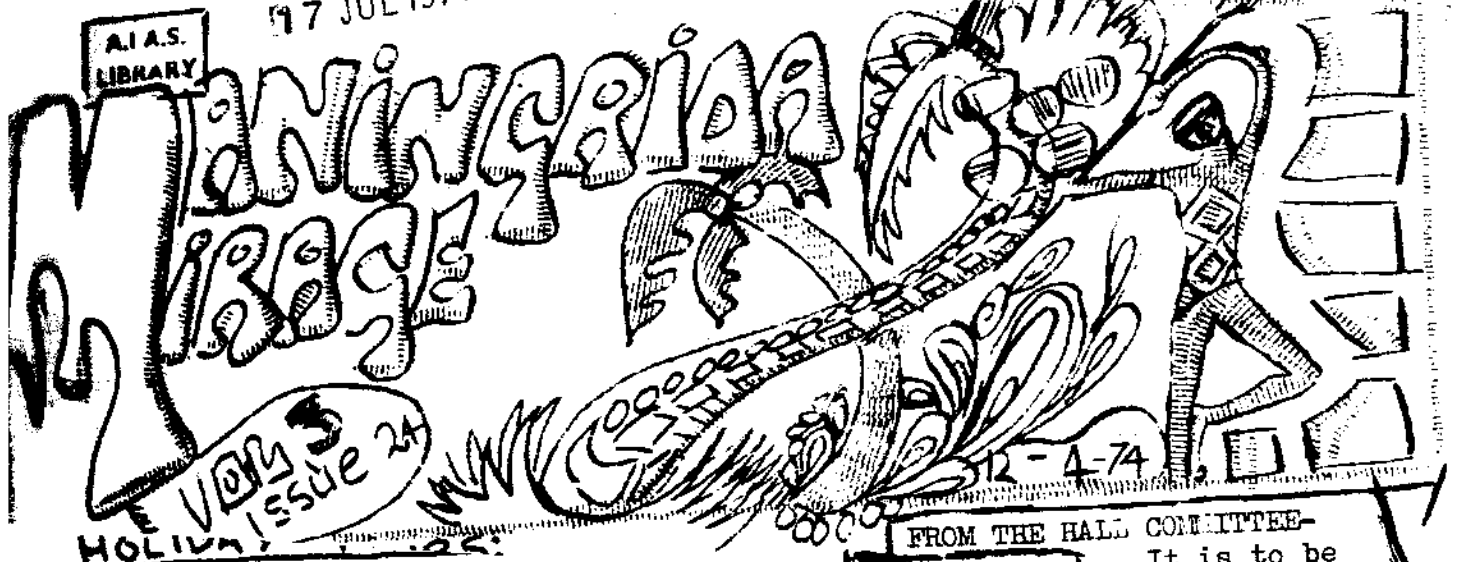


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HOLIDAY ISSUE 24

FROM THE HALL COMMITTEE-

THESE ARE THE TIMES FOR ALL THE SHOPS OVER THE HOLIDAY WEEKEND:

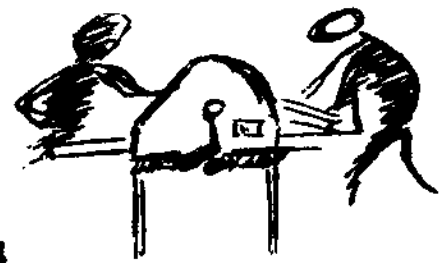
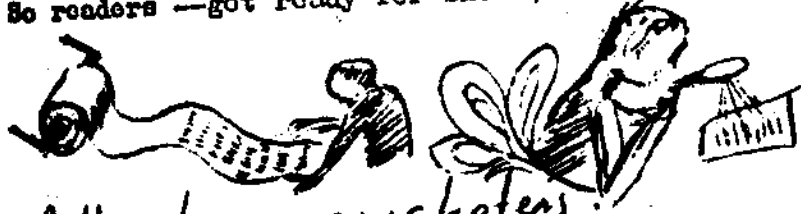
- STORE Closed Friday and Monday, open Saturday morning 9am to 11am.
- BAKERY: Closed Friday, Saturday and Monday.
- HASTY TASTY: Closed Friday, open Saturday and Monday.
- BUY ALL YOUR BALIDJA TODAY ----- OR SATURDAY.

It is to be stressed that under NO circumstances is any electronic equipment to be taken from the projection box in the Hall, except for repairs and maintenance, and then only with permission from the Hall Committee.

Paper shortage

///-///

There is a shortage of duplicating paper in Darwin and possibly throughout all of Australia. We have had to order quarto size paper and we are also trying to cut down on the number of pages in the Mirage each week until things get a bit better. So readers - get ready for short, thin Mirages.



Attention cricketers

EASTER MONDAY ! MANINGRIDA EASTER CRICKET CARNIVAL!

All players expected, all spectators welcome. Players are asked to be there at 1pm so that teams can be picked and the game commenced by 1.30pm. Prize for the most runs scored and the most wickets taken donated by Top Cat.

T.C.

Ceremony from the East:

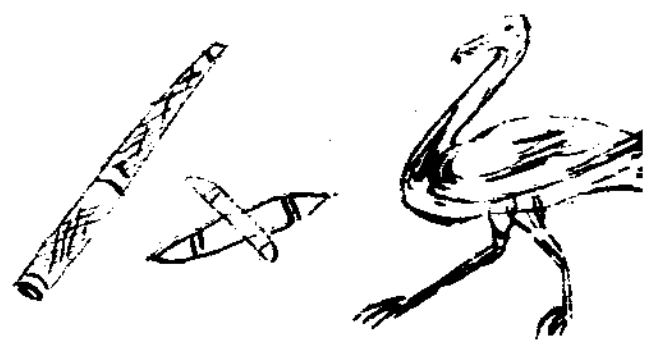
Some people have come from Ngangalala for a ceremony, and others will be following later. The Ganabingu people are going to give a MURRUKUNDJA ceremony to the GUNADBA people, Michael BURULBUMA and Robert BIBBERE and his family.

The GUNADBA people will pay for the ceremony with tobacco, material and other things. One of the big songs in the ceremony is the song for GUNUNG the magpie goose.

drawn by Talbert B.



told by Johnny Bulun Bulun to Dan Gillespie.



Crocodylus news Stop Press - No bread from Tuesday, until after the barge comes in.

This week a few visitors to Crocodylus for a brief look around. Prof. H. Mosse, Dr. G. Grigg, Keith Brockolsby and Bill Green. A

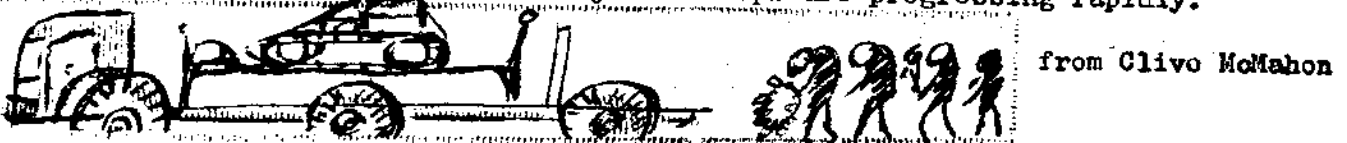
An aircraft has been here this week to survey nest sites on the rivers. While it was here it was used to track that famous crocodile Jockey. Jockey's transmitter is still working but Jockey could be getting the feeling that there's little privacy left for the average Crocodylus porosus these days.

John Lake, the Director of Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife also visited this week.



The Forestry lowloader came out of hiding this week and shuffled out to the bush to pick up a wounded D7 dozer. It has now gone back to a well earned rest.

The extensions at the Forestry workshops are progressing rapidly.



from Clive McMahon

Some Interesting Bush Foods:

In this story I'd like to tell something about the good food we take from the bush.

Aboriginal people in Arnhem Land eat a fruit called Gampilai. It grows on a creeper. The fruit is dark blue and its stem and leaves are light green. The fruit tastes like wine.

The honeybee collects the nectar from the flower of this plant. It takes it to the hives among the rocks or in a tree (either in the tree top, at its roots or in the end of a broken branch). The honey formed from the nectar of the Gampila flower tastes like syrup.

Another good food found in these hives consists of the eggs of the honey bee. Though the honey bee sting people who break into their hives, the stings are usually not painful enough to drive people away.

In order to find the hives of the honeybee, Aboriginal people use the following methods: they cut a hole in the bark of a particular tree whose freshly cut wood attracts the honey bee. When the bees come the people attach the cord of a spider's web to the tail of the bee. (the "cord" is a thickly woven piece of the thread. When the bee is released the white "cord" is easy to see and the bee can be followed to its hive. The men bring their dillybags to fill with the food from the hives. They use a stone axe to cut into the bee hive. These stone axes are not easy to use.



For many years Aborigines have been using brown antbeds for food. The brown ants build their nests against trees, they make them about four foot high. When Aboriginal women are looking for food, they can easily find these antbeds anywhere in the mainland and often they find an anteater at the same time.

(cont. Page 3)

(cont from Page 2) Bush Foods

The women collect pieces of antbed and take them home to their families. The antbeds taste like the meat of the coconut. The ant eater and the pieces of antbed eaten together like fish and chips are eaten.

White clay can also be eaten, as well as being used for painting. This white clay is mainly found in wet ground but sometimes it can be found in dry soil. When eaten, white clay tastes similar to dry milk powder, and like milk powder it can be mixed with water. Then it used for painting. People of the North Australian centres still eat white clay just as people of the olden times did.

The mangrove tree worms can also be eaten. This worm is about 60 cm long and 4cm in width. It has a blunt tail with a "lid" similar to an army cap, and many sharp teeth. They eat the wood of the mangrove trees. The worm can be found in dry branches and on living trees. Before eating them you have to cut off the head and the tail. Then the insides can be sucked out and swallowed.

There are two different sorts of mangrove worms. One is smaller than the other and the biggest one must be boiled. Because, when eaten raw, it causes a sore throat. The smaller one is the "father" of the sandfly and a dancing of the Jiridja moiety. The dance of the mangrove tree worm is still danced today.

These are just a few examples of the bush foods we eat.



Handy Hints on Fishing:

To catch a barramundi.

1. Go down to the barge landing every day.
2. Smile with the sandflies.
3. Never try a new lure (keep your old one you got to play in your babies bath).
4. Just have faith.

If that doesn't work use a throw net near the shore downstream from the barge landing.

WARNING! Don't believe the children when they tell you that your mate said they could have half your catch.

Handy Hints on Clearing Blocked Toilets:

1. Get a warrant for three days from Darwin to Maningrida.
2. Bring your fishing gear.
3. Bring a few tools just to make it look official.
4. Take 15 minutes to fix the blocked pipe—do this by climbing in and shovelling up and out to your mate who will throw it all over the lawn.
5. Then go fishing for the rest of your stay.
6. Make sure you are on the site when the bosses fly in on the 2nd day to note your progress. This always goes down well in your report.

Anyone requiring more information on these two subjects see Horst or the CDW toilet cleaners.

From our Industrial Editor:

We luv our kids but the pay helps

UNION STORY!!!

Teachers stirred over lack of pay.
Maningrida teachers showed their acute displeasure at being owed hundreds of dollars in back pay for periods stretching into 1973, when last Friday they voted for strike action. A motion passed by a large majority of teachers and teaching assistants called for Territory wide rolling strikes each Friday from 19 April until correct pay is received. The message has been sent to the **NT Commonwealth Teachers Federation** and we are awaiting a full reply. Indications to date, however, are that the Federation and the Education Dept have come to an agreement which will avert further strike action. This follows strikes and picketing of the Education Dept by Darwin teachers last Thursday afternoon.

The Ed Dept has agreed to appoint a rep of the Commonwealth Teaching Service to Darwin to help speed up appointment and correct payment of teachers.

Russ Watson

Visit to Wagaman:

Two weeks ago Tony Ivison and I went into Darwin on the exchange Wagaman visit. Whilst there we visited Moil and Stuart Park schools. Both of these are traditional schools although Moil has a team-teaching unit. Stuart Park has the only class for deaf children in Darwin. The idea behind this is to assimilate the deaf children into a normal school situation as soon as possible rather than keeping them separated from the community in a Special School for the Deaf.

Wagaman is only in its second year of operation and as can be expected in any new adventure there are many obvious problems which arise each day. It is an open school which does not mean open space. Open space schools are without the traditional class rooms but the children are more directed in what they are to do throughout the day. An open school is where the children select the activities they wish to pursue then at any given time. The teachers in this teaching situation have to organize more fully to cover a large range of choices. It is then "advertised" what's on and where and the children choose the activity they want.

The four units cover different age groups and differing levels. However Unit A is mainly 5 and 6 year olds and in this unit a more formalized routine is followed.

The children record their work on a sheet and by this the teachers are able to check that they are devoting an evenly proportioned amount of time to each subject area.

Whilst we were there it was discussed that school times be staggered so that children who wished to remain later could do so, the teachers concerned expressing the desire to remain also.

At Wagaman there is Saturday school where teachers and other interested persons could come and "do their thing". They hoped to make this open to children who didn't normally attend Wagaman. The school also has a house at Batchelor and groups of twelve or so and a teacher spend a week specializing in different pursuits.

It would appear that to the Darwin parents and those in high places the Open School has to be able at all times to justify its existence. I feel this is somewhat unfair after such a short period of operation. Perhaps in 5 or 7 years, when "completed" results, i.e. children pass from the school then a more realistic evaluation can be made.

Bev Hale

Arnhem Land Games:

In August this year, Maningrida will be the host settlement for the Arnhem Land Games. Athletes from schools at Milingimbi, Elcho Is, Crocker Is, Goulburn Is, Gempelli as well as other smaller centres have been invited to take part in the 10 days of festivities. Apart from the usual athletics events, provision has been made on the programme for competition in dancing, music, art and craft. It is hoped that as many children as possible will be able to take part in the Games. The programme has been designed to be a leisurely affair, without the rush and bustle often occurring in similar events. In track events, all times will be calculated over metric distances, while in field events will likewise be measured in metric. Thus winning times and distances will constitute new records. Plans are in hand to carry out some changes out at the swimming hole to make starts and finishes a little easier to operate. A competition is currently being held among the kids in the Secondary School for a suitable emblem for the games. The prize of an all expenses paid trip to Fisheries beach has been donated for this competition by an anonymous donor. Various committees will be established at the school to help in the preparation and staging of the Carnival. Strange noises coming from the school in the next few months will probably be coming from the band, training for the march past. Bear with it, please, at least you're not as close to it as the band master - or some such title as that. Donations of ear muffs will therefore be gratefully accepted. There will be more details published in the Mirage later, but remember the theme of the Games please,

THOMAS FUN GARDNER
AT ARNHLM 74

Bob Hale.

Maningrida Mirage

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