

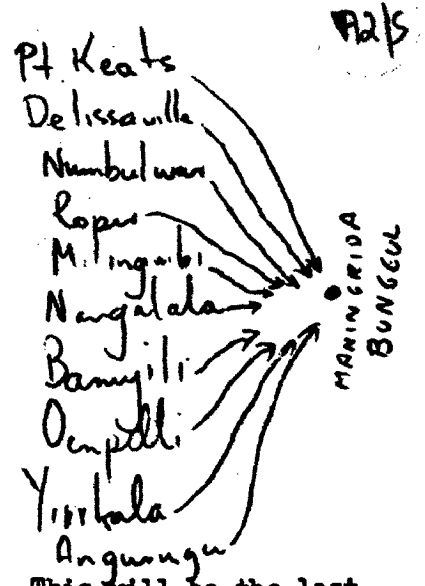
A.I.A.S.
LIBRARY

17 JUL 1974



H/office

Maningrida
Mirage
Volume 188
8.6.73



THE EDITORS JOB IS VACANT:

Calling all amateur newspaper men and women. This will be the last Mirage that I will edit. Increasing pressure of studies and increasing work generally make it impossible for me to carry the Mirage on.

The Mirage is an important item in the life of our community and it would be very sad for it to fold - I am sure there are other people at Maningrida who could do the job of getting the stories together and getting them to typists and arranging printing.

What I would particularly like to see would be Aboriginal people having a big part in putting out the Mirage - perhaps some of the teaching assistants could take some of the jobs over.

There may be a bit of delay until the next Mirage - until we can sort out new editorial staff. We hope our subscribers will bear with us.

As I said, this will be the last Mirage I will edit. Anyone interested in taking over the running of the paper - groups or individuals - please contact me urgently.

Dan Gillespie.

BIG CRICKET MATCH :

Next Monday - starting 10.30am - the battle of the century - at the M.C.G.

PUBLIC SERVANTS V THE REST

Shudder - is Maningrida ready for it folks ?? Rumour has it that Eddy(killor) Carey is practising his wrist action - both hands.

Spectators most welcome - good time guaranteed.

FISHING COMPETITION :

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Fishing Comp - Catering & Organising. Thank you also to the people who spent their money. A profit of \$316 was made towards the cost of flying the dancing team to the Bisteddfod. Combined with other money we have & the dancers own donations we will have \$770 - only \$30 short of the target which is good news.

To raise this last bit the Council is running a short dance on next pay Saturday at about 3.30 or 4.00pm on the ground in front of the Craft Shop. Everyone welcome - you will be asked for a donation.

D.G.

VACANT JOBS AT BAGOT :

The Bagot Housing Association is looking for two people to work for them. Here are the jobs :

- (1) Assistant Manager - helping the manager, especially by bringing any problems of the people in the houses to him. Wages \$82.50 per week

ROSEMARY SENDS

STORIES FROM CANBERRA

Rosemary Walters who was a teacher here last year has sent two long stories about things she saw in Canberra. One was about the dancing she saw there. Dick, David and Talbert were dancing along with men from Yirrkala, Mornington Island (Queensland) Bathurst Island and Weipa. Old man Jolly Laiwanga from Banyili was dancing too. Also the Mowanjum men from Western Australia.

The other thing Rosemary wrote about was an art exhibition. There were paintings, carvings, pottery and leather work from Aboriginal people all over Australia. She saw barks by old Guniwinggu man Yirawala (one of Mandarrgs barks was in the exhibition also.....ed) Rosemary also saw paintings by Albert Namitjiras relations.

Rosemary said the exhibition made her feel hopeful because balanda people are trying to learn more about Aboriginal people. (sorry to shorten your stories ROsemary. The art exhibition is going to Asia, Korea, Indonesia and the Phillipines).

D.C.

SPORT: from Bob Stutch.

The first Northern Territory Amateur Athletics Association meeting for some years was a big success for 3 Kormilda College students from Maningrida. Gilbert Wumala won the under 17 years boys 100 metres and the under 17 800 metres races. Rosemary Ginnalia won an under 15 years girls 100 metres races. Ada Mangwanda won an under 15 years girls 100 metres race.

This athletics meeting held in Darwin on Thursday night 24th. May 1973 was for any Darwin people who wanted to race.

STORY FROM JACK:

On Sunday, the 27th of May, 1973, I went to Bruce Neale's but he was not home, so I went to Gladys Pascoe to ask for help with my story. I want to tell the Maningrida readers (only a few citizens) my own troubles and how my balanda friends have helped me.

When I was a patrol officers' guide in Darwin, I was a good guide doing a good job, gathering many tribes to missions and settlements where all the children could go to school to learn to read and write. Before I was a patrol officers' guide I did not know what the job was or much about the Europeans' way. But the European patrol officer was asking me for many peoples names, skin groups and tribes but I did not understand him, because we have our own way of knowing our relations with totems, animals, trees and plants. But the European Patrol Officer taught me to understand him and started to teach me (the new breed) to read and write. Afterwards I became a Patrol Officer and was driving Commonwealth vehicles, taking aboriginal people to hospital, to court and gathering them to settlements and missions.

Later I became a Teaching Assistant. I did my course in Darwin and then worked at Maningrida. My job was to teach English by using Barada, Guninggu, Gunavidji, Marwngu, Ngakara, Gunardpa, Marday, Rembarranga, Anbara, Gorakungee, Wulaki and Jinang. This was a very hard job and my people very angry because we were teaching English, Mrs. Tom Armstrong and I myself Jack Miritji. We had very big trouble teaching both ways, because we were hitting the children Europeans way, and giving the girls dresses to wear and nagas to the boys. I said this was good because the children were behaving themselves but my people disagreed. I tried to tell them that we could not live in our old way forever, that we had to learn Europeans way. This time I was winning and nobody from my people pushed me.

Jack's story (continued)

I was still having trouble with women. So I started the Village Council to help teach the changing law when aboriginals had the right to vote. Seven tribes joined me, meeting from place to place about one wife, and women to choose their own husband, and learning to eat with knives and forks. The people were very interested. We talked about the new laws about taking tribal countries and land rights. People agreed mostly and wanted to buy fishing boats and trucks. Guningu people got the first tractor and landrover. They used them as transport to Liverpool Top Land to work in the garden and they were going to build a cattle station, but this did not work. Gunadpa got a boat, through interest in the meetings. They called it Bardjatja - this is a jaberoo bird, this was their totem. They used it for farming transport and taking food to Cadell Gardens. They were growing watermelons, potatoes, cabbages and a few other things. The Superintendent was helping them, giving them water pumps.

That time when I was leading Village Council, it was my idea that I could teach my people European ways. I was living with the Europeans and I thought that because I could live that way, I could help my people to live the Europeans way. I knew we could not live in our old ways forever.

I wanted to build a museum to keep memories of old days for important people to visit to see all the tribes histories and some important things to remember. Then I took two old men and a girl to Winnellie Show to sell artefacts and exhibit Maningrida's stories. Welfare was guiding me. I wanted to use the money to finish building the museum. But my people got angry because they thought I was taking the girl away. Some of them chased me to Darwin and had a fight with me. After that I gave up trying and stayed in Darwin until I got better after the fight. The two old men and the girl came back to Maningrida. Nobody finished the museum. I had to give the money to the people to come back to Maningrida. I was frightened because they wanted to kill me. Later on, when I was better I walked back with my brothers, through Oenpelli and then to Maningrida.

Half way back we had a Balanda chasing us and we all ran away. We thought he was going to kill us. He was a buffalo shooter and had two guns. He was asking lot of questions and we were frightened. But he just wanted to help us shoot a kangaroo to eat. We were still frightened when we got the kangaroo and we sneaked away and did not eat it. We left three men there and when we heard three shots we did not go back because we thought he shot the three men. But he did not, he took them back to Darwin.

The people at Oenpelli helped us with money to catch a plane back to Maningrida. We stayed at Oenpelli a couple of days but did not explain our story to them. My relations at Oenpelli gave me bamboo spears made to shovel nose, because I thought I would have trouble at Maningrida. But there was no trouble when I got back here.

I stayed at Maningrida one night and went with the Superintendent to talk about the three men we though got shot. But the Superintendent found out through Welfare that the men were in Darwin, still alive. That made me feel a bit happier.

I heard later that my younger brother was drunk in Darwin. He got in a fight and Maningrida people threw him at a truck as it was going past. They killed him because of my trouble. They could not catch me so they got my brother instead. They were angry about the money I gave away.

I went to Village Council meeting to try and explain that we were all wrong, but it was my mistake to give the money away. They were still after me. They still blamed me for all the trouble and wanted me to pay back all the money I gave away. They had a Sacred Ceremony to bless the museum. Then they started to push me to get things from the European people. I did this for a while but then I decided to live my own way. I like my people but they don't like me because I think too much Europeans way. When Europeans help me they are not pushing thoughts

Jack's Story (continued)

and ideas on me. They are helping me use English to show everyone what I am and how I think.

I wish I could pay for this help but I have no money to pay the Europeans who help. Sometimes I am learning through their writing and talking to them. I am writing to try and help people to see how we can live together happily. I hear people talking about black and white, but we are all human beings and should learn to live together. When something goes wrong, we should not blame black or white, but get together as equals and work the problem out. This is my own problem, because it will not work now, but maybe in the future it will. I have tried to make it work but my people cannot understand.

I told this story to Gladys Pascoe and she helped me write it. It was hard for both of us to understand each other and write it down.

Jack Mirritji.

Dwer Wabbit out woving covespondent has filed the following weport:

On Monday night I attended the council meeting to discuss Forestry's plans for fire protection this year.

I was really impressed by their attitude and hope that the number of bushfires is reduced from that of previous years. Cypress pine are easily killed by fires and it would be a great pity if Maningrida's timber potential was ruined.

Aerial burning of firebreaks will commence on 18th June and should last about three days.

Plans showing areas to be burnt are available for inspection at our office.

If anyone sights a bushfire could they please contact any of the Forestry personnel. On weekends an officer will be on duty and shall be named in the Mirage.

The trucks into Blyth River Crossing and Bamboo Creek are both easily passable but care should be taken to stay in the wheel tracks when traversing swamp areas. The grass is very dry once past Dotgardi and care should be exercised with camp fires.

The water at Dotgardi has slowed down considerably and now affords excellent swimming. Rubbish bins will be placed there this week and we seek visitors co-operation to keep this ideal picnic spot tidy.

The Forestry Literary Circle has announced a \$2 prize for the best printable six line limerick submitted before 13th June.

The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

RAMBLINGS

Junior Woodchuck "Tommo" returned to the big scene at Darwin on 28th May.

Senior Woodchuck Bill Hilliger is out here for two weeks to survey some new roads.

MORAL FOR THIS WEEK. "PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN BENT TOYOTAS SHOULD NOT THROW STONES."

STAMP OUT MALARIA:

Newcomers & visitors, if you have visited the following places during the past 3 years, please see Sr. Edith:

New Guinea	South America	India, Ceylon
Timor	Mexico	Middle East
S.E. Asia	West Indies	Africa
New Hebrides	Central America	Entzance Island

Remember this also includes brief visits like holidays.

GET SOME INFLUENCE

Influence(sic) vaccine now available from infant welfare clinic

GET IMMUNISED:

Immunisations for all kinds of diseases are available from the infant welfare clinic. If you have any questions about immunisation injections for children please see Sister Edith. These immunisations are available:

Smallpox	1st., 2nd., & 3rd, triple antegen.
1st., 2nd., 3rd Sabin oral vaccine	(given only in the Dry Season)
Morbilli (measles)	Triple Antigen booster Sabin Booster
Diphtheria & Tetanus booster	A.D.T. booster
Rubella (German Measles) vaccine.	

from Sr Edith & Sr. Joe

AT THE WEEKEND

DUTY OFFICER: Ron Berryman

DUTY SISTER: Sr. Marc

FIRE DUTY GRAPPLER: Steady Eddy Webber

CHURCH:

Programme as per usual

CANBERRA MEETING:

A couple of weeks ago I went to Canberra for a big meeting all about Aboriginal Arts and Crafts. There were many people there from all over Australia. There was a lot of hard talking at that meeting. Many of the aboriginal people from the cities were talking very hard to some of the balandas who were there. Some good ideas came up at that meeting. The Aboriginal Arts Board are going to do their best to see that Aboriginal people get as much money as possible from their arts and crafts. That was good and we should see some things coming out of this soon. What was very bad at that meeting was that there were not enough old law men from Arnhem Land there. There was George Winnuwij from Goulburn and Wandjuk Marika from Yirrkala---thats all and thats not enough. Arnhem Land is the place that makes a lot of the arts and crafts in Australia. Arnhem Land is the place where the art is still strong, Arnhem Land is the place where the music and dancing is still strong, Arnhem Land is still the place where the law is still strong.

If the city Aboriginal people are going to have more meetings to make new ideas they must talk much more with the law men of Arnhem Land. I think that the city ungalulia will have to ask the Arnhem Land people if they can come into this country and meet with them there if they want to learn more.

I think that some of the city Aboriginal people dont know any more about this country and what happens here than the balandas who live in the city.

Dan Gillespie

CRAFT SHOP IS GETTING EMPTY.

At the Craft Shop we need bark paintings, bulapur, djingabardabeer, string bags, barmagora, bamboos and any old custom things--- woomeras too. Good money is there for good work. Many balandas are calling out for things.

D.G.

17 JUL 1974

Ad/S

**MIRAGE
MEMORANDUM**

15th JUNE, 1973.

THE MIRAGE IS NOT DEAD!

A new exciting team of Amateurs have taken over! With the Public's overflowing donations of news and bits we'll really live.

Many thanks to Jack Miritji for volunteering to edit the Mirage. Assistant Editor is Gladys Pascoe. Shirley Souter has offered to continue helping with the typing. Dawn Cuthbert is our willing "printer and sticker togetherer." Artists and others have offered to help whenever needed. Faithful John Gardner will continue to look after the money, posting and ordering. Thanks everyone!

And now, on with the business! All articles are required by Tuesday afternoon to Jack or Gladys to begin with. **MIRAGE NEXT WEEK**, if you contribute!

Some news for this week.

MEN'S BASKETBALL.

Tuesday 12th June, 1973.

CHALKIES 35 defeated EAGLES 23 points.

Second match:

THE NAKARA 45 defeated NGUKURR 24 points.

Umpires was, the T. Darcy and J. Pascoe, and second match umpires was the Tom W. and J. Glulmina.

NEXT WEEK.

On Tuesday, 19th June

7.00p.m. C/Stewart vs Ngkurr

8.00p.m. Garatpu vs Eagles

On Thursday 21st June

7.00p.m. Chalkies vs Nakara

8.00p.m. Caterpillars vs Pioneers

Please could we have these two teams like we had last year. We had 8 teams. Could these two teams come on next Tuesday and Thursday game.

J. Glulmina.
Sch. Tch.

- (2) Secretary - Typing, answering the telephone and doing other office work. Wages \$67.50 per week.

For both these jobs you will need to be able to speak English well and to read and write. If you are interested, write a letter to;

The Manager,
Bagot Housing Association Inc.
BAGOT, DARWIN 5790

BIG BUNGGUL IS ON AGAIN?

Last year we had a big bunggul at Maningrida. Dancers came from Bamyili, Goulburn & Milingimbi. The Aboriginal Theatre Foundation gave money last year to help pay some of the costs.

This year the Aboriginal Theatre Foundation has said it will give money to help this bunggul again. This time they say they will spend more money. The Council say they are very pleased with the idea.

Some of the places which might be asked to the bunggul are Port Keats Bathurst Island, Croker, Goulburn, Delissaville, Oenpelli, Milingimbi, Elcho and right around to Roper River and also Bamyili. There will be about 100 dancing visitors - it should be a great weekend of dancing - it will be after the Eisteddfod.

I have written to the Aboriginal Theatre Foundation and told them the Councils ready for this big bunggul. Now we will wait to get more information.

Dan G.

HOSPITAL NEWS:

X-RAY - A good roll up from everybody for their chest x-rays last week.

MILK BOTTLES Mothers please bring back your empty bottles. It is important that babys bottles are brought back with teats and lids as well. Big babies can drink out of cups only little babies need bottles.

TO DARWIN FOR HOSPITAL TREATMENT:

Topsy Kalaijang, Eilleen Nedicibeda, Frank Balgana

BACK FROM DARWIN:

Bridget Djingardarr with Leigh, Lily Garanbara .

from Sr. Lee.

GORDON SWEENEY SCHOOL NOTES:

The newly elected Aboriginal executive of the Parents and Friends Association met on Tuesday night. They talked about the best way for the committee members to work together to help the school and the sort of assistance the new members will want as they start the job. They decided that David Hassall could help the President, Mick Uibo could help the Secretary and Roger Pink and Jimmy Glulmina could help the Treasurer. All the balandas said they will be happy to help the committee in the way they have asked.

The committee also talked about the questions in a survey being done by Silas Roberts when he goes to various parts of Maningrida asking peoples ideas about the school. The committee decided that the new Town Hall would be the best place for the pictures to be held and that they would like to try it out. They talked about the best way to charge admission to the film evenings, but nothing was definitely decided yet.

There will continue to be regular ordinary Parents and Friends meetings and these will be advertised beforehand in the Mirage. The committee from time to time will be asking the advice of other people and getting their opinions about things related to the school.

OUR SCHOOL 10 YEARS AGO

More children are being brought into school from the bush. Some we have enrolled previously and others are real bush children with no knowledge of English

Pro/450v.

Maningrida Mirage

AIATSIS Library, RS 29.7/2

"Maningrida Mirage Volume 188" June 8th, 1973.

Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community

(r000005900888_v188_a.pdf)

To cite this file use:

http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/lbry/dig_prgm/indigenousnewsletters/maningrida/pdf/1973/r000005900888_v188_a.pdf

© Maningrida Mirage NT Maningrida Community