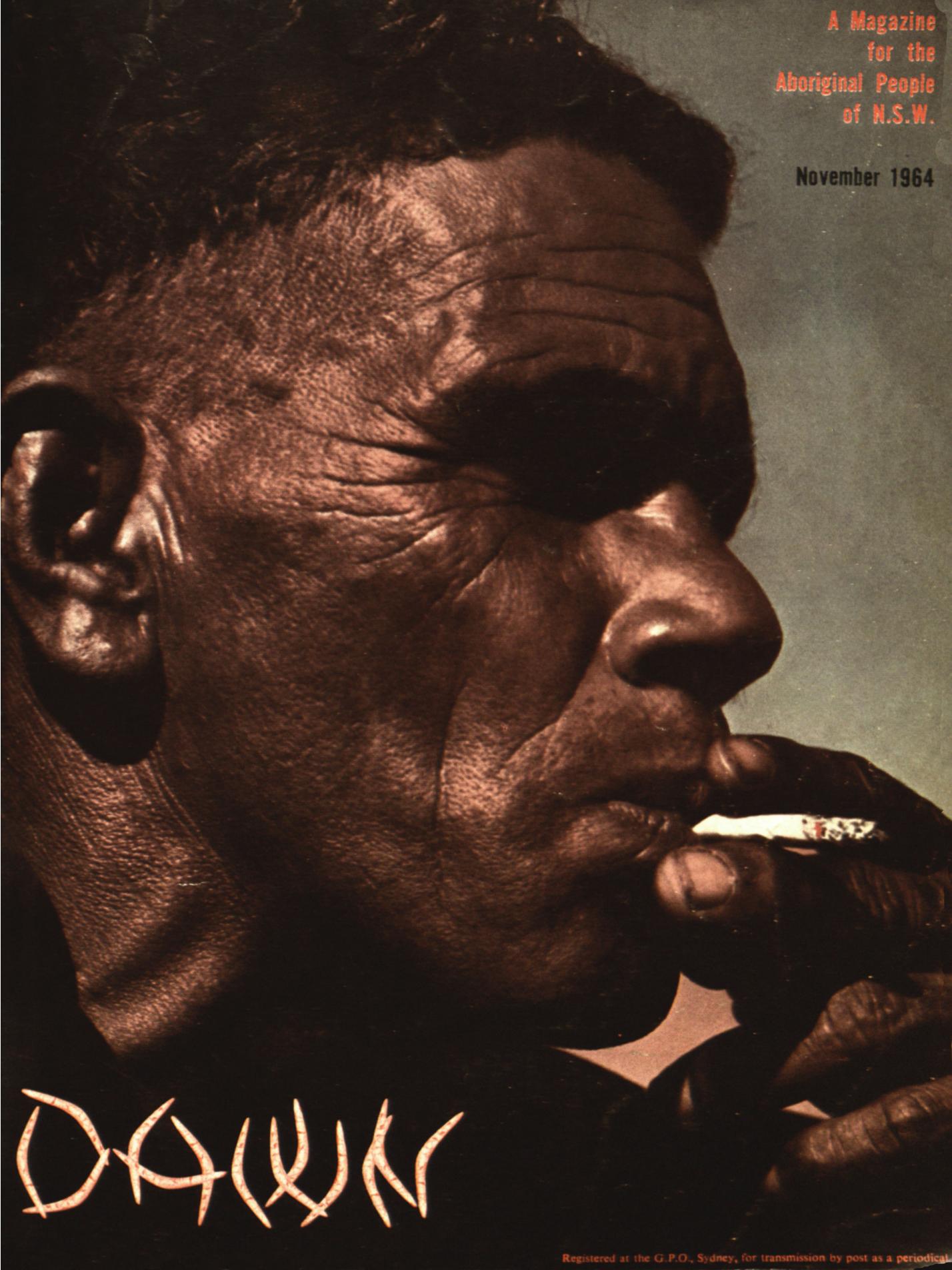


A Magazine
for the
Aboriginal People
of N.S.W.

November 1964



DAWK

Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney, for transmission by post as a periodical.

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

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IN THIS ISSUE

	Page
Pre-School Kindergarten Opened at Three-Ways	1
Energetic North Coast Building Programme by Aborigines Welfare Board	4
Moves to Boost Boomerang Throwing	6
Camera Tour of N.S.W.	8
You Could Save a Life by Reading This	15
How You Can Save a Poisoned Child	15
A Word of Thanks from a Grateful Mother	16
Pete's Page	Inside Back Cover

OUR COVER

This outstanding study of Arthur Hayden Thomas, of Wallaga Lake, was supplied to Dawn by the Manager of Kinchela Aboriginal Boys' Training Home, Mr. A. Henricksen.



Although these children were impressed by the opening ceremony at the Three-Ways Reserve pre-school kindergarten, they will long remember the party which followed. Sydney philanthropist, Mr. N. S. H. Catts (second from the right at rear) donated £1,000 towards the cost of the kindergarten *Area News photo*

Save the Children Fund

Pre-school Kindergarten Opened at Three-Ways

"This kindergarten will make a great deal of difference for the Aboriginal children of Griffith by helping them to prepare for a full school life."

Mr. H. J. Green, Superintendent of Aborigines Welfare, said this at the official opening of a pre-school kindergarten at Three-Ways Bridge Reserve on November 7.

The kindergarten has been established in the Community Hall on the Reserve by the Save the Children

Fund and it was officially opened by Mrs. Mackay, N.S.W. president of the Fund.

As Chairman, Mr. C. Grant, president of Griffith branch of the Save the Children Fund, welcomed several visitors from Sydney.

Among them was Mr. N.S.H. Catts, a benefactor of the Save the Children Fund whose substantial donation enabled the alterations to the hall to be completed without delay.

Mr. Grant said his committee and the residents of Three-Ways Bridge had been looking forward to the opening of the kindergarten and he thanked all those organisations concerned with the project for its speedy completion.

He recalled that it was just on a year ago that the first meeting was called to form a Save the Children Fund branch in Griffith.



All hands out for "goodies" at the party which followed the opening ceremony at Three-Ways. They are being served by Mrs. Linacre, who is in charge of the kindergarten

Area News photo

That meeting was addressed by Mrs. Hunt, the State secretary of the Fund, after which, with local co-operation, the Fund carried out the necessary alterations to the Community Hall which resulted in the attractive building now used by the kindergarten in the mornings.

The Wade Shire President (Cr. Nevis Farrell) welcomed guests from Sydney headquarters of S.C.F., Mr. Catts and his daughter Mrs. Haines, and Mr. Green, superintendent of Aborigines Welfare.

Cr. Farrell said he had not expected the kindergarten to be opened so soon, and he was happy to see that the hall was now a pleasing asset to the Reserve.

The Save the Children Fund, Cr. Farrell continued, is a world-wide organisation of high standing, devoted to helping children in need in many parts of the world.

In Australia, the Fund has made the formation of pre-school kindergartens for aboriginal children its principal task and the experiment is proving to be of great value.

Mr. Green said the opening of the Griffith S.C.F. pre-school kindergarten was another milestone for the Fund, which now had three kindergartens in N.S.W. and planned another at Kempsey in the near future.

Mr. Green praised the efforts of local organisations, Rotary in particular, for the assistance they had given in having the hall (originally built by Apex members) altered and improved.

Mrs. Mackay said how glad she was to be here to see the completion of the third pre-school kindergarten of the Fund in N.S.W. division of S.C.F.

It was most encouraging to know of the support the Fund had received in Griffith from different bodies for this pre-school.

"We are grateful to all of you and happy to have a share in this kindergarten," Mrs Mackay continued.

"We learnt at Coffs Harbour, where the first S.C.F. kindergarten was opened, how much these pre-schools are needed, and reports from Heads of Infants' Schools show that pre-school training is of great benefit to these little children in preparing them for their future Schools".

The Save the Children Fund in N.S.W. was started in N.S.W. nine years ago and there were now 19 branches in the State, Mrs Mackay said.

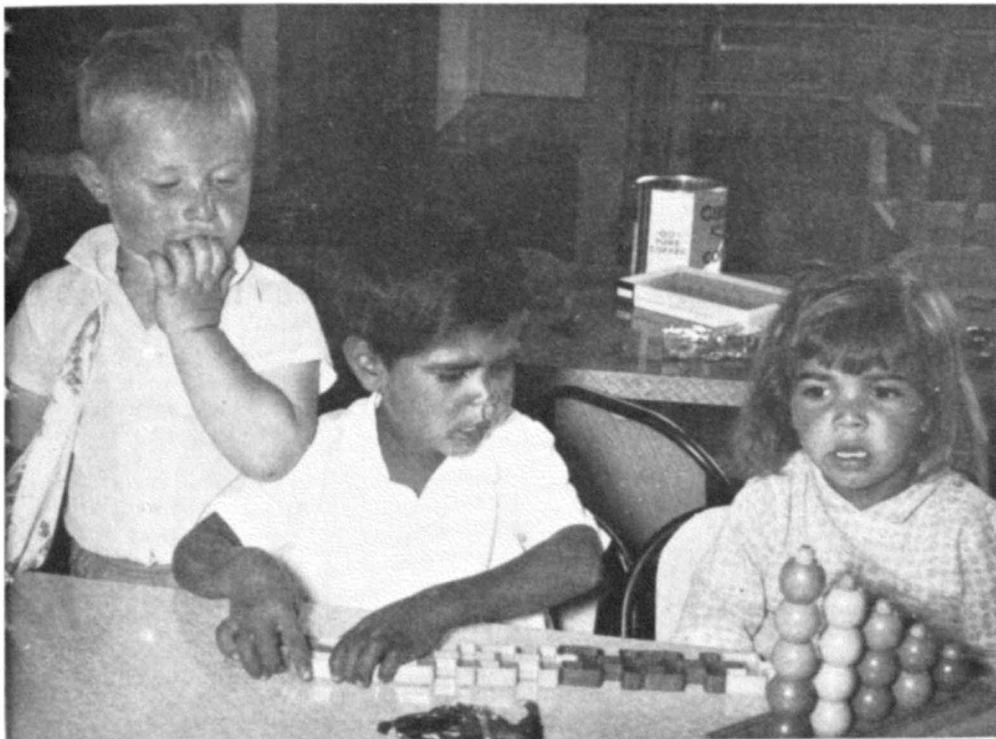
They support the international work of the Fund as well as the Australian plan of pre-school training for Aboriginal children.

Declaring the kindergarten open, she said: "I hope the children here will enjoy their kindergarten years as well as gaining confidence and experience which will help them when, at five years of age, they move on to a primary school."

Afternoon tea was served by S.C.F. members in the attractive Community Hall and was an enormous success with the Kindergarten children and their numerous older and younger brothers and sisters.

From the Riverina Advocate

DAWN, November, 1964



Problems abound when working with modern toys in a kindergarten, but there is always plenty of good advice

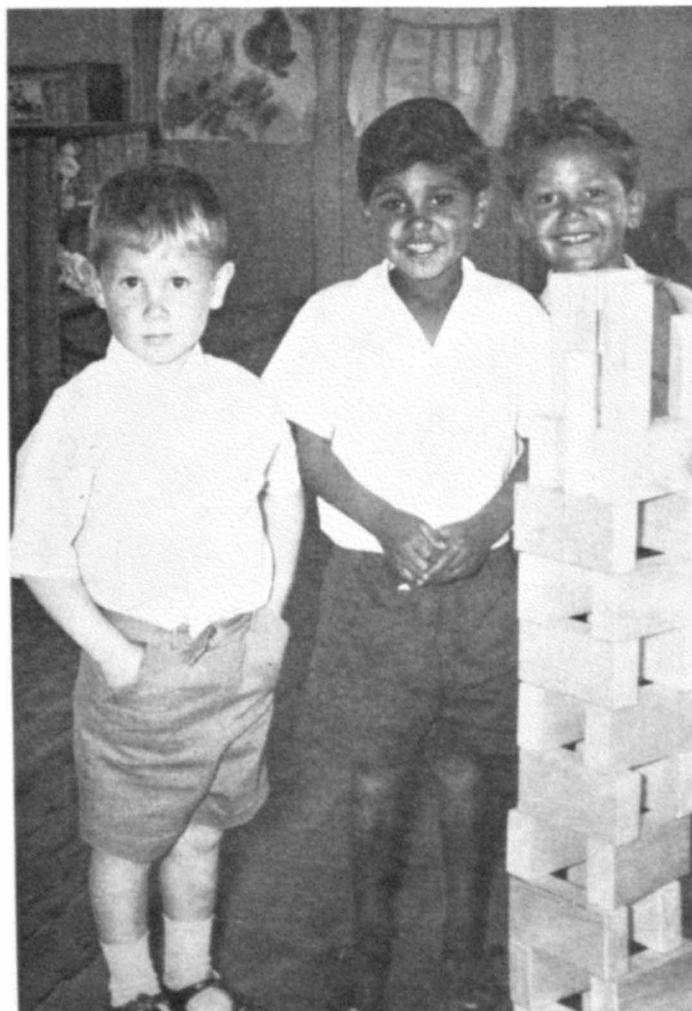
Riverina Advocate

Right: Assurance. These three lads stand back and survey this tall structure at the kindergarten

Riverina Advocate

Below: Life in all its poses might be the caption for this shot of the children having a break during their day at the kindergarten

Riverina Advocate



ENERGETIC NORTH COAST BUILDING PROGRAMME BY ABORIGINES WELFARE BOARD

The upsurge of building programmes by the Aborigines Welfare Board on the North Coast had seen many improvements to Aborigines' reserves and, in several instances, the complete relocation of reserves in more suitable areas.

This was stated in Grafton by the Welfare officer of the Aborigines Welfare Board at Lismore, Mr. E. H. Morgan.

The building programme on the Box Ridge Aborigines' Reserve at Coraki has been completed.

The first nine cottages were finished by the end of September, 1962. The programme provided for 13 cottages, the remainder being completed in August, 1964.

Since the start of the building programme, the board also purchased three cottages in the town of Coraki to house 23 Aborigines in three families, increasing the number of Aboriginal families living in the town to six families.

One family left for Sydney after living in a house in Coraki, and is living in a town house in Glebe.

The number now living on the reserve is 85. The number living in the town is 31.

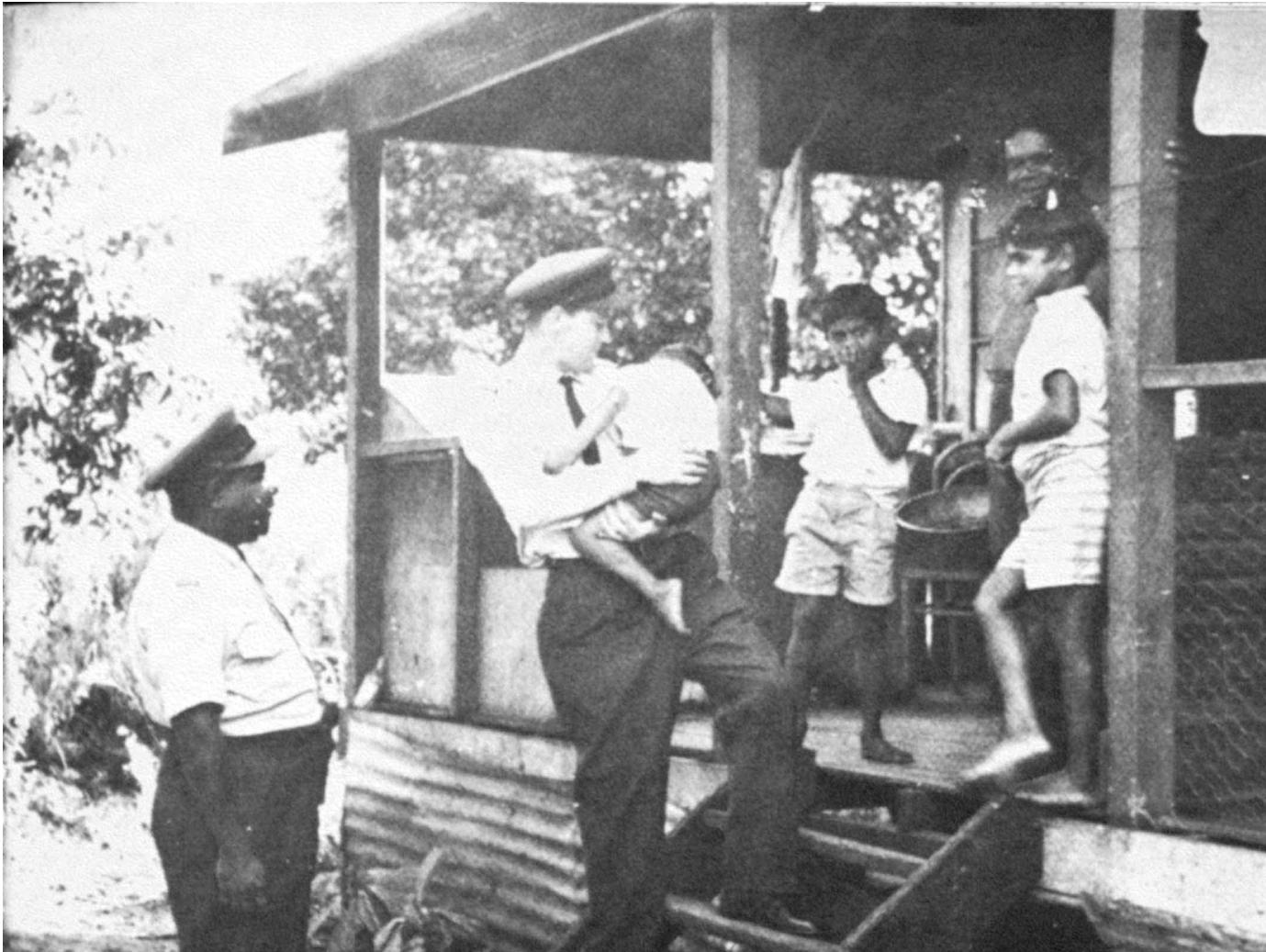
These figures exclude itinerants. Other building programmes have included the demolition of the old Cubawee Reserve. The families which have lived on that reserve have been transferred to Lismore.

The new reserve comprises six new homes. The other families have either been accommodated in town houses owned by the Aborigines' Board or have achieved their own town homes.

The upsurge of building programmes has included the well known settlement in Maclean. The one at Yamba will soon be completed. It will accommodate families who are at present living on the Angourie road.

Story and photos courtesy *The Daily Examiner*, Lismore.





Left: An Aboriginal family, with Captain Alan Polgen (left) and Captain G. L. MacRobb (right) inspect the foundations of a new house to replace an old cottage on the Box Ridge reserve. Captains MacRobb and Polgen, of the Church Army, have spent many months working among the Aborigines of the Northern Rivers



Above: Captain Polgen (left) and Captain MacRobb pictured after visiting a family in the last remaining of the old cottages on the Box Ridge Reserve at Coraki. Shortly afterwards the cottage was demolished and a new home built for the family on the site

Right: A group of children at the Box Ridge Reserve

MOVES TO BOOST

BOOMERANG THROWING (But Do Aborigines Care?)

Moves are being made in Australia to build a tourist-attracting sport around boomerang throwing—but it looks like being for whites only.

The new cosmopolitan generation of Aborigines has turned its back on the unique weapon used by its ancestors to hunt and kill.

The moves appear to have every chance of success, both as an unusual sport and another typically Australian image to "sell" overseas.

However, the campaign has failed to attract Sydney's modern, educated Aborigine. He is either too shy to join in or just wants nothing at all to do with it.

WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS?

What are the views of the Aboriginal population on this subject?

Are they too shy to compete in boomerang throwing contests?

Have they really less skill with boomerangs than people of European extraction?

Or do they think boomerangs are now outmoded and not worth bothering with?

Readers are invited to write to *Dawn* expressing their views on boomerang throwing.

Even the art of boomerang throwing is no longer something the Aborigine can call his own.

In Sydney, it is estimated there are more whites than Aborigines now throwing the boomerang proficiently.

Nobody is more aware of this than 62-year-old Mr. Frank Donnellan of Granville, one of Sydney's western suburbs.

Frank, a white man, is regarded as the official "world boomerang champion," a title he won several years ago with a returning throw of 143 ft.

Won Respect

He is possibly the top boomerang expert in Australia, and his long experience has earned him the deep respect of Aborigines throughout the country.

He manufactures boomerangs for sale in Australia and overseas, and has also published his own handbook for learners.

Frank is a strong force behind the campaign to establish boomerang throwing as a national sport.

The problem of too few Aborigines became clear earlier this month when the New South Wales long distance returning boomerang throwing championships were held in Sydney.

Frank was one of the principal organisers of the titles, to aid the newly-created Foundation for Aboriginal Affairs.

"There were eight men taking part in the title event—all whites," Frank said.

"But watching the throwing were more than 60 eligible Aborigines from La Perouse in Sydney and several areas of New South Wales.

"They showed a keen interest in the actual throwing, but they just stood round and did not even look like taking part.

"I went around and spoke to several that I knew and tried to get them to compete. They just wouldn't have it on; they seemed shy."

The title was won by a Yugoslav migrant, 40-year-old Steve Silady of Chatswood, on Sydney's North Shore. He threw the boomerang 90 yards and caught it coming back.

Frank's star pupil, a 17-year-old Granville art student, Sue Griffiths, won the women's title unopposed with a throw of 70 yards.

"For the past 15 years I have issued regular challenges against Joe Timbery, a La Perouse Aborigine who won a national accuracy title for boomerang throwing," Frank said.

"Joe has not competed against anyone since he won the title, and has refused every challenge I have put to him.

Plan Drawn

"I believe one of his daughters can also throw very well, and would like to see her challenge Sue Griffiths.

"The sport needs the support of the Aborigines to be an all-round success."

Frank has drawn up a three-point scheme to boost the popularity of boomerang throwing and give the city of Parramatta the distinction of fostering the sport.

He has an ample following of skilled boomerang throwers, many of them his own pupils who he teaches at Parramatta Park each weekend.

They are all white.

Frank hopes to stage a big boomerang carnival at Parramatta Park some time in December to aid the current £150,000 appeal by the Foundation for Aboriginal Affairs.

He plans to present three feature events:

1. A challenge contest between Silady and himself for the "world" distance throwing title.
2. The first women's national boomerang throwing championship.
3. A six-a-side exhibition match of what is perhaps the world's most unusual game, Boomerang Base.

Like Baseball

Boomerang Base is similar to baseball, but boomerangs are used instead of a bat and ball.

Frank and a group of skilled throwers—white and Aboriginal—staged the first Boomerang Base matches at Parramatta Park in the early 1940s as a feature of the city's anniversary celebrations.

Several competitions were held for a shield donated by the city's civic and business leaders.

Later, the players drifted apart and the game was abandoned.

During its brief rise to popularity, the game was publicised throughout Australia and the rest of the world, and Frank believes it could reach great heights.

He hopes to stage exhibition matches between two groups of boys he has taught to throw the boomerang proficiently.

From The Australian

This striking float was entered by the Foundation for Aboriginal Affairs in the Waratah Festival parade. It helped draw the general public's attention to the Foundation's fund raising target of £150,000



Outstanding Studies

CAMERA TOUR OF N.S.W.

We present on the following pages some attractive studies by well known amateur photographer Stan Piper during a recent extensive tour through New South Wales.

Mr. Piper, who is a P.M.G. employee, has been a keen photographer for 40 years.

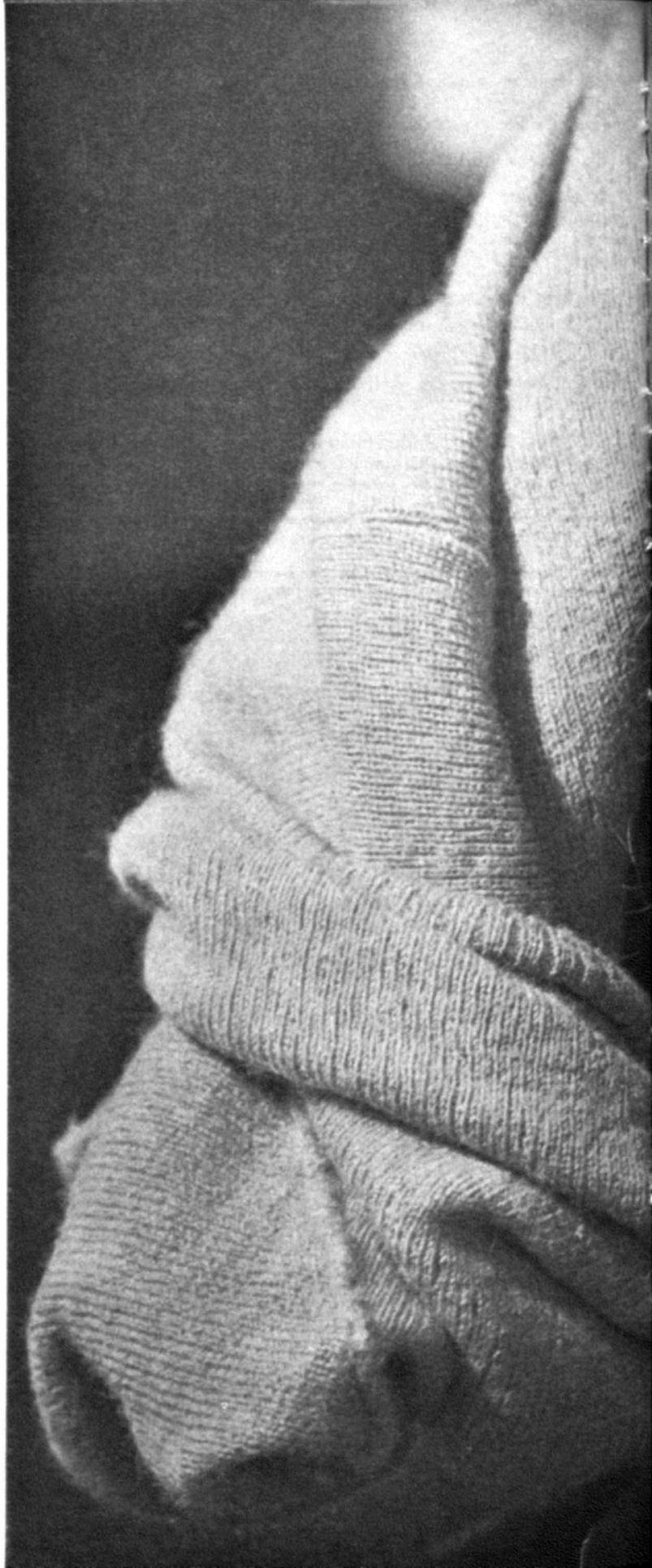
In the 1963 Royal Agricultural Society National Photographic Exhibition he won the black and white print section.

This year at the Royal Show Mr. Piper won a Certificate of Merit for an outstanding study of Rene Campbell, of La Perouse (published in the May issue of *Dawn*).

During his recent trip Mr. Piper visited Dubbo, Lightning Ridge via Walgett, Collarenebri, Moree, Inverell, and returned home to Sydney along the New England Highway via Murrurundi.

At Collarenebri he told *Dawn* he was particularly taken with an Aboriginal cemetery, the graves of which were adorned with coloured glass and tins. Toys had been placed on the children's graves.

**A splendid study of an old woman at
Moree**





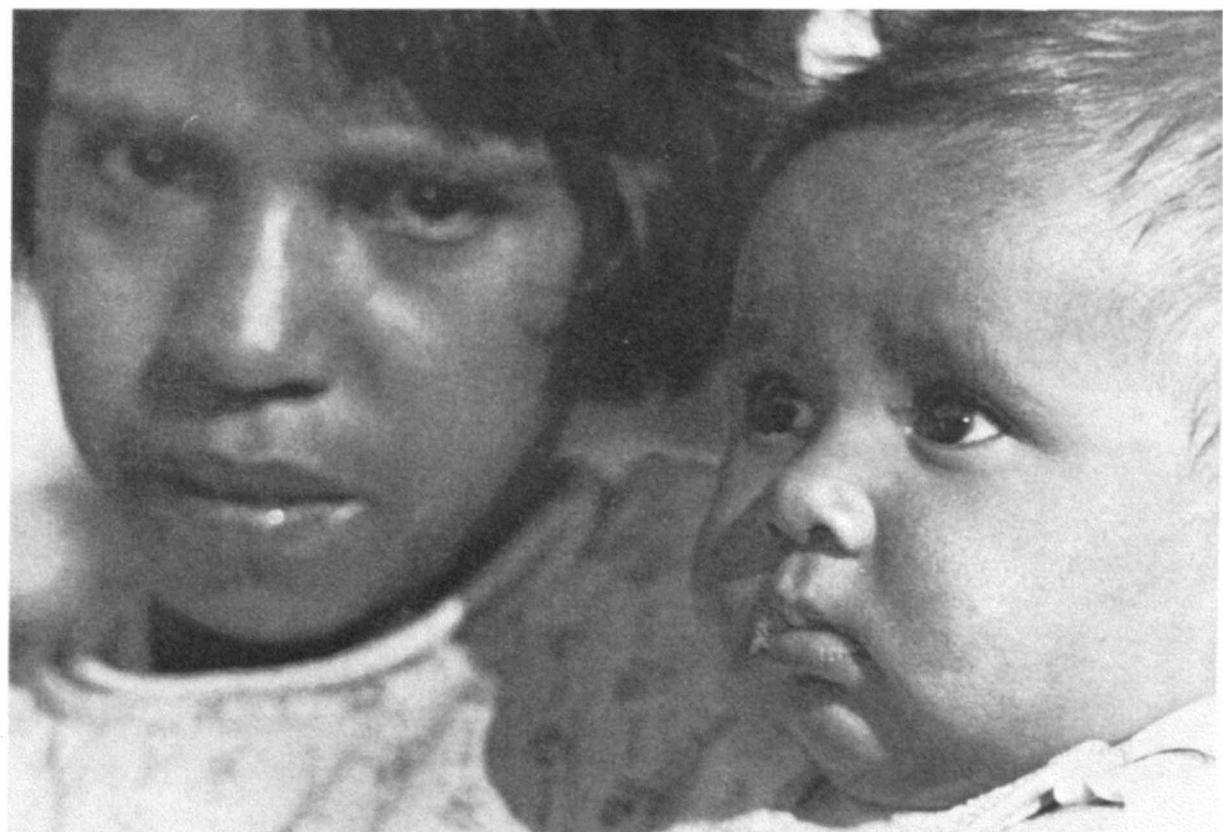


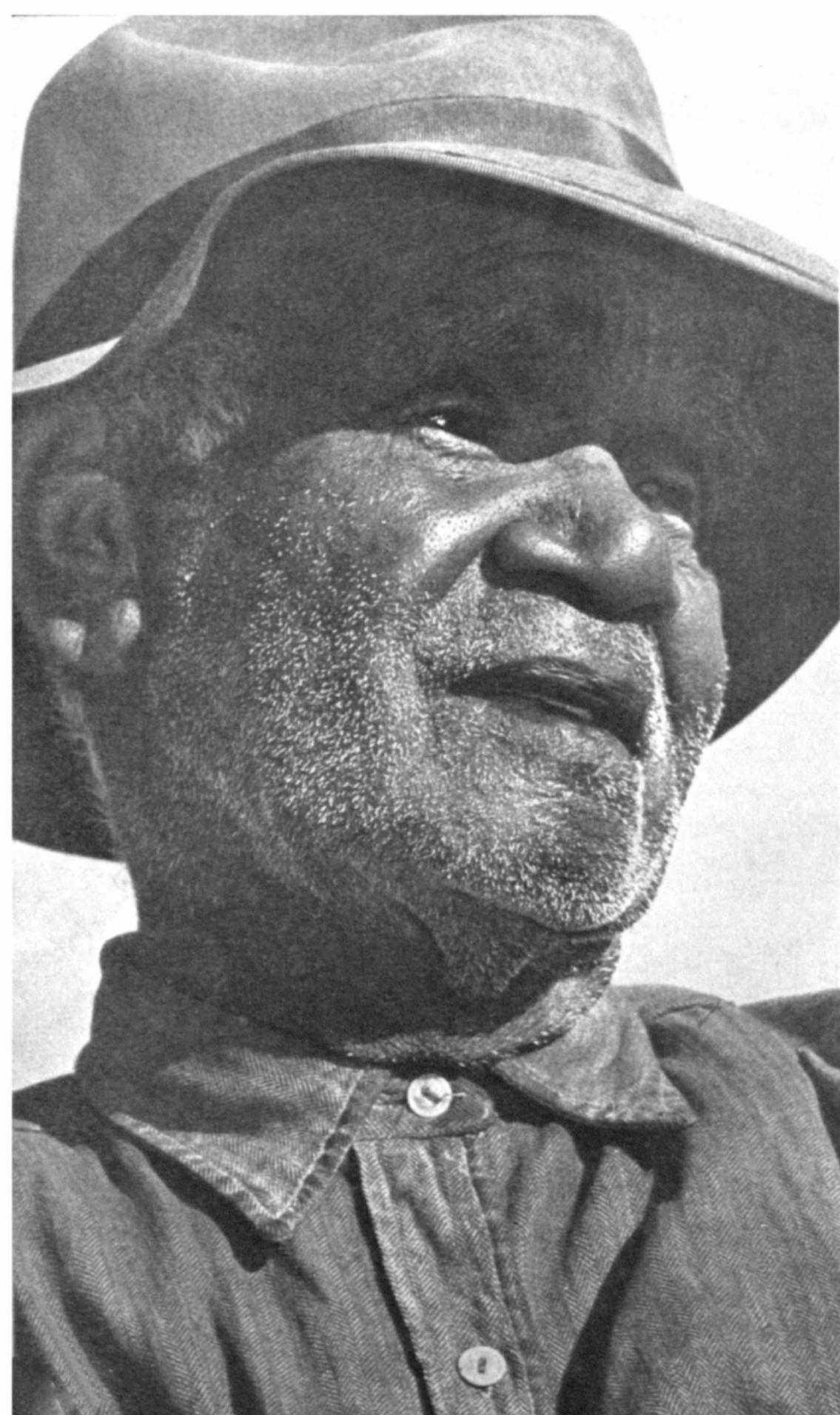
Above: Aboriginal graves at Collarenebri

Left: Children at Moree

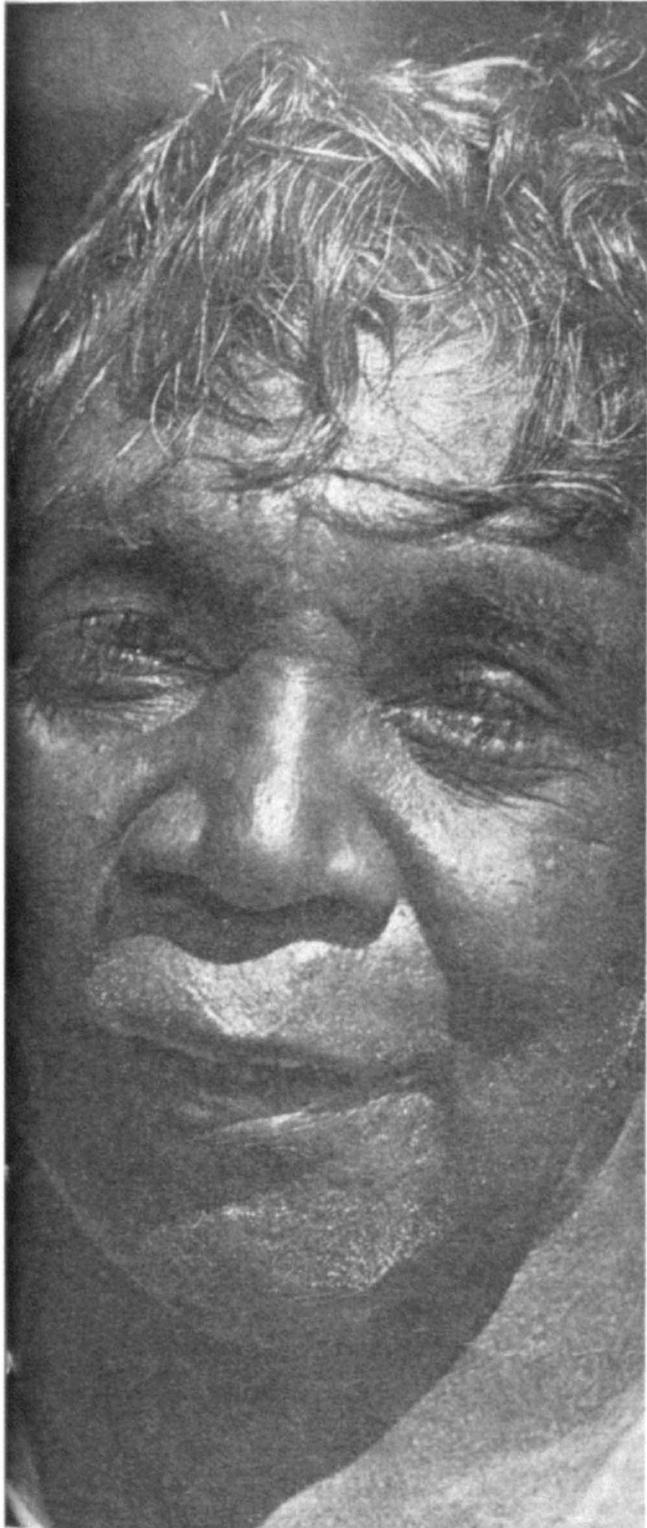
Above right: A child study at Moree

Right: An Aboriginal home at Lightning Ridge, where the opals are found

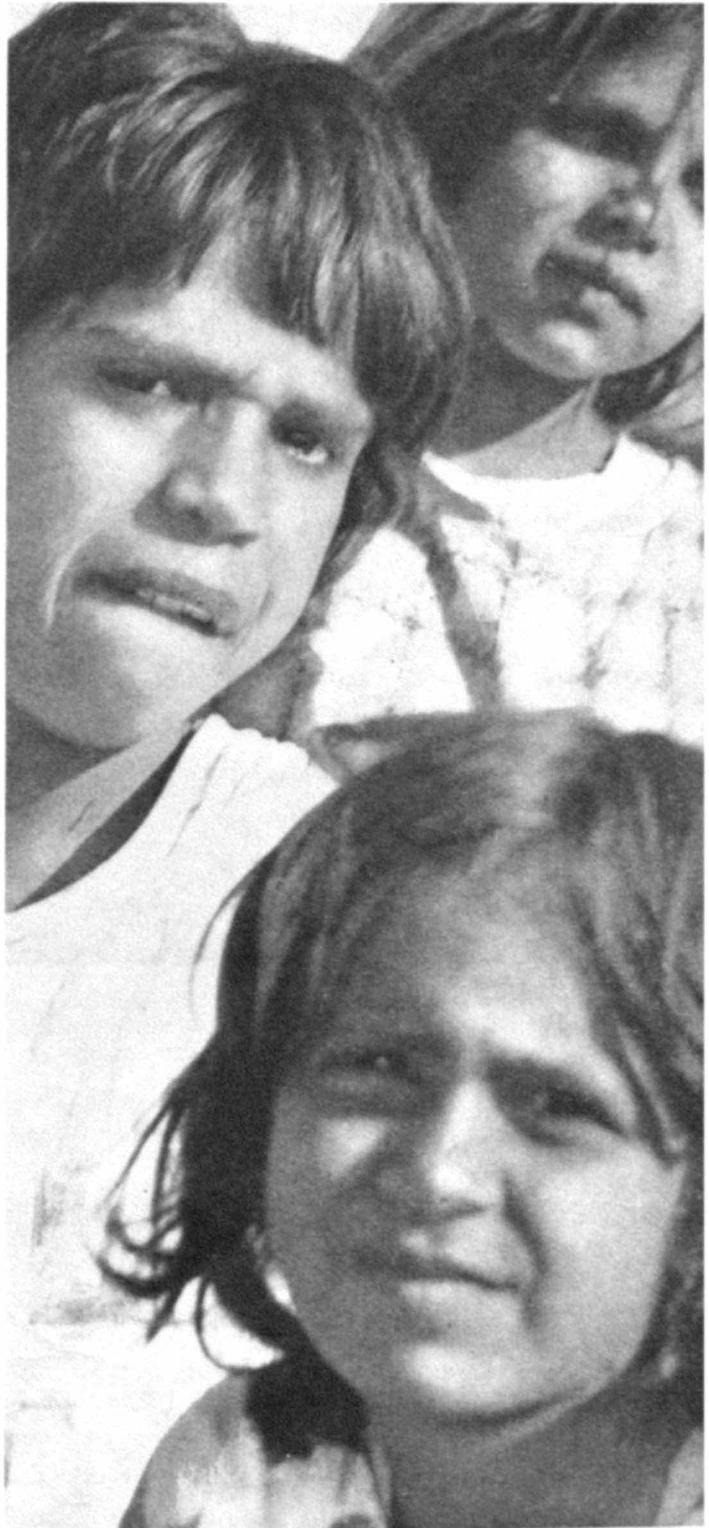




**Charlie Dodd,
of Walgett**



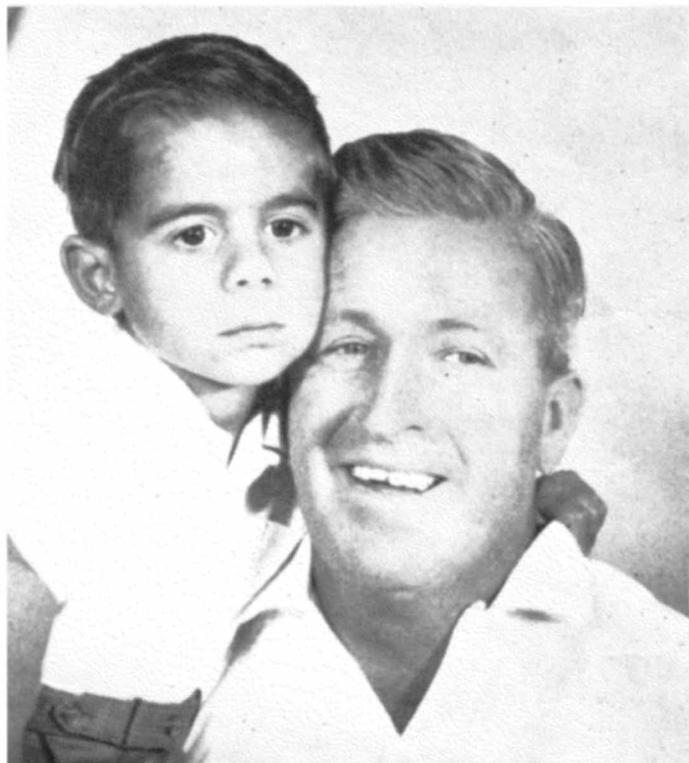
Willie, of Collarenebri



A child study taken at Moree



Well done! Eighteen-year-old Margaret Priscilla Tighe, who works at the hospital, smiles happily as she is handed her Assistant Nurses Diploma by Mr. J. Goodsell, Chairman of the Public Service Board at a ceremony at the Lidcombe State Hospital on 8th December, 1964.



Norman Shields and his Dad. Mrs. M. Shields of St. George St., Mungindi, informs Dawn that Norman was adopted by herself and her husband at the age of seven months.

Norman, who is very well known to the people of Mungindi, spent most of his babyhood days up to the time of his adoption, in the local hospital. He is the apple of his parents' eyes, as our photo indicates.

YOU COULD SAVE A LIFE BY READING THIS

(Issued by the N.S.W. Department of Public Health)

All over Australia in pools, rivers, and surfing beaches, men, women, and children will soon be indulging in the old Australian pastime of "taking a dip to cool off."

In recent years, in step with the increasing popularity of swimming, has been an increase in drowning fatalities. Many a fatality could have been averted if the rescuer had known more about artificial respiration.

Procedure Simple

The mouth-to-mouth artificial respiration method is simplicity itself to perform. Study the instructions outlined below—you never know just when they could enable you to save a life . . . perhaps a member of your own family!

1. Lay the victim down on his stomach, with the head lower than the chest and keep him there for only a moment. Slap vigorously on the back and fish any obvious seaweed or foreign matter out of the mouth. Be sure to place the tongue well forward. **REMEMBER AT THIS STAGE IT IS SECONDS THAT COUNT.**

2. Now place the victim on his back in such a position that the head is tilted well back from the body. The

position should be that of a person looking up at the ceiling.

3. Keep the jaw really well forward by lifting the chin. This and the previous manoeuvre keep the airway as clear as possible so that you may proceed.

4. Press your lips firmly over the mouth, or in the case of a small child, over the nose and mouth, and breathe into the victim, using moderate force only. In an adult you can breathe into either the nose or mouth. If you use the mouth pinch the nose. If you use the nose, hold the mouth shut. You will see the victim's chest expand as you blow the air into the lungs. The first six breaths should be given as quickly as possible. Timing is dictated by the lowering of the chest.

5. Then repeat this twelve times a minute, slightly more frequently for a child, and remember that a child's chest will not hold all the air blown out of your lungs.

6. Keep this up until help arrives or until breathing commences. Keep trying for two hours, for there may still be hope of recovery.

7. NEVER artificially respire someone who is breathing, however shallowly.

The Department of Public Health booklet "Holiday Safety" contains a section that illustrates the mouth-to-mouth respiration method. It can be obtained by writing to Publicity Branch, Health Department, 52 Bridge Street Sydney.

HOW YOU CAN SAVE A POISONED CHILD

(Contributed by the N.S.W. Department of Public Health)

What would you do if your child swallowed poison?

This is a question that every mother should ponder upon—an urgent problem she may one day face.

Don't panic but act quickly! See if the mouth and lips are burnt. If the poison is a corrosive such as lysol, carbolic acid, ammonia or acid, tell-tale burns will be left in the child's mouth. Under no circumstances induce the child to vomit as it only increases stomach tissue damage. Your first concern in a case such as this should be to dilute the poison in the child's stomach by making him drink a pint of milk or water. Then take him and the poison container to the nearest hospital or your doctor.

Again if the child has swallowed petroleum, products such as kerosene, petrol, furniture polish, lighter fluid, cleaning fluids or benzene, do not induce him to vomit as in this case the vomitus may enter the lungs and cause broncho-pneumonia.

In all other types of poisoning the recommendation is to make the child vomit by placing two fingers to the back of his throat, or, by giving an emetic such as warm soapy water. Do not induce vomiting in an unconscious patient. In all cases of poisoning obtain medical aid as rapidly as possible. If possible let the doctor know the name of the poison taken.

Here are ways to prevent possible poisoning—

- Lock your medicine cabinet. Drugs account for a large percentage of fatal poisonings in children under five.
- Don't keep your household chemicals under the kitchen sink. The one-year-old crawling under the sink accounts for a good percentage of poisoning cases.
- Never put poisonous substances, such as turpentine into soft drink bottles or milk bottles. A child could easily mistake the poison for food or drink.
- Never put poisons in cupboards where food is stored.
- It's a good idea to have regular check-ups around the house to ensure poisonous items are out of a child's reach. Danger areas to remember are the kitchen, bedroom and bathroom.

A WORD OF THANKS FROM A GRATEFUL MOTHER

To the Editor:

The Mundine family of Lilly Pool Rd., South Grafton, waited six years for this home. Now I have it and am very pleased with it.

I can thank Mr. Morgan* for getting a home for my children and myself.

MRS. ESTHER CORE (formerly E. Mundine)

* Mr. E. H. Morgan, Aborigines Welfare Board Welfare Officer at Lismore



Left: Mrs. Esther Core (formerly Mrs. Mundine) with her children, Bertha, Leonie, and Vickie

Above: Mrs. Margaret Baker and Leonie Mundine on the steps of the Mundines' new home

IN MEMORIAM

We report with regret the death of Mrs. Eileen F. Shurmer in November at Darwin in the Northern Territory.

Mr. and Mrs. Shurmer were Relieving Manager and Matron for the Aborigines Welfare Board from 1958 until 1960, and made many friends throughout New South Wales.

Mrs. Shurmer is survived by her husband and two small children, to whom *Dawn* extends its sympathy.

PETE'S

PAGE

Dear Kids,

I imagine that you have already sung a number of Christmas Carols many times at school, especially at the end of each year. There are the "old faithfuls" such as "Silent Night", "Away in the Manger" and "The First Nowell" but I wonder if you have ever sung the carol which begins:—

"Across the starry plains one night
Three drovers riding merrily and gay
Looked up and saw a shining light
All brighter than the Milky Way"

"Oh! Yes I remember it," some of you will be saying
"but I don't know what it is called".

The four Beetson children, Reginald, Julianna, Paul and Kerrie, made a happy group as they stand in the street near their home in Mayfield, Newcastle



DAWN, November, 1964

This carol is truly an Australian one. The usual carols seem to come from lands which have cold weather and snow at Christmas, but out here, in Australia, we know that our weather is completely the opposite. Quite often at Christmas we find it hot and dry around the reserve the town or station with hardly a cloud in the sky.

So, since our Christmas is different from the usually accepted one, why can't we have a Christmas Carol of our own? Well, we have—and still you don't know it's name.

It is called, "The Three Drovers". See if you can find the rest of the words of this carol. The first person who writes to me telling me that they have found the rest of the words and where they found the rest of the words will have their letter printed in "Pete's Page".

Thank you very much, those of you who have already written into me asking for pen friends. Your letters have been printed and I certainly hope that you have been able to make some very nice pen friends.

By the way, I was very pleased to read in the *Dawn* a few months ago about the girls from Murrin Bridge Aboriginal Station spending six days in Sydney as guests of the girls at Blakehurst Primary School. From the article and the photos it certainly looked as if a great time was had by all. Righto, girls, what about writing into me telling me all about your trip to Sydney. I am quite sure Mr. Wilding will help you. Also I would like to hear from the Blakehurst Girls. Have a talk with Mrs. Cleal, girls, and send in your impressions.

I must stop now, otherwise the Editor will be cutting down on the length of my letter.

Cheerio till next month.

Your sincere pal,

Pete

