

DAWN

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

Christmas 1963

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A MONTHLY MAGAZINE PRODUCED BY THE N.S.W. ABORIGINES WELFARE BOARD

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IN THIS ISSUE

	Page
Christmas Messages	1
Record Enrolment for Board Poll	2
Scholarships for Cowra Children	2
1964 Summer Camp Near Fine Beaches	3
New Wing Opened at Tranby College	4
Women J.P.'s on Deputation	5
52 Babies Charm the Judges at Moree	6
Caravans for A.W.B.	7
Brungle Prettily Situated	8
How We Got Our Calendar	10
"Roses and Thorns"	11
Kinchela Boys Play in Local Cricket	12
Reunion for the Four Generations	12
They're Happy at Kempsey	13
Smoke Signals	14
Sowing Guide for December	15
Children at Cumeroogunga	16
Pete's Page	Inside Back Cover
Babes in Toyland	Back Cover

OUR COVER

Gazing wistfully at the Christmas tree at Burnt Bridge Aboriginal Reserve last year are school mates Ian Henrickson (son of the former manager, Mr. A. O. Henrickson) and Claude Flanders (nearest camera). Santa Claus arrived there to distribute presents at the foot of the tree. (Photo by "Macleay Argus".)



I am delighted to extend, through the pages of Dawn, Christmas and New Year greetings to all members of the Aboriginal community in New South Wales.

I do so with a full appreciation of the meritorious efforts being made by so many of these people to advance themselves both socially and economically.

Those of Aboriginal extraction who reside in this State share full citizenship rights with every other person who lives here and in no respect is any restriction savouring of discrimination imposed on them.

Experience has shown that this harmonising and blending of different root stocks has built a happy and united community.

The single discriminatory element in our laws which imposed a prohibition against Aborigines drinking in hotels has been removed and in no instance has there been any abuse of that belated concession by the people that this enactment was designed to serve.

However, in this connection I would like to sound one word of good counsel.

This is the first Christmas period since that prohibition was erased by the Legislature and it could prove a testing period for those who have benefited from what has been done.

Christmas, in addition to being the greatest of all Christian feasts, is a season of good cheer and celebration.

But it is also a time when certain people may feel tempted to indulge too freely in intoxicating liquor.

I am sure that in their good sense those of our Aboriginal citizens who may have occasion to visit hotels will steer clear of the possible pitfalls, and maintain a tight rein on their consumption of liquor.

I have few, if any, doubts on that score and I am confident that the fine record of original Australians since they were permitted to participate in the communal atmosphere of hotels will remain unswayed.

It is my pleasure to convey to those for whom Dawn exists the greetings of the New South Wales Government, joined with my own personal and sincere wish for a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year for all of Aboriginal ancestry throughout the State.

R. J. Heffron

PREMIER OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Christmas Messages

I take great pleasure in wishing all Aboriginal folk in New South Wales a very happy Christmas. The past year has been the fullest legal recognition of Aborigines' equality in our community. Aborigines and white people all over the State have welcomed this, and I am confident that in 1964, the new spirit it has engendered will increase our progress towards our common goal.

C. Kelly

CHIEF SECRETARY



On behalf of the members of the Aborigines Welfare Board and its office and field staff, I extend my very best wishes to all Aborigines for a happy Christmas. I trust that the New Year will offer greater opportunities for you and your children to join in the life of the community and share in its prosperity.

A. Kingsmill

CHAIRMAN, Aborigines Welfare Board

VOTE
NOW!

Record Enrolment for Board Poll

Nominations closed at noon on Friday, December 6, for the election of the Aboriginal members of the Aborigines Welfare Board.

The ballot will close at noon on Thursday, January 16, 1964.

There has been a record enrolment for this election.

Ballot papers are now being sent to all persons who have enrolled.

Full directions on how to vote are on the ballot paper, and after the voter has indicated his choice of candidates he or she must complete and sign the statement attached to the ballot paper.

This statement must be witnessed by an officer of the Aborigines Welfare Board, a police officer, a Justice of the Peace, or a school teacher.

Don't take the risk of making your vote informal. If you are in doubt, ask the Welfare Officer, the Station Manager, or the Reserve Supervisor for advice but you should not seek his assistance in making up your mind as to your preferences among the candidates.

Every ballot paper is accompanied by an addressed envelope which does not require a stamp.

Place your ballot paper in the envelope and drop it in the post, or else place it in the ballot box which will be provided on every station.

But remember, the ballot paper must be in the post in time to reach Sydney by noon on January 16, 1964,

or placed in the ballot box provided at the Station before that time.

You are advised to cast your vote as early as possible after you receive your ballot paper, so you won't forget.

The Candidates

FULL BLOOD (ONE VACANCY)

MORGAN, James. "The Glebe", Coraki.

PART ABORIGINE (ONE VACANCY)

COMBO, Clarence, War Pensioner.	Cabbage Tree Aboriginal Station.	Island
FERGUSON, Arthur, Store Manager.	Cabbage Tree Aboriginal Station.	Island
FROST, Charles Leslie, Invalid pensioner.	Condobolin.	
LEON, Charles Lester, Pensioner.	50 Devlin Street, Ashcroft, Green Valley.	
McCALLUM, Isabel Mary, Nursing Sister.	Flat 901, Johanna O'Dea Court, Camperdown.	
NOLAN, William Thomas, Linesman.	54 Macquarie Street, Dubbo.	
WILLIAMS, Clive Andrew, Labourer.	Tranby College, 13 Mansfield Street, Glebe.	
WILLIAMS, Thomas Henry, Transport Driver.	La Perouse Reserve.	Aboriginal

Enrolment for the election has been particularly heavy and there has been much discussion on the merits of the various candidates seeking election to represent their people on the Board.

Record your vote and indicate that your people are interested in such representation.

Scholarships

FOR COWRA CHILDREN

Representatives from 15 women's organisations in the Cowra district have decided to create two scholarships for Aboriginal children from Erambie Station, Cowra.

The scholarships, each to the value of fifty pounds, are for children of secondary school standard from the local Erambie Station, to enable them to continue studies at either the High School or the Brigidine Convent.

The money will be used to pay for school and sports uniforms and equipment, and for school excursions.

The child chosen may be a boy or girl, and the scholarship may be allotted at the discretion of the Headmaster to a different pupil each year or to the same pupil for several years.

At the meeting, which was convened by the Woodstock C.W.A., the following committee was elected to organise the fund: President, Mrs. G. Millard (Wood-

stock), secretary-treasurer, Mrs. T. Winkley (Swan Ponds); Town Representative, Mrs. W. Mills (Cowra).

Cowra Quota Club, W.C.T.U., and the Methodist Night Guild have all offered financial assistance as well as the twelve C.W.A. branches co-operating which are Cowra, Koorawatha, Greenethorpe, Wattamondara, Wyangala, Canowindra, Lyndhurst, Carcoar-Mandurama, Canimbla, Darby's Falls, Merriganowry and Woodstock.

Assistance from any other women's organisation or donations from private citizens would be welcomed by the Committee.

The pupil selected for 1964 from the High School is Paul Coe, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Coe, of Erambie. Paul is 14 years old and at present in second year.

Selection of the pupil from Brigidine Convent has not yet been finalised.

The Committee is working in close co-operation with the Mother Superior of the Brigidine Convent; the Headmaster of the High School, and Mr. and Mrs. Levine who supervise Erambie Aboriginal Station.

1964 SUMMER CAMP BUSHLAND SITE . . . NEAR FINE BEACHES

The 1964 summer camp for outback Aboriginal children is to be held at a new site at Elanora, amid rambling bushland near the sparkling golden beaches north of Sydney.

Recent camps have been held at the La Perouse reserve, but the Aborigines Welfare Board considered that a better holiday atmosphere would be created at Elanora, a spot specifically designed for this purpose.

A total of 60 children will go to the camp this year.

The camp at Elanora, officially called the Methodist War Memorial Conference Centre, is just over one mile from North Narrabeen, one of the very popular beaches 18 miles north of Sydney.

Accommodation at the camp is in a series of rooms each with four double bunks.

The camp is set in fine, natural surroundings amid gum trees and with a majestic waterfall. It has a magnificent view across the Pacific Ocean.

It has been designed as a living memorial to those who served in two world wars.

The first section of four acres was presented to the Young People's Department of the Methodist Church by Sir Frederick and Lady Stewart.

The area by additions then became seven acres, then 13 and finally 20 acres were made available.

In the middle of this bush-like retreat is a promise of luxury for the children at the camp: every bed has an innerspring mattress.

The summer camp will run from January 3 to January 17.

Our picture shows some of the children at the 1963 camp held at La Perouse





NEW WING OPENED AT TRANBY COLLEGE

The Minister for Housing and Co-operative Societies, Mr. A. Landa, recently opened a new wing of the Tranby Aboriginal Co-operative College, at Glebe, Sydney.

Mr. Landa said on a previous visit to a summer school at Tranby, he had been most impressed by the work done.

He said that the project at Tranby was very necessary in following up the work associated with adult education.

The N.S.W. Government, through the Aborigines Welfare Board, contributed £5,000 towards the cost of the new Tranby wing.

A condition is that there shall be accommodation for six aborigines reserved each year for persons nominated by the Board.

Tranby Co-operative Training College was begun in 1958 by the Australian Board of Missions Co-operative Department.

Each year since then it has made new steps forward both with its special short intensive co-operative school in February, and with its groups of long-term students.

Most of these students are apprentices, some of them from remote parts of Australia such as the Lockhart River and Mitchell River Mission, and some from New South Wales.

The co-operative is no longer a department of the A.B.M., but is an independent non-denominational body, the Co-operative for Aborigines Ltd. The A.B.M. continues its aid in the form of scholarships to students.

The new wing opened by Mr. Landa has two storeys to house additional students and provide lecture and chapel facilities.

Bishop Kerle, Administrator of the Diocese of Sydney, dedicated the building following its opening.

Mr. Jim Morgan, of Coraki, made a speech of thanks to Mr. Landa and to Bishop Kerle.

OUR PICTURE

Mr. Landa makes a point during his speech opening the new wing at Tranby in September. On his left (from left to right) are Canon Frank Coaldrake, Chairman of Co-operative for Aborigines Ltd. and Bishop Clive Kerle, Coadjutor Bishop of Sydney

WOMEN J.P.'s ON DEPUTATION

Two Aboriginal women from Phillip Bay recently visited the Chief Secretary, Mr. C. A. Kelly, in his office at Parliament House to thank him for his work for their people.

The two women were Mrs. L. Cruse, President of the Aboriginal Women's Association, and Mrs. M. Stewart, Senior Vice-President of the Association.

Both women are Justices of the Peace.

Mrs. Stewart has the distinction of being probably the first aboriginal woman to serve on a jury in New South Wales.

It is only in recent years that women have been able to serve on juries in this State.

Mrs. Stewart sat on a jury in a compensation case in Sydney for two days earlier this year. Her three fellow-jurors were men.

With Mrs. Cruse and Mrs. Stewart on the visit to Mr. Kelly was Mrs. E. Easton, honorary welfare and employment officer of the Association.

The women told Mr. Kelly that it was hoped to build a pre-school kindergarten near the La Perouse reserve and at present methods of raising the necessary funds were being discussed.

Mrs. Easton said it was not intended to ask the Government for funds, because members felt the cause of assimilation would be furthered by them undertaking this task themselves.

The Association had been in touch with the Save the Children Fund, to whose cause they had given support. The Fund had indicated it would staff the school when it was built.

The deputation from the Association was introduced to Mr. Kelly by Mrs. Edna Roper, M.L.C.

With Mr. Kelly was the Chairman of the Aborigines Welfare Board, Mr. A. G. Kingsmill.

The Chief Secretary, Mr. Kelly, greets Mrs. Stewart, from Phillip Bay, at Parliament House recently. Others in the group are the Chairman of the Aborigines Welfare Board, Mr. Kingsmill, and Mrs. Roper, M.L.C. and Mrs. L. Cruse, of Phillip Bay



52 babies charm the judges at Moree

Fifty-two Moree aboriginal babies were paraded recently before judges at the most successful annual baby show yet staged by the United Churches' Social Club for Aboriginal Women.

The Parish Hall at All Saints Church was crowded with chubby children, dressed in their best for the occasion and watchful parents and friends.

Judges were Matron E. Warr, Mrs. D. McFarlane and Mrs. D. Stevens.

Champion baby was 11 months-old Brent Beale, who also was judged best baby in his class, 7-12 months. Brent won the special trophy donated by Moree Services Club, and is always a credit to his mother, Clare.

Most popular class was the older children, aged two to three years, in which the judges had to make a choice from seventeen entries. The winner was Edward, son of Dawn Madden.

There were almost as many entries in the class for the youngest babies, one to six months, where Harry Brown, the son of Julie, was awarded the prize.

The judges and the prize winners of the Moree baby show pictured together. Back row: Judges, Mrs. D. Stevens, Matron E. Warr, Mrs. D. Macfarlane and front row: Julie Stanley with son Harry, Clare Beale with son Brent (champion), Margaret Johnson with daughter Marie, Carmine Munro with daughter Elizabeth and Dawn Madden with son Edward



Other winners were Marie Wells in the 13-18 months age group and Elizabeth Munro, 19 months to 2 years.

To ease the disappointment of the less successful entrants, each child was given a small present by the Social Club committee. Afternoon tea was served to all.

The judges made comment on the health of all children and the way in which mothers had acted on advice at last year's show.



Champion of the Moree baby show, eleven months old Brent Beale is shown in the arms of his mother, Mrs. Clare Beale, being congratulated by one of the judges, Mrs. D. Macfarlane

A donation of £25 from Moree Services Club helped defray expenses for the afternoon, and prizes were also donated by the Church of England, Presbyterian Guild, Methodist Ladies' Aid and Moree United Churches.

Moree Aboriginal Station residents and Matron Mrs. J. W. Redmond, were particularly proud of the fact that all prize winners are Station residents, which shows that regular attendance at the Station Clinic has proved beneficial.



CARAVANS FOR A.W.B.

The Aborigines Welfare Board has taken delivery of two 20 ft. caravans to house relieving welfare officers and station managers.

In most cases at present, relieving managers have to live in hotels off the stations.

This produces heavy added costs, and means that the relieving managers cannot give their full-time attention to the stations for which they are responsible.

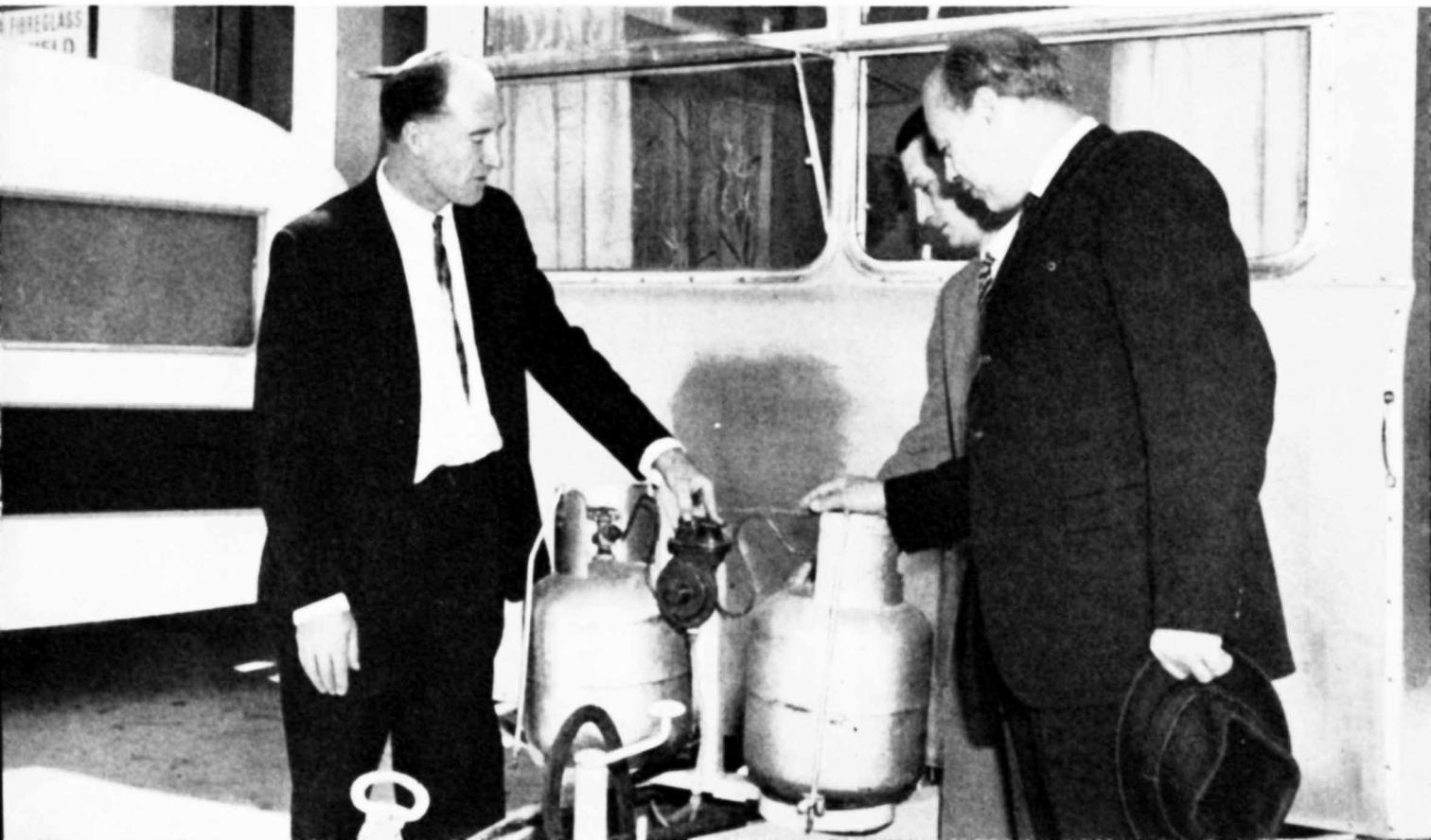
Each caravan is virtually self-contained. It has a shower and a refrigerator as well as the usual equipment. Bottled liquid gas supplies the fuel for hot water and for the refrigerator.

The vans are fully insulated with fibreglass and they have aluminium exteriors.

Both vehicles were supplied by Jennison Pathfinder Pty. Ltd.

Left, Chairman of the Aborigines Welfare Board, Mr. A. G. Kingsmill and welfare officer Miss C. J. Robison inspect the refrigerator on the caravan. Behind them on the right is the shower cubicle

Below, the gas tanks which supply the heat for water on the caravan are mounted on a frame in front of the van. Managing director of the supplying company, Mr. Dick Pym, explains their use to Mr. Kingsmill and the Superintendent of Aborigines, Mr. H. J. Green





BRU SITUATED

Tenants in Board dwellings on the old reserve at Brungle, in a pretty setting on the Tumut River, are looking after their homes well.

Members of the Aborigines Welfare Board recently visited the reserve and inspected some of the homes.

It is planned to connect water and electricity to the reserve.

People living on the reserve told members of the Board they were very pleased at the proposal.

Among the people the Board met at Brungle were this group (above) including Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Williams, baby Dennis and Wilfred, junior, with Mrs. Robin Mumble and her two children Gladys and Douglas.

Left, Arthur Williams (3), however, wasn't sure what to make of the visitors.



Above, a view of the attractive setting of the Tumut River near Brungle.

Right, Clark (4) and Mace (2), the young sons of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Freeman.

Below, Peter Williams' eyes popped when he met Board member Supt. J. H. Buck at the reserve. They had known each other years ago when Mr. Buck was a young mounted policeman stationed at Tumut.



NGLE PRETTILY



HOW WE GOT OUR CALENDAR

It is very easy for us to find out what day it is today and what month we are in. We just have to look at a calendar and we see what year it is, the month we are in, and the day of the week. But it was not always so easy!

Thousands of years ago men did not have calendars. They measured days by the sun, for they realised that sunrise and sunset marked the beginning and the end of a day. They would speak of two days as "two suns."

Men used to measure months by the moon. When they wanted to talk about something that happened a few months before, they would say it was so many "moons" ago. When they wanted to speak of some-

North American Indians knew there were about 29½ days between two new moons, and they talked about "two moons" or "three moons" instead of months



thing even farther back, they might say it happened at "the time of the big flood," or "the year of the famine," or any other unusual thing that happened at that time.

Days

We all know that the earth is turning around all the time on its own axis. The length of time it takes the earth to turn around once we call a day.

Weeks

A week is the length of time that consists of 7 complete days. The Hebrews were among the first people to use this 7-day period of time. In Genesis in the Bible we read that God created the heavens and the earth in six days, and rested on the seventh.

Months

While the earth is travelling around the sun once every year, the moon is also travelling around the earth. A month is the length of time it takes the moon to go around the earth—29 days, 12 hours, 44 minutes, and 2.8 seconds. We could also say that a month is the length of time from one new moon to the next.

Years

While the earth is turning around once every 24 hours on its axis, it is also travelling around the sun. A year is the length of time it takes the earth to go around the sun once. This is usually called a solar year, and it is 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 45.7 seconds.

The solar year, therefore, is nearly 6 hours longer than a year on our calendar, which is exactly 365 days. Because of this difference between the actual time it takes the earth to travel around the sun and the length of a year on our calendar, we have an extra day put into our calendar every four years, in February. This is called Leap Year.

Egyptian Calendar

The ancient Egyptians figured out a calendar about the year 4,236 B.C. They divided it into 12 months of 30 days each. This is a total of 360 days in a year. But it takes the earth 365 days to go around the sun. So the Egyptians just added five days at the end of every year on their calendar.

Roman Calendar

The Roman calendar was even harder to understand than earlier ones had been. They divided it into 10 months, and it had a total of only 304 days instead of 365. Later on two more months were added, and the total number of days was then 355.

Every second year they added an extra month of 22 or 23 days to make the seasons agree with the time required for the earth to travel around the sun, and to make the months fit the coming of the full moon.

Julian Calendar

In the year 46 B.C., Julius Caesar, Emperor of Rome, hired Egyptian astronomers to make a new calendar. This new calendar, called the Julian calendar, had $365\frac{1}{4}$ days, which is about 11 minutes and 14 seconds longer than the time the earth takes to move around the sun. This seemed too small to notice, but after 1,500 years had gone by, it made a big difference. This is the reason:

Twice in every year as the earth travels around the sun, the centre of the sun comes directly over the earth's equator, and the day and the night at these times are equal. This happens around March 20 and September 23, and it is called an equinox, meaning "equal night."

Because the year on the Julian calendar was longer than it should have been, the March equinox came a little earlier each year. By the year 1580, when the March equinox came it was only March 11 on the Julian calendar, and it should have come on March 20.

Gregorian Calendar

Two years after this happened, Pope Gregory XIII of Rome decided to correct the mistake. He did this by taking 10 days out of the calendar in October 1582.



Men in the ancient world told the time by the position of shadow of a stick placed in ground

Therefore people went to sleep on the night of October 4 and woke up on the morning of October 15!

Because it was Pope Gregory who made this correction, and a few other slight adjustments, in the Julian calendar, his calendar was called the Gregorian calendar. This is the one we use today.

"Roses and Thornes"

The Roses and the Thornes live side by side in Board homes at Walgett.

Below, Karen Rose, Alan Lake, Debbie, George and Cynthia Rose, play with three of the Thorne children, and at right, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Thorne are pictured outside their home with their children Neville, Michael, Wendy, Theresa, and their latest baby.



KINCHELA BOYS PLAY IN LOCAL CRICKET

Praise has been high in Kempsey sporting circles on the decision to enter two cricket teams from boys at Kinchela Home in the local junior competition.

The teams have been entered in the under 13 and under 16 grades, by Mr. H. A. O. Henrickson, manager of Kinchela Home.

Both teams lost their first matches, but only four of the total 22 players concerned had ever played in a match before.

Indications were that they would improve quickly with match practice.

The under 16 team met Swimming Club in its first game, and the under 13 went down to East Kempsey.

An example of the reception accorded the boys is the comment by local sportsman Mr. Syd Dodds in the *Macleay Advertiser*:

“A very pleasing point to me is the opportunity being afforded the Kinchela Boys’ Home to participate as a team in both age groups and it reflects great credit on the officials at the Home and the boys themselves.

“Unfortunately a lot of these boys cannot remain on in the Macleay area but it is hoped that they can be guided from the excellent beginning given at Kinchela Boys’ Home into organised sport when they take up their future role as citizens.

“Encouraged, there are not too many reflexes quicker or eyes keener.

“Actually many are overloaded with natural ability in sport.”

The Aborigines Welfare Board is bearing the cost of transporting the boys to their fixtures.



REUNION FOR THE FOUR GENERATIONS

Four generations of one family recently held a reunion at Deniliquin.

The occasion was held when Granny Edwards, of Balranald, visited her daughter, Mrs. Day.

Above left, Granny Edwards poses in front of the younger folk.

On the right is Mrs. Day, Granny’s daughter. On the left is Mrs. Atkinson holding her daughter Lee (18 months), a member of the latest generation.

Below left, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Briggs and Mrs. Day shepherd a group of tots before *Dawn’s* camera.



They're happy at Kempsey

Aboriginal and white children are mixing happily in West Kempsey school.

In 1961, there were no Aboriginal children in the enrolment of 700 children at West Kempsey.

At the beginning of 1962, all sixth class children from Aboriginal schools around Kempsey were enrolled in town schools.

In 1964, it is proposed that all fifth grade children will be enrolled in town schools.

A feature of the plan is to close the school at Kinchela Boys' Home, and to enrol the boys in the appropriate schools in Kempsey.

Our picture (above) was taken in the Kempsey Municipal Library by the *Macleay Argus*.

It shows from left, West Kempsey school classmates George Ward, Roslyn Bannerman, Michael Walsh, Kathleen Wharton, Douglas Bates and Martha Perry.

Christmas Wishes

Mr. Eric Arthur-Mason, a former supervisor at Bellwood Reserve, Nambucca, and former welfare officer at Dubbo and Kempsey, sends his best wishes for the Christmas season to his aboriginal friends. Mr. Arthur-Mason is living at Kempsey.



Smoke Signals

OBITUARY

Residents at Roseby Park, Orient Point, were grieved by the death recently of Mrs. Fishe, for many years a missionary with the Church Missionary Society in China, and in recent years in New South Wales.

Mrs. Fishe, and her husband, lived for a considerable time at Orient Point, and their home was always open to all residents of Roseby Park. Many happy afternoons and evenings were spent in Sunday schools, services, and social gatherings.

Their sewing class, combined with afternoon tea, was well-attended by the mothers and young children.

The Christmas season this year will be saddened in the memories of all because of the death of Mrs. Fishe, who spent much time and energy preparing gifts and parties.

Mrs. Fishe spent 50 years in China as a missionary. She was the sixth from the Australian Church Missionary Society to go to China.

A trained nurse, Mrs. Fishe worked on a number of mission stations in China, particularly in Fukien province.



50,000 BOOMERANGS

Bill Onus, the aboriginal craftsman, has received permission to make use of timber from 458 silver poplars that are being chopped out of Melbourne's famous St. Kilda Road.

Bill expects to get 50,000 boomerangs out of them.

The silver poplars were supposed to make St. Kilda Road the grandest thoroughfare in the world. Over the next 12 months they will be replaced by plane trees.

The Melbourne correspondent of the *Sydney Bulletin* commenting on the Onus project said: "Maybe silver poplar isn't wattle or blackwood, but this idea should bring great joy to all tourists who visit Melbourne. Not only will the 50,000 boomerangs symbolically invite them to return here, but there'll be the thrill of knowing that they were hacked out of the world".

LIKES OUR BOOTS

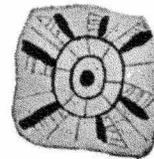
When Rohan Kanhai, the West Indian cricketer, wanted a new pair of cricket boots in a hurry, during his present English tour, he sent to Australia for them. They went by jet airliner within 24 hours.

Kanhai takes size 10 and likes his boots to be "just right."

It was a compliment to Australia that he should prefer them to be made here and not in England, formerly the home of that kind of thing.

However, we have had a high reputation for handmade footwear for a long time, not only for cricketers.

What may be less well-known is Australia's virtual monopoly in another sporting line. One Melbourne company makes something like 90 per cent. of all the lawn bowls in the world.



NIGERIANS WAY OUT

According to a Nigerian university student visiting Armidale recently many of his countrymen believe "that the whites had destroyed all the Aborigines".

The Nigerian student said there was a widespread belief in his country that the last Australian Aborigine died last year.

The student who brought this news is one of three Nigerian university students making a tour of Australian university centres. His name is Rosaq Solaja.

Interviewed by the *Armidale Express* after he and his compatriots visited the Aboriginal reserve at East Armidale, Mr. Solaja said that when he returned to Nigeria he would try to correct this mistaken view.

Mr. Solaja said the Armidale reserve was better than the one at La Perouse, but he did not think it was what it should be—a staging place where the Aborigines lived

while going through the period of transition from bush to town living.

In his opinion, the main problem of the Aborigines at the reserve, and of Aborigines generally, appeared to be one of education.

Mr. Solaja said that reserves were just a form of cheap housing settlement with the Aborigine preferring to live in a house for which he paid only 17s. 6d. a week rent than to live in the city where he would have to pay at least £4.

The student said that if the Aborigines were made to live in the city they would soon learn to face the "hard facts of life" and to make their own way.

The Nigerians inspected the East Armidale reserve with the District Welfare Officer, Mr. D. G. Yates.

Mr. Solaja said he would tell his people that although the Aborigines' lot was not very commendable, there were many dedicated people who were helping them.

THE SOCIAL LIFE OF CHICKENS

Chickens spend their whole life being henpecked. So say U.K. Ministry of Agriculture experts who, after years of study, believe that knowledge of the social life in the chicken run can help to improve egg production.

The battery system is best, it is contended; trouble starts when the hens are allowed to mix together. Within any flock there is a social structure. The boss bird walks where she likes and every bird will make way for her.

It seems that a pullet can only recognise up to about 30 of her companions, and this is one reason why small flocks lay better than large ones. Within a small flock the social pattern is stable, each individual knowing its superior, which it avoids, and its inferiors, which avoid it.

Fights occur when a hen must move outside its own circle to get food, water or nest boxes—and when fights occur, egg production suffers.

IN YOUR GARDEN . . .

SOWING GUIDE FOR DECEMBER

Vegetable specialists of the Department of Agriculture recommended the following varieties for December sowings in the districts specified.

Beans (French): All districts. *College Pride, Brown Beauty, Windsor Longpod, Redlands Belle, Redlands Greenleaf* and stringless varieties.

Beans (Pole or Climbing): All districts. *Epicure, Westralia, Blue Lake.*

Beetroot: All districts. *Early Wonder (Rapid Red) Top-market, Detroit River Red.*

Cabbage: All districts. *Jersey Wakefield, Enkhuiizen Glory, Copenhagen Market, Succession* and hybrid varieties.

Carrots: All districts. *Top-weight, Red Core Chantenay, Early Nantes (Manchester Table), Champion Peerless.*

Cauliflowers: *Russian 2A, Early Phenomenal, Hawkesbury Solid White, Deepheart, Phenomenal Maincrop.*

Celery: All districts. *Golden Self Blanching, Giant Pascall, White Plume, South Australian Export White.*

Chinese Cabbage: All districts. *Wong Bok, Pe Tsai.*

Chives: All districts.

Chokoes: All districts. *American Spineless* and ordinary green and white types.

Cucumbers: All districts. *Crystal Apple, Richmond Green Apple, Palmetto, Ashley, Stono.*

Endive: Tablelands. *Green Curled, Broad-leaved Batavian.*

Gherkins: All districts. *Boston Pickling, Heinz Pickling.*

Herbs: All districts.

Lettuce: All districts. *Imperial 847, Great Lakes, Pennlake, Yatesdale.*

Marrows (bush): All districts. *Early White Bush, Zucchini, Cocozelle;* (**vining**) *Melbourne White Running.*

Parsnips: All districts. *Hollow Crown.*

Peas: Tablelands. *W. F. Massey, Victory Freezer, Greenfeast.*

Peppers: All districts. *California Wonder, Ruby King, Yolo Wonder.*

Potatoes: Tablelands. *Crana, Exton, Sebago, Sequoia, Kennebec, Murru, Bungama, Kurrel.*

Potatoes (sweet): Coast and inland. *White Maltese, H.A.C. Pink, Porto Rico.*

Pumpkins and Hubbard Squash: All districts. *Queensland Blue, Windsor Black, Crown Prince, Green Warted Hubbard.*

Radish: All districts. *Long Scarlet, White Icicle, French Breakfast.*

Rhubarb: All districts (seed or crowns). *Sydney Crimson.*

Rockmelons: All districts. *Powdery Mildew Resistant No. 45, Rio Gold, Gold Coast.*

Shallots: All districts. *Small French.*

Silver Beet: All districts. *Lucullus, Fordhook Master, Fordhook Giant, Dark Green Broad Ribbed.*

Squash: All districts. *Table Queen (Des Moines or Acorn), White Custard (scalloped), Fordhook.*

Tomatoes: All districts. *Grosse Lisse, Daydream, College Challenger, Manaluce, Indian River* and appropriate hybrids for processing.

Watermelons: All districts. *Early Canada, Hawkesbury Wilt Resistant, Charleston Gray.*



CHILDREN AT CUMEROONGUNGA

Some of the school children at Cumeroongunga break in their lessons to pose for a picture.

These good-looking, happy children are May Walker, Colin Walker, Tom Weston, George Bamblett, Lillian Williams, Amy Briggs, Neville Atkinson, Robert Weston and Paul Briggs.

In the other picture on this page, a junior resident inspects the Chairman of the Aborigines' Welfare Board, Mr. A. G. Kingsmill, as he inspects one of the Board's homes at Deniliquin.



PETE'S

Hello, Kids,

The Christmas season brings us to the end of another year and opens to all children the carefree days of the long, warm summer holidays.

Summertime, above all others, is children's time, when the long, warm days beckon irresistibly to the fun of the outdoor, and offer a complete change from the schoolroom routine.

This is the time, too, when the all-important school examinations have been completed and the work you

Coral Briggs (15), the pretty daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Les Briggs, of Cumeroounga



PETE'S PAGE

have done during the year comes up for judgment, so to speak.

I hope you never think of examinations as just an annoying climax to a school year; something which has been to hold you back as you wait to burst out into summer holidays.

These years in school are among the most important of your lives. The interest you take in the lessons you are taught, and the success you achieve in applying what you are taught in examinations, will lay the foundation for your study for higher examinations in preparation for a career.

In last month's *Dawn* we set out some information about careers for boys. Girls too, can train for skilled occupations, and we will publish material about them as well.

If you study well now, and realise that every examination you pass is opening the door a little wider to a world of opportunity and skill you will find the path to security and good wages is so much the easier later on.

For the time being however, examinations are over, and school is out.

Remember to exercise the greatest care during these holidays. Danger is never far distant from the unwary.

Be most careful when you are going swimming. Be considerate of others and cautious for your own safety. The drowning tragedy is a black cloud that hovers over all summer fun in the water.

Yours sincerely,

Pete

Our Back Cover

The joy of Christmas is reflected in the beautiful faces of these three Walgett station children who were given a preview of the presents handed out at last year's party. The youngsters are: Christine Cubby (8), Ian Dennis (6) and Tangerine Dotti (7).

