

Dawn



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A MAGAZINE FOR THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF N.S.W.

AUGUST, 1962





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DAWN

is a monthly magazine produced by
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for the aboriginal people
of our State

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Our Cover . . .

Three charming girls—Muriel Briggs and talent quest winners Lorna Beulah (centre) and Eva Mumbler admire Danny Eastwood's prize-winning poster at the exhibition of Aboriginal Art in Sydney on National Aborigines' Day.



A credit to their race—Singer-actor Jimmy Little, vocalist Col Hardy, professional Soccer star Charlie Perkins, and singer-actor Candy Williams.

Crowds Stood Still in Heart of Sydney

The observance of National Aborigines' Day in Sydney on July 13th was marked by the most successful demonstration yet staged by the organising committee in N.S.W.

The rally captured the attention of more than 3,000 people who at one stage jammed Martin Place stopping all lunch-time traffic.

It was chaired by the Lord Mayor of Sydney, Ald. H. F. Jensen, who said that the demonstration was one of the most unusual ceremonies ever to be held in the city.

"This demonstration has been organised to stir the conscience of the Australian people. There never was greater justification for conscience stirring", the Lord Mayor said.

The Minister for Territories, Mr. Paul Hasluck, who made a special trip from Canberra, told the assembly that of Australia's ten million population, 100,000 were of aboriginal descent.

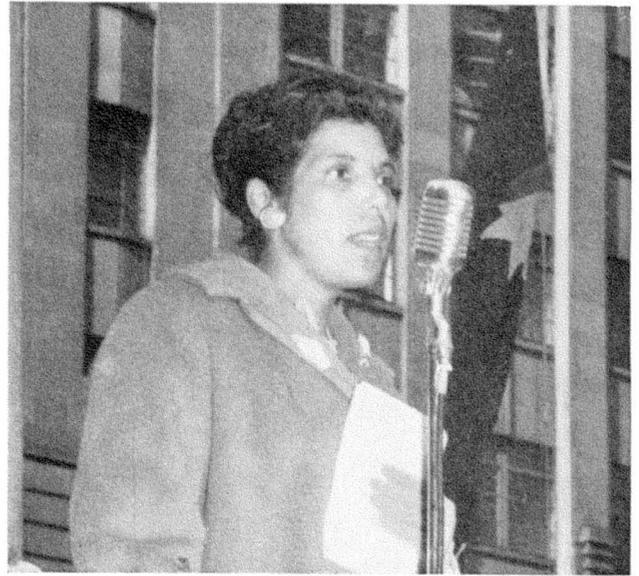
"About 30,000 have been fully assimilated", he said. "Of the other 70,000 some are nomads living in the Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australia but there are very few in this State where the Government is doing all it can to advance their welfare.

"Most of these nomads are between the wild state and full acceptance into the community.

"The policy of assimilation means that these people must get every opportunity to live exactly like every other Australian, to live side by side in the same street

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Memorable Day



Top left: Mr. Paul Hasluck, Minister for Federal Territories, who praised the work being done for aborigines in this State.

Top right: Mrs. Betty Bulsey, of Brisbane, who spoke on behalf of aborigines.





Top: Eva Mumbler, pop vocalist with a sweet voice, sings "Old Rugged Hills of Home" by Sydney composer, Grace McClurcan.

Right: The Girl with the Golden Voice, Lorna Beulah, who stopped the Martin Place crowds in their tracks as she sang "Songs My Mother Taught Me", Mimi's song from "La Boheme" and "My Hero" from "The Chocolate Soldier". Although Lorna was in Alice Springs when she was chosen by John Antill (composer of "Corroboree") as winner of the N.A.D.O.C. quest, she was born at Forbes in N.S.W. Lorna, who has now settled in Sydney, possesses a mezzo-soprano voice of amazing range and beauty.

Left: Rev. A. W. Grant, member of the National Aborigines' Day Committee, chats with Eva Mumbler and Lorna Beulah.

Below: The magic of teenage idol Jimmy Little and his guitar was a highspot in the musical programme.



*Nightingale sang
in Martin Place*

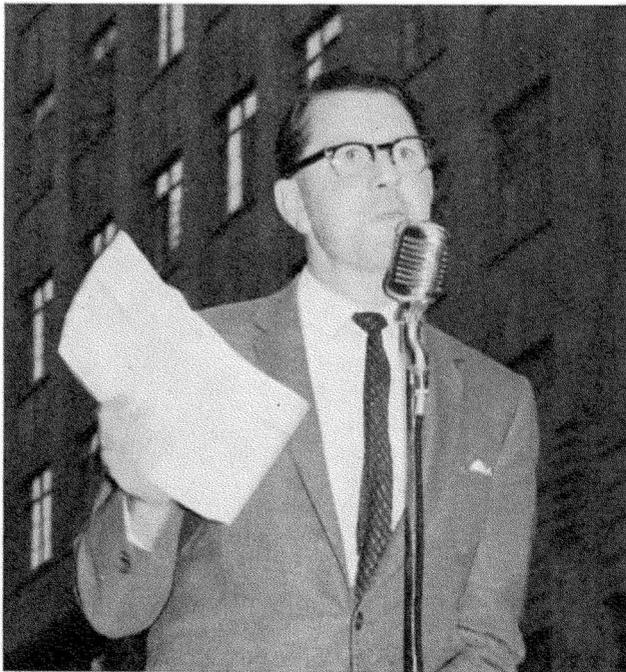




Top: Well-known singer Col Hardy and his guitar at the microphone.

Right: The Lord Mayor of Sydney, Ald. H. F. Jensen, who was chairman of the rally.

Below: Martin Royal, top A.B.C. personality and television announcer, who compered the programme.



Continued from page

and do the same jobs. We are one people in one continent and there are no second class citizens.

“ I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate most sincerely the Government of N.S.W. A major step in housing was announced by the Chief Secretary (Mr. Kelly) only yesterday.

“ They are the practical measures—housing, health, education and the chance to get a job. These are the benefits that will make a great deal of difference to the lot of those who, at the present stage, are not well advanced in the community.”

Mrs. Betty Bulsey, of Brisbane and Pastor Doug. Nicholls of Victoria, spoke on behalf of the Aboriginal people.

Pastor Nicholls told the crowd aborigines did not want pity or sympathy, but only the hand of friendship.



On the platform with the aboriginal speakers, singers and musicians were the Lieutenant-Governor (Sir Kenneth Street, K.C.M.G.), the Chief Secretary of N.S.W. (Mr. C. A. Kelly) representing the Premier (Mr. Heffron); the Chairman of the Aborigines Welfare Board (Mr. A. G. Kingsmill), the Superintendent of the Aborigines Welfare Board (Mr. H. J. Green) and Deputy Police Commissioner (Mr. S. Windsor).

They were welcomed by the President of N.A.D.O.C. (Rev. A. W. Grant).

Talent quest winners Lorna Beulah and Eva Mumbler with Joe Timbrey's Didjeridoo band and well-known vocalists Jimmy Little and Col Hardy provided the musical programme.

Mr. Martin Royal of the A.B.C. was comper.

The Police Band which played items before the ceremony concluded the rally with “ Advance Australia Fair ”.

THE LAST BARRIER

TO COMPLETE EQUALITY

GOES!

The last barrier to complete equality between aborigines and white people in N.S.W. is expected to vanish during the sittings of State Parliament in September.

State Cabinet, on the last day of July, approved legislation which will enable all aborigines in N.S.W. to be supplied with alcoholic liquor.

The Premier, Mr. R. G. Heffron, announcing Cabinet's decision, said it was made on the grounds of justice and fairness.

The decision, he said, recognised the great change in public attitudes towards aborigines since the enactment of the prohibition in 1867.

It should do away with the exploitation of some Aborigines by illicit suppliers of liquor.

Mr. Heffron said Cabinet had decided to repeal Section 9 of the Aborigines' Protection Act, which became law almost a century ago.

[But Section 9 will continue in force until Parliament passes the Bill. In the meantime hotelkeepers and others should not misinterpret the situation or anticipate the new law by supplying liquor—Editor.]

Section 9 prohibits the sale or supply of liquor to aborigines except in cases of accident or on the prescription of a doctor. The Act was amended in 1943 to allow aborigines to be supplied with liquor if they had a certificate of exemption from the Aborigines Welfare Board.

Mr. Heffron said the decision was based on a recommendation of the Aborigines Welfare Board, and had been made after full consideration of "all relevant reports".

He said the board had assured the Chief Secretary, Mr. C. A. Kelly, that welfare activity would be intensified to help aborigines accustom themselves to the proper use of alcohol.

The decision carried with it a responsibility which must be shared by the whole community, including hotel-keepers, police and, most importantly, THE ABORIGINES THEMSELVES, to see that the arrangements worked satisfactorily.

The Native Welfare Conference in Canberra last year was told that Northern Territory law which gave part-aborigines access to liquor without restrictions had no damaging effects and did not encourage crime.

This State has only 235 full-blood aborigines in the 13,600 aboriginal population.

The Aborigines Welfare Board recommended to Mr. Kelly in 1961 that the drink prohibition end. The Board's report said that Section 9 was "basically discriminating in that it denies to a class of people a right enjoyed by other classes, simply and only because of racial characteristics".

The report also said that the law:—

- Penalised temperate aborigines because of the failings of the intemperate.
- Had not prevented the supply to aborigines of inferior quality liquor, liquor of high potency.



The Premier, Mr. Heffron . . . "justice and fairness".

- Humiliated any Aboriginal whose moral status and general standards were in no way inferior to white people.
- Was contrary to the broad concept and policy of assimilation, accepted by Governments and welfare authorities.

The Chairman of the Aborigines Welfare Board, Mr. A. G. Kingsmill, said the decision would show the confidence held in the aborigines. He did not think this confidence would be abused.

He said that about 12,500 of the State's 13,600 aborigines would now be legally allowed to drink liquor for the first time. The 1,100 others had exemption certificates from the Board.

Professor A. P. Elkin, Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at Sydney University, who is vice-chairman of the Board, said the removal of the restriction on drinking meant that the last obstacle in the granting of full citizen rights to aborigines was gone.

A plea to end the drink ban was made two weeks earlier by Rev. T. D. Noffs, assistant minister at the Central Methodist Mission.

Rev. Noffs was one of two speakers who addressed the Mission's Pleasant Sunday afternoon in the Lyceum Hall on National Aborigines' Sunday.

The second speaker, Pastor D. Nicholls, an aboriginal Church of Christ preacher from Victoria, told the meeting Aborigines wanted equality, not sympathy.



Mr. Kingsmill said the Board had expanded its welfare activities and now had a welfare staff of 12 with another appointment soon.

Welfare officers and station and reserve managers would counsel those who wanted to drink to take liquor only in moderation and under the most suitable conditions.

Mr. Kingsmill said the Board had also recommended the repeal of a number of "obsolete" sections of the Aborigines Protection Act.

He said: "Certain provisions have been in the Act, but not enforced or used for many years".

The Rev. T. D. Noffs (right) who publicly urged the lifting of the drink ban was active in the organisation of the National Aborigines' Week rally. He is shown here after the ceremony in Martin Place chatting with (from left) Mr. C. Leon, member of the Aborigines Welfare Board, singer Col. Hardy, professional Soccer star Charles Perkins and Lazarus Lami Lami, a visitor from Goulburn Island.

Pastor Nicholls said there were just as many "no-hoppers" in the white community as among his own people.

Rev. Noffs said Section 9 of the N.S.W. Aborigines Protection Act, dealing with liquor, should be removed or "we must have total prohibition for aborigines and white people".

He said the restriction created in the mind of the aborigine the idea that he was an irresponsible citizen, not to be trusted.

"The battle is on in Australia for the minds of the aboriginal people", he said.

Press Reaction

The *Sydney Morning Herald* said: "State Cabinet's decision to lift restrictions on the supply of liquor to aborigines is most welcome.

"The outdated and ineffective Section 9 of the Aborigines Protection Act will be repealed. No longer will it be, generally, an offence for anyone to give, sell or supply liquor to aborigines or to any person having apparently an admixture of aboriginal blood.

"The Premier's statement explaining Cabinet's decision contains most of the telling arguments advanced over the years—not least by the *Herald*—in favour of a change.

"Emphasis should, however, be placed on Mr. Heffron's point that, when the enabling legislation has been passed, considerable responsibility will devolve on



Pastor Doug Nicholls, spokesman for the aboriginal population of Victoria.

the community at large, including hotel-keepers, police and, most importantly, the aboriginal people themselves to see that the arrangements work satisfactorily. This is a highly desirable reform. It can work and it should work; but a conscious effort on the part of the community will be necessary to make sure that it does work."

The *Daily Mirror* said: "The decision to remove the ban on supplying alcohol to aborigines demolishes the last artificial barrier between white and dark Australians".

The *Bathurst Advocate* said: "It is to be hoped that other States will follow the lead of the foundation State . . .

"It seems to have been conveniently forgotten that all laws restricting aborigines were adopted at a time when they were still an opposing force to be reckoned

with, when the European was still in a minority, when spears and boomerangs were fighting a pathetic battle to hold up the progress of Western life into the empty continent.

"All this took place 100 years or more ago and it is only now (at the pressure of the Aborigines Welfare Board) that this outmoded law is to be repealed."

[The Supply of Liquors to Aborigines Prevention Act of 1867, gives a picture of conditions a century ago. It says in part . . . "Whereas the supplying of intoxicating liquors to the Aboriginal Natives of New South Wales is productive of serious mischief to the said Aboriginal Natives and is the cause of numerous crimes against life and property. If any person, whether licensed or unlicensed shall sell, supply or give any liquor fermented or spirituous to any Aboriginal Native of New South Wales he shall for every such offence forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding ten pounds."]

The *Newcastle Sun* said: "The important thing is to impress upon the aborigines that, if they are to share equal rights in this matter with their white neighbours, they will be expected similarly to exercise the same responsibility and restraint as is required of whites to refrain from abuse of the privilege.

"Their own leaders and white welfare workers can do a valuable service in emphasising this."

Country Reaction

The *Herald* also quoted statements from the country.

In Casino the president of the Casino Aborigine Advancement League, Mr. J. G. Green, said the decision to allow aborigines to drink would be generally quietly accepted. He said aborigines living in the district would be pleased. He said he thought the new move would give aborigines some respect and help them accept the responsibility of handling their own affairs.

At Moree, which has more than 800 aborigines, the Mayor, Ald. H. G. Bulluss, said that if the abolition was not abused by aborigines, it would be good for them and exceptionally good for the community.

He said they were undoubtedly entitled to liquor and he hoped they would not abuse the offer.

Talk of Club

"If the abolition is successful I would like to see a special club set up, so they can mix together in their own way.

"However, I am quite sure that they will be accepted at hotels and clubs when they desire."

Good Thing

The Secretary of the Australian Aboriginal Fellowship, Mr. J. Horner, said: "This is a very good thing because it stops the effect of the sly-grog traffic which has been going on for many years".

ABORIGINES BOARD TO SPEND £375,000 ON HOUSING PLAN

New housing construction for aborigines in the next three years will be at the highest rate yet, the Chief Secretary, Mr. C. A. Kelly announced in July.

The speed-up in work has been made possible by approval being given to the Aborigines Welfare Board to plan on spending £375,000 over the next three years on new housing.

Since the war, the Board has built more than 330 modern cottages on stations and reserves.

The intensified programme of new construction will give up-to-date, low rental housing to many aboriginal families, and will mean the end of much old accommodation whose standard has deteriorated.

On Town Blocks

Plans for the next three years call for the closing or re-siting of some reserves. An increasing number of homes will be built on blocks in towns.

Late last year the Board's allocation was increased to £125,000 by the Treasury. The result was that construction begun or completed in the past 15 months was brought to a total of 60 homes. In addition, tenders were called for ablution blocks at Burnt Bridge, near Kempsey, and at Gulargambone.

The Board also approved extension of electricity to homes and stations where a supply is available.

Construction in the past 15 months included: Twelve homes built near Deniliquin for residents of the Moonacullah reserve, which was closed; 14 homes at Armidale for families who lived in sub-standard dwellings they built on Crown lands; eight homes at Maclean for families who had lived on the reserve at Ulgundahi Island; four more homes on the Forster reserves; five at Mungindi; two at Coonabarabran and three at Coonamble.

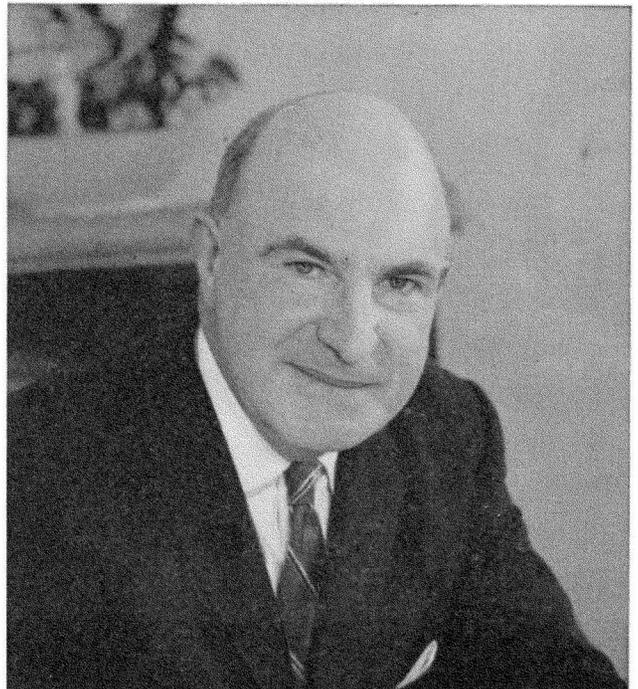
Six homes are being completed at Griffith and six at Coomaditchy, near Port Kembla.

All Parts of State

The new building programme on town blocks and on stations and reserves extends to all parts of the State.

These include two houses to be built by the Housing Commission in Warren, and 10 houses on town blocks in Bourke.

Construction provided for also includes 12 homes on the Forster Reserve; nine on the Coraki reserve; eight at Greenhills, near Kempsey; six at Yamba; 24 on a new reserve at Moree; 12 on the Wellington reserve; 12 on the Bellbrook reserve near Kempsey and 24 at Ennognia.



Mr. J. T. Purcell

Twelve homes have been provided for to rehouse a number of families living on the Cubawee reserve near Lismore. The Aborigines Welfare Board has for many years been endeavouring to acquire land and at present is negotiating for a site.



Gentle aboriginal leader Lazarus Lami Lami from Goulburn Island, North Australia, greets the Chief Secretary, Mr. Kelly, with a big, friendly smile at Sydney's rally for National Aborigines' Day. Lazarus, a qualified carpenter, is a lay preacher and has travelled to every capital city in Australia on work for the Methodist Overseas Mission.

Four homes will be built at Tingha to replace the reserve there, and five will be built on town blocks at Coonabarabran so that the Burra Bee Dee station may be closed.

A total of 20 homes is to be erected on town blocks at Condobolin.

Nine homes are to be built at Guyra.

Bathrooms and laundries are to be built at Boggabilla station.

Septic sewerage systems are to be attached to all new housing where practicable.

The £375,000 which the Aborigines Welfare Board is planning to spend in its three year programme will be devoted entirely to new housing.

In addition, the Board is spending considerable sums on maintenance and in providing other facilities to improve conditions under which aborigines live. Notable among these is the construction now in progress of a £20,000 bridge at Cabbage Tree Island, near Ballina, which will bring great benefit to aborigines living there.

Inverell Glad

Typical of comment on the Minister's housing announcement was the following editorial in the *Inverell Times*.

"Inverell citizens who for decades have been concerned about the conditions under which aborigines have lived in the environs of the town will applaud the plan

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Bora Rings on Gold Coast and Tweed Preserved for All Time

A famous aboriginal Bora Ring at Burleigh Heads in South Queensland has been presented to the Gold Coast City Council to be preserved for all time as an aboriginal memorial.

The reclamation work was done by the Burleigh Heads Lions Club who erected a fence adorned with giant boomerangs around the ceremonial ring.

The massive gateway bears aboriginal signs and motifs and the surrounding area had been beautified. Wide gravel paths lead to the Bora Ring and a memorial cairn has been erected in the centre.

The Bora Ring, as now set up, is probably unique in Australia.

Thirty-five aborigines from the Cherbourg settlement performed five corroborees before a large audience on presentation day.

The visitors from Brisbane included Professor Robinson of the Chair of Anthropology at Queensland University and members of the Anthropological Society.

One notable visitor from N.S.W. was Miss Margaret Kay, of South Tweed Heads, who is proud of her aboriginal ancestry.

She presented the Lions Club president, Dr. Bill Richards, with an aboriginal "sacred stone" which will be incorporated in the cairn in the centre of the ring.

Dr. Richards said his Lions had been working on the Bora Ring project for almost 12 months.

Miss Kay, shortly after her return to the Tweed, was informed that "her" Bora Ring had been officially gazetted as a reserve for the preservation of aboriginal relics.

The Chairman of the Tweed River Historical Society, Mr. R. Whittle, of Murwillumbah, who made the announcement, paid a tribute to Miss Kay for her part in "discovering the Ring".

A notice in the *Government Gazette* setting the site aside as a special reserve says it contains one acre, two roads, 30 perches.

The Under-Secretary of the Lands Department, Mr. W. J. Broadfoot, said in a letter to the Society that action had been taken to have Tweed Shire Council appointed trustee of the land.

Mr. Whittle said the Society hoped to have the Tweed Bora Ring made into a tourist attraction.

A class of 25 pupils from South Tweed Heads Primary School were among the earliest visitors to the Bora Ring where Miss Kay conducted a special outdoor class on early Australian history.

The class was told how the ring was built and what part it played in aboriginal society.

The children were also shown an ancient aboriginal well which still contains water.

Other pupils from the South Tweed School, which is attended by many coloured children, will be taken on the tour of relics.



Miss Margaret Kay, of South Tweed Heads, stands in the centre of a Bora Ring which was shown to her many years ago by one of her relatives. Margaret says the ring was used by many of her tribal relations from the Richmond district during visits to tribes on the Tweed.

SOLDIERS OF PEACE IN SALVATION ARMY

Of 30 Salvation Army soldiers in uniform in Moree, 13 are of aboriginal ancestry.

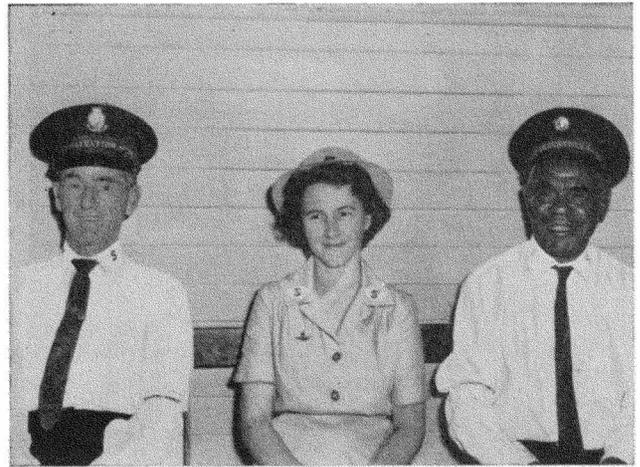
Captain Hugh Mackintosh, of the Salvation Army Corps in Moree, recently told *Dawn* that Moree's aboriginal soldiers were all splendid citizens of the town.

Captain Mackintosh and his wife first linked with the Army through the Snowy Mountains Field Unit, when the captain was in the N.S.W. Police Force.

Versatile and hardworking he has mastered several musical instruments, including guitar, concertina, and cornet.

He and Mrs. Mackintosh, who has a good singing voice, have been active in giving spiritual guidance to residents of the aboriginal station at Moree.

New soldiers: Back row, Robert Saunders, Clarrie Johnson, Richard Lines, Barry Johnson, Harold Duke, Alexander (Scotty) Murphy, Robert Lines, Don Munro and Ron Harris. Front row: Mrs. Duke, Mrs. Johnson, Barbara Northey, Marion Bell, Mrs. Lines, Mrs. Park.



Brother Albert Dennison, formerly of Boggabilla (right), is pictured with Brother Murphy and Sister Mrs. Rose Parke.

The aborigines in the pictures on this page which were taken by Captain Rowland Hill, of Sydney, are: Robert Saunders, Clarrie Johnson, Barry Johnson, Harold Duke, Donald Munro, Ron Haines, Mrs. Duke and Mrs. Johnson and Albert Dennison, formerly of Boggabilla.

Other aboriginal converts who were unable to attend this swearing-in ceremony are Kathleen Wilson, Daisy Richens, Norma Waters and Police Tracker Archie Walford.



Walgett Wanderings

Two sports seem to be taking an important place in the young peoples lives in Walgett. The sports are basketball and football.

At the recent opening of the Walgett Basketball Club, one team of girls from the River Bank Reserve defeated a women's town team. The girls playing for the team from the River Bank Reserve called The Magpies were Judy Walford, Adrienne Fernando, Vivianne Kennedy, Violet Boney and Gloria Walford. Congratulations on your win, girls.

Other up and coming basketball players are Geoffrey Thorne, Lawrence Crawford, Winsome Walford, Heather Boney, Vincent Hall and Robert Morgan.

All the talent in basketball is not only among the youth. Among the men's teams, we have players of high standard. Eric and Keith Thorne, Bob and Oscar Beale, Len and Ken Simpson and Phillip Hall represented their sides on the opening night.



Special praise goes to Lawrence Crawford, a junior player who played in one of the men's teams on the opening night.

* * *

A word about football. Walgett Central School played Walgett Aboriginal Station School a challenge match. The result was very close with the Central School winning 6 points to 3 points. The try for the Station school was scored by Barry Murray. George Rose played a good game for the Central School side.

A 4 st. 7 lb. football team went to Narrabri recently to play in a knock-out competition. In the team, amongst others, were George Rose, Danny Rose, Alfie Beale, Victor Simpson, Alan Simpson, Doug. Dixon, Barry Walford, Stanley Sullivan and Trevor Hall.

George Rose scored two tries for the team. Together with his brother Danny and Doug. Dixon, these boys were the best backs on the field with Alfie Beale doing some hard work in the forwards.

* * *

We are very sorry to see Mrs. I. Clarke in hospital at Collarenebri. A very speedy recovery is the wish of her many friends.

* * *

"Gee, they're fast", was a remark overheard at the Burren Junction Athletic Carnival earlier this year. Heather Boney, Valerie Sullivan and George Rose each received cups for winning their division. Congratulations to the three of you.

Left: Valerie Sullivan, one of Walgett's athletic champions, holding the cup she won at Burren Junction sports

Below: Victor and Ian Hippett who are staunch fans of Valerie, their neighbour at Walgett





Above: It looks like a picture from a "find the ball" competition. You can't see it but the girls in the Walgett basket ball team are right on the ball

Top and below right: Two teenage sportsmen of promise from the Walgett Aboriginal Station

Below left: Schoolgirls Joyce Nean, Joyce Sands, Sandra Williams and Rose Nean

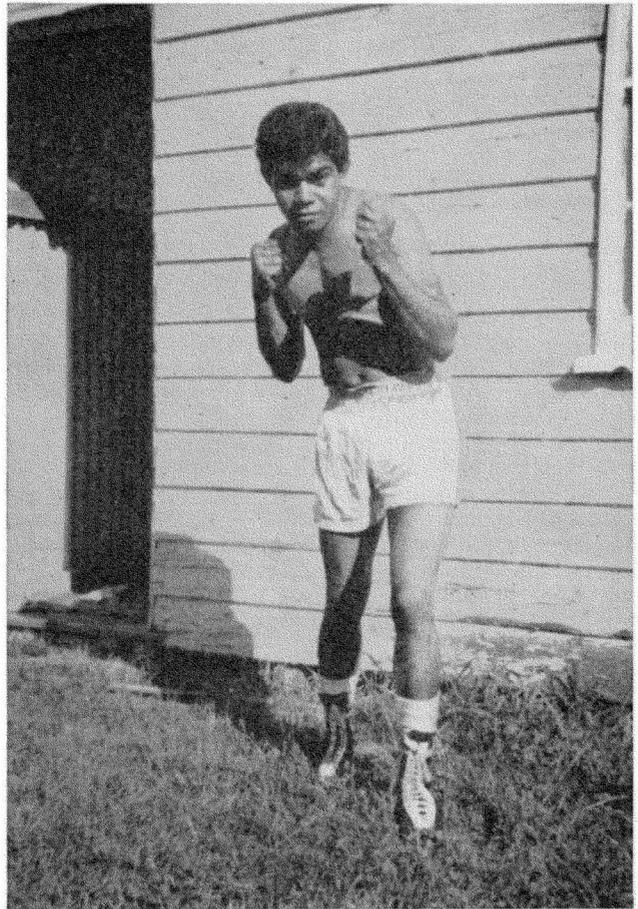
Walgett Aboriginal Mission Church at the River Bank Reserve is greatly appreciated by many living on the Reserve. There is Sunday School and an Adult Bible Class each Sunday morning and services each Wednesday and Sunday nights. This church is a "bush" type and constructed by voluntary labour. It stands as a witness for the christian life.

* * *

Mary and Gloria Kennedy of Dubbo have come to live in Walgett. Welcome to our district, Mary and Gloria.

* * *

With the Far West Concert arriving in the near future Mr. and Mrs. Ray Dennis, Harry Green and Frank Dennis are rehearsing their contributions to this concert.



HOUSING PLAN—continued

announced by the Chief Secretary to provide houses for aborigines in Inverell and Tingha.

“ In Inverell one home is to be built almost immediately and others are planned at a future date on the same site in Hindmarsh Street. In Tingha, four homes are to be built in the next financial year with a view to eliminating the reserves there. All this, of course, is little more than an approach to the problem, but for the first time in the history of Inverell we can say that something concrete is to be done to assist those aborigines in our midst who have earned respect and deserve assistance. Shortage of funds, of course, is restricting the Aborigines Welfare Board in its activities, and its plans for Inverell and Tingha do not sound very extensive, but in the next few years expenditure of £375,000 is envisaged.

“ The problem of the hundreds of aborigines who move to and fro through the Inverell district remains, and one wonders if something more could not be done to provide basic requirements for these people until such time as more homes can be built to accommodate those aborigines who are prepared and able to settle down and become part of the local community.

“ The new moves for Inverell and Tingha will be a challenge to citizens to do all they can to ensure the complete integration of the aboriginal families into town life, and it could be a further challenge to the community itself to do something, through its own initiative, to house other families within the town boundaries, instead of leaving it all to the Aborigines Welfare Board with its limited funds and resettlement plans that will take decades to implement.”

“ Equality,” says the Housing Commission

The Housing Commission of N.S.W., which is represented on the Welfare Board by its Chairman, Mr. J. T. Purcell, last month informed Kempsey Municipal Council that the Commission sees “ absolutely no reason ” why aborigines should not be given equal treatment in the allocation of houses.

The letter from the Housing Commission was dealt with in committee at a meeting of Kempsey Municipal Council. It was written by Mr. R. H. Morton, Estates Manager of the Housing Commission, and referred to a report of a recent meeting of Council.

The letter is published in full below:—

It is noted from an article which appeared in the Kempsey *Macleay Argus* on May 10th, 1962, that some discussion took place at a Council meeting held on May 7th, regarding the possibility that applicants of aboriginal extraction might be allocated the two new homes which the Commission is now building in Albert Street, South Kempsey.

While I fully appreciate the fact that your Council decided against making any approach to the Commission

I do feel that it would be wise to clarify the Commission's position so as to avoid any misunderstandings in matters of this nature.

The question of determining which applicants should be admitted to the priority lists for Commission Homes at Kempsey is a matter for the local Tenancy Advisory Committee, which, as you know, comprises representatives from various interests in the community, including your Council.

When deciding whether or not a particular applicant is eligible for assistance under the Government Housing Scheme the Kempsey Committee has before it reports prepared by the local Housing Officer on the living conditions and the suitability of the applicant concerned as a prospective tenant or purchaser of a Commission home.

The Commission follows this practice of investigating the living conditions of applicants in order to ensure that any family which obviously would be unsuitable as tenants or purchasers is not allocated a home.

As far as the Commission is concerned, there is absolutely no reason why the eligibility of aborigines should not be determined on exactly the same basis as that applying to other members of the community.

It will be seen, therefore, that provided an aboriginal applicant satisfies the bases of eligibility outlined previously and has a need for housing, he is entitled to be admitted to the Commission's waiting lists and allocated a home on either a purchase or rental basis when his priority is reached.

Pretty Wedding at Moree

A young couple from Moree's Aboriginal Station were married at a pretty wedding at Moree R. C. Mission Chapel on July 28th.

They were Beverley Ann Pitt and Edgar Tighe. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father Fisher, who wished the couple every happiness for their future life together.

The bride was given away by Mr. Walter Binge. Beverley looked charming in a white satin ballerina. She carried a bouquet of white gladioli.

Bridesmaid Miss Rose Weatherall and flower girl Louella Pitt wore ballerinas of pink satin and both carried pink gladioli bouquets.

Edgar was attended by John French as best man.

A reception was held at Moree Station hall, where a lovely wedding breakfast had been set out by the young couple's many friends. Dancing continued till midnight to music provided by Max Cutmore, Glen Cutmore and Steve Duke.

First look at Sydney

Casino girl Patricia Davis (17) takes a look at Sydney from a Bridge Street balcony of the Chief Secretary's Department before embarking on a Public Service career in the big city.

Patricia had visited the headquarters of the Aborigines Welfare Board in the building for morning tea.



She later joined the staff of the N.S.W. Department of Health as a clerk at the Institute of Pathology laboratories at Lidcombe State Hospital.

Patricia was one of three Welfare Board bursars who passed the 1961 Leaving Certificate.

The others were blind student David Kerin (18), of Wahroonga, and Michael Bryant (18), of Nambucca Heads.

Nurse goes to India

Sister Lois O'Donoghue has left Australia for the Baptist mission field in Assam, according to the *Australian Evangel*.

She is probably the first part-aborigine to be appointed from Australia to an overseas mission.

After graduating from the Adelaide Hospital in 1958, she remained there to become first a staff sister and then a charge sister.

Sister O'Donoghue's path to success began when she was brought into the United Aborigines' Mission at Oodnadatta.

A visiting missionary home in Adelaide on furlough from Assam told of the shortage of trained nurses there.

Sister O'Donoghue said: "I decided almost immediately to go. If I like it I may stay for five years".

SUDDEN DEATH OF

Mr. L. N. Briggs

The sudden death of Welfare Officer Mr. L. N. Briggs on July 30 came as a shock to his many friends throughout the State.

Mr. Briggs, who was known to thousands of aborigines in N.S.W., during his 36 years service with the Aborigines Welfare Board, died in his sleep at his home at 84 Dilke Rd., Padstow. He is survived by his widow and a grown up family.

Before coming to Sydney in 1956 to take up an appointment as Welfare Officer in the Metropolitan area, Mr. Briggs and his wife had served at stations in all parts of the State.

Their last station appointment was at Taree where Mr. Briggs will be remembered fondly.

The full story of Mr. Briggs' career in the help of other people will appear in September *Dawn*.

KILLED IN ROAD SMASH

Well-known anthropologist Mrs. Judy Inglis was killed in a car accident while travelling to Sydney to attend a meeting of the Institute of Aboriginal Studies on Friday, July 6th.

Mrs. Inglis studied anthropology at the London School of Economics after completing an Arts Degree in Melbourne.

Over the last three years she gathered information about the life of Aboriginal people in South Australia and made important contributions to both anthropology and aboriginal advancement.

Earlier this year Mrs. Inglis was appointed Principal Administrative Assistant for the new Institute of Aboriginal Studies.

DEATH AT TAREE

It is with regret that *Dawn* learns of the sudden death of Cecil Taylor at Taree. He was buried at East Kempsey.

Cecil had been in ill health for some time. He suffered from diabetes and last year had a leg amputated.

Despite this misfortune Cecil, always a happy soul, could still smile.

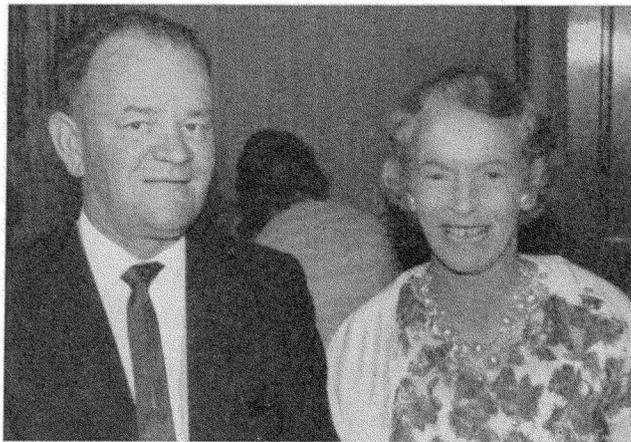
Our sympathy goes out to his daughter, Mrs. Pat Dixon.

TRIBUTE TO A KINDLY MAN

The sudden death of South Grafton businessman Mr. Charles B. Pidcock (53) in March came as a great shock to the community.

The late Mr. Pidcock, shown here with his wife at a "mixed" dance in Grafton, conducted by one of his employees, Freddie Skinner, was a great friend and supporter of our aborigines.

Freddie Skinner, who feels the loss deeply, has asked *Dawn* to publish a message of appreciation of his late employer which first appeared in the *Daily Examiner* at Grafton.



Here is Freddie's eulogy:—

May I take this opportunity of expressing my heartfelt thanks for the wonderful treatment I received at the hands of my departed master and friend, Mr. Chas. Pidcock.

Words cannot express the appreciation that I have felt over the past nine years during the time I worked for Mr. Charlie Pidcock and his company. His kindness to me will always be remembered and cherished as one of the highlights of my life.

Although my skin was dark, I always felt that Mr. Charlie looked beyond my dark skin and treated me as a fellow-being, and in consequence I felt that at all times I must give of my best to one such worthy master.

I appeal to all employers on behalf of my people to try and give anyone working for them a similar type of tolerance to that which I received from Mr. Charlie. I know then that our people would endeavour to reciprocate to such wonderful treatment.

Please look beyond our dark skins, as our intentions are good and our hearts are in the right place and we will surely repay and respond to any such kindness shown.

I would like this appreciation to be placed on record, also my thanks to the rest of the Pidcock family. Thanks to your memory, Mr. Charlie.

*In this topsy-turvy world,
Sincere and lasting friendship is a rare gem;
How good and kind you were
Throughout the years to me.
A cheerful word and kindly deeds,
A helping hand to all in need;
Always sincere in heart and mind,
And when God called from heaven,
You left so suddenly,
Your last thoughts unknown,
My saddened heart was riven
For you did not say good-bye.*

Freddie Skinner,
Through Street, South Grafton.

New Era for People of Purfleet

For the residents within Purfleet Mission Station, a new phase of their place in the community should shortly unfold, said the *Taree Times*, in an Editorial on July 12th.

To them the opening of a Baby Health Centre, Rest Rooms and Library, on August 11th, should represent tangible evidence of the desire of the people of Taree to fit them more closely into the country's social order.

These amenities had their origin with the C.W.A., which is now exercising considerable influence on the new outlook on life that residents of the station are now taking.

They are being made to feel that they are no longer members of a forgotten race, but are entitled to all the privileges that a Democracy can bestow on them.

That is reflected in the Station providing its own personnel for a C.W.A. branch, which functions with equal efficiency to its counterparts.

In that there is a good beginning for a section of the people not previously receiving sufficient sympathetic encouragement to embark on plans for the conduct of their own affairs.

From it may stem moves for other organisations to be created within the mission, to have as their objective a better deal for dark people in the Australian way of life.

Should there be a worthwhile indication of any such venture being undertaken, the service clubs of Taree could be counted upon to give advice and support.

In this connection the Newcastle Trades Hall might be induced to lend its aid in shaping future public activities of the station.

With a committee comprising men and women that was set up to watch over the welfare of aborigines, it was some time ago very active in Purfleet affairs when eviction proceedings were taking place.

It could now demonstrate its earnestness by being represented at the big day on August 11th, if not of its own volition, then by invitation.



Dear Kids,

The letters have been pouring in telling how much you enjoy *Dawn*. But the quality of the snapshots you are submitting with the letters seems to be failing badly.

In fact *Dawn* has been forced to drop the Roving Cameraman's page because so many pictures have been rejected as unsuitable by the printer.

Naturally we would like to print them all but some are so dim and out of focus that they would simply not make the grade.

Georgie Rose, of Walgett, holds the prize he won as junior champion runner at Burren Junction sports



We know you can do better because we've received some very fine snaps over the years as well as the poor ones. But the dull, light-streaked type of picture which might even puzzle the "sitter" is useless for reproduction.

Another tip is to pay more attention to background. Some good technique is ruined by placing the subject against a dark, drab and unsuitable backdrop.

Try to get your picture clear and sharp and we'll have a better magazine. Any film supplier, camera dealer or keen amateur will be only too pleased to put you on the right track.

Pass this word on to Mum and Dad as well as big sisters and brothers if they hold the camera in your household.

This is no grouch—it is an attempt to save you the cost of film and postage.

It's very frustrating to get a picture like one we received the other day. It was a snap of a woman whose face was completely shadowed by her broad-brimmed hat. Even the cameraman was mystified. His caption on the back of the snap read: "Does anyone know who this lady is and where she comes from?"

Well if he doesn't, who does? And I'd defy you kids to pick it too. These are some of the traps to watch for.

The type of clear picture we can use is found on this page. You can all do just as well with a little care and study.

Your sincere pal.

Pete

Our Back Cover

The sight of a pretty Aboriginal girl playing the Didgeridoo a wind precision instrument from Arnhem Land with Joe Timbrey's Band at the National Aborigines' Day rally fascinated the crowds in Martin Place.

