance you hear a commotion around your rubbish bin DON'T SHOOT!! It could be your friendly neighbour Clive McMahon.

(Actually he is a polite rubbish bin "rummager" - he came and asked for permission - to collect discarded bicycle parts.

Maybe we're in for our very own Maningrida Steptoe.

## Women's Basketball

If you've noticed Fred Luff walking around cross-eyed Tuesday mornings - don't worry too much about it. Its only because he has been umpiring womens' basketball the night before and the girls in their bran' new psychedelic (almost) uniforms prove a little too much for him. However he has a whole week to straighten out before the next assault.

Draw Next Week. "Its the hot pink and luminous red 'whot' does it".

Monday 9 October: Peacock vs Entrance Island  
Entrance Is. vs Flamingo

Best and Fairest Player: Mandy  
Judy

Results: Monday 2 October:

Peacock	24	defeated	Entrance Island	14
Flamingo	34	defeated	Peacock	22

## A Letter from Bill Scott

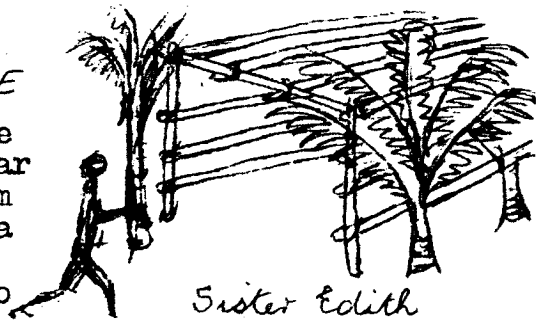
"Spent some time again this year at Mt Skinner, North-east from Alice Springs. Went up by road again in early June to do some repairs to the Diamond drilling rig.....when fixed it went to Mt Isa to put down some test holes north of Mt Isa. One day towards the end of June I was in the Alice and ran into Eric Quick in Todd Street.

Pass on my regards to all the folk I know up there...."

## TOWN HOUSE FOR COUNTRY PEOPLE

Ray Munyal and George Guwitjila (Bamyili) are building a frame for a coconut leaf house near the hospital. It will have two rooms. One room for people to sit down in and one room for a kitchen.

The Guyun and Nangak people who come into shop or hospital treatment will come here. Sister Edith will help to teach them how to cook different foods which they can take home in the late afternoon. A laundry and toilet will probably be built too.



Sister Edith

From Ray Munyal.

## LOCAL PRODUCTION

The women of the Blyth River area sent in 600lbs weight of shell fish (ambambula) from mangrove to sell in the shop (bags of assorted weight 4-6lbs sell from 45c-65c. An extra two to three hundred pounds were distributed to relatives in the Settlement. Six women under the expert management of Frank Guramanamana gathered these within an hour from a dense mangrove stand. (anajambilpa)

The Cadell Garden continues to supply sweet potatoes and water melon in quantity. Tomatoes will not become available for a couple of weeks. Lettuce are on sale,

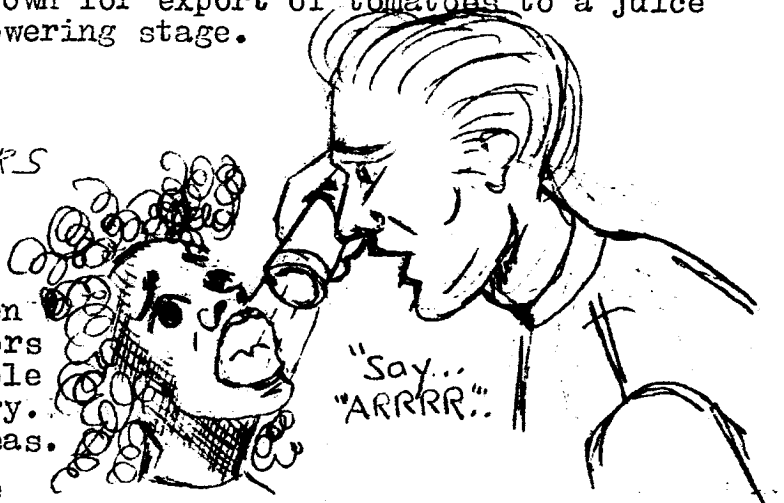
A very encouraging report on the pilot export project of gladioli blooms to City Florists has come to hand. Gladioli are graded A, B, C and D. The Maningrida blooms have all been classified as A or B which is very pleasing. The Cadell Gardens aim to produce 1000 blooms a week eventually.

Tomato bushes being grown for export of tomatoes to a juice making firm are now in the flowering stage.

## FROM THE NEWSPAPERS

### Health Report

The big news this week has been the "Health Report". Two doctors and another man talked to people all over the Northern Territory. Then they wrote down their ideas.



- \* More teaching about medicine should be given to Aboriginal people. Then each person and each community could help each other and the hospital.
- \* There are a lot of Aboriginal children in the N.T not getting enough food.
- \* Flies carry sickness, especially where rubbish is lying around.
- \* Aboriginal medicine men are important among their own people. They could help if doctors understood them and taught them about European treatments.

## FOR SALE

### MIRANDA CAMERA.

Single Lens Reflex. As new condition, 4 months old 2 year Guarantee valued at \$215.00 new.

\$160.00 with extras.

Here and There.

See Barry Tuite.

The Areyonga Concert party are scheduled to arrive in Areyonga today. Mrs. Jenny Tuite and Mrs Chris Cox arrived back at Maningrida yesterday after a time in Darwin Hospital.

## A FISHY TALE - BUT TRUE.

While rock fishing and crabbing at very low tide at Juda Point, Dee saw a fish under a rock. I said it looked like a crab, because it was almost out of the water. A prod with a fish spear produced a 2lb groper and no less than 8 other goppers down to small size - all squeezed under a damp rock, alive too.

Mick Uiho.

## FORESTRY

Hank Mc Cabe is once again with us. Hank will be here until January.

Bob Fisher is expecting a visit from a lady friend from the South at the end of the week. What is wrong with the local talent Bob?

Early next week <sup>WE are O.K!!</sup> we are to be visited by John Hauser, Chris Haines, Charlie Burchard and Russel Anderson. I wonder if the warmer sunny climate is attracting the visitors.

John Reister, Forestry's most eligible bachelor is going to resign from the position on Saturday. The Forestry lads are looking forward to being evicted from the Reister Residence by Mrs Reister in the future.

We have the arrival of the new mechanic to look forward to. Loo Turner arrives on Friday.

Randall Scott will be leaving Maningrida on Monday. He is feeling nostalgic already and we have heard he has packed about 160lbs of Maningrida soil and a few crates of leaves and grass. to take with him. Best of luck Randy.

The Phantom has struck again at the Saw Mill.

Wheelbarrow tracks have been seen running from the little white shed to the flats.

Merv Mason says that every possible means are being used to find out more about the Sawdust Phantom.

Merv will keep us posted on the movements.

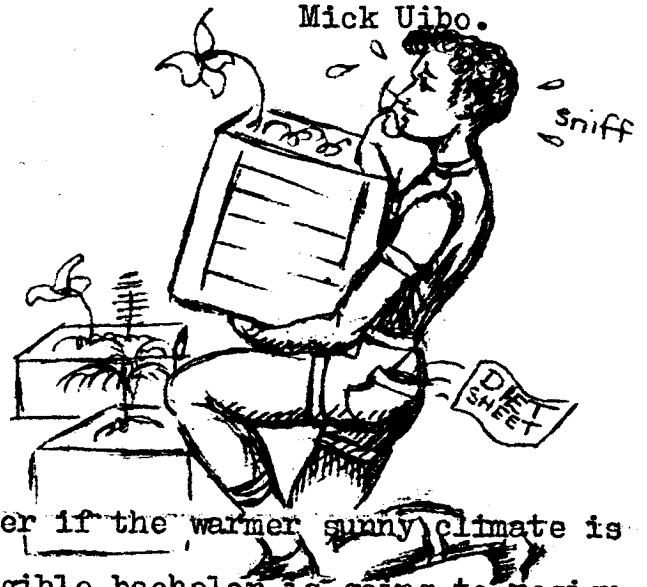
## BIRDWATCHER

I class the Red-Winged Parrot, so common in our local bushland, as one of the most naturally beautiful things we have, but one could argue all night long as to which parrot was the most beautiful. Anyone that spends any time at all in the bush here would be familiar with it, and its brilliant crimson red wing is visible at its best when flying. The red markings are at their prime in the adult male bird, but the hen still has a suggestion. The rest of the male's plumage is generally a bright green colour. We usually see them in the eucalyptus forests, but I have seen them in mangroves near the settlement more than once.



They will call in on clearings that are surrounded by dense bush, but because their numbers are so few in the more populated areas of Australia, any real damage they may cause to crops is negligible. They are protected by law, but, along with many other of our parrots, suffer at the hand of illegal trappers who, if successful in exporting them overseas, obtain extremely high prices for them.

Throughout most parts of Australia this bird is not very common - in fact in some parts it is rare, but we are fortunate at Maningrida in having it in such abundance, and we should try and appreciate its beauty for itself and as part of the environment. FEATHERS



Weekend  
Duties:

Duty Officer: Mr. E. Carey  
Duty Sister: Sister Ena

Star  
Theatre:

**Fri:** "Arizona Raiders" with Audie Murphy and Michael Dante.  
**Sat:** "The Sicilian Clan" - a tense, taut crime story. Jean Gabin, Alain Delon, Leno Venturo.  
\* \* \* \* \*

Church

Saturday 4 p.m. The marriage of Mr. John Reister and Miss Elizabeth Conaglen. Nuptial Mass.  
Sunday 8 a.m. Mass. Father McPhilamy  
9.45 a.m. Sunday Schools  
7.15 p.m. Evening Service conducted by the Minister. Father McPhilamy will preach the sermon.  
Tuesday 7.30 p.m. Choir practice.



The Lord is my pace-setter, I shall not rush.  
He makes me stop for quiet intervals; He provides me with images of stillness, which restore my serenity.  
He leads me in ways of efficiency through calmness of mind, and his guidance is peace.  
Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day, I will not fret, for his presence is here.  
His timelessness, his all-importance, will keep me in balance.  
He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity by anointing my mind with his oil of tranquillity, my cup of joyous energy overflows.  
Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruit of my hours, and I shall walk in the pace of the Lord, and dwell in his house forever.

Minnie Manbal (well known in Woolworths) had a baby boy in Darwin Hospital on Saturday.

People

Sister Maija left this week on the first stage of her holiday journey to Kenya in Africa. Also leaving for Africa tonight is Mr. Rupert Kentish to attend the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference at Blantyre in Malawi. Rupert is the N.T. representative.

A visitor from Groote Eylandt Miss Ina Nungumadbarr is staying with the Uibos for a few weeks. Silas and Rosie are relatives also.

Sister Cec (or Sister Says as one Aboriginal correspondent wrote) and Sister Edith are in Darwin attending a Nurses Conference.

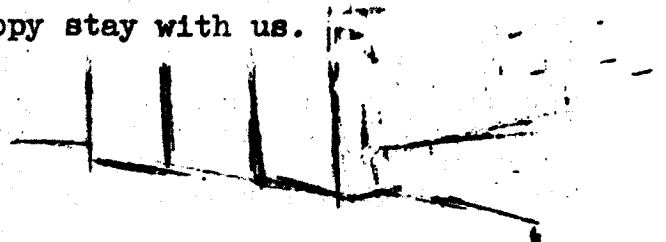
A number of Gunwinggu people came in from Mumayga and Maragalidban and the area near the airstrip on Thursday.

Jim and Ena Pickersgill visited this area last weekend and report that Peter Maralwanga's people are feeding on big barra-mundi (big mob) geese and ducks everywhere.

Seen in an old photo this week Silas Roberts in the wheel house of the cargo vessel "Corara" piloting her down the Roper River.

People who have come into Maningrida for Saturday's wedding include John's mother, Mrs Vujic and his brother Gordon (best man) from Sydney, Sister Val (the bridesmaid), Judy Daniels and Mrs Ethel Acton from New Zealand.

We wish them all a happy stay with us.



**Maningrida Mirage**

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Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

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