



# DAWN

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

January,  
1963

hero of the games



# DAWN

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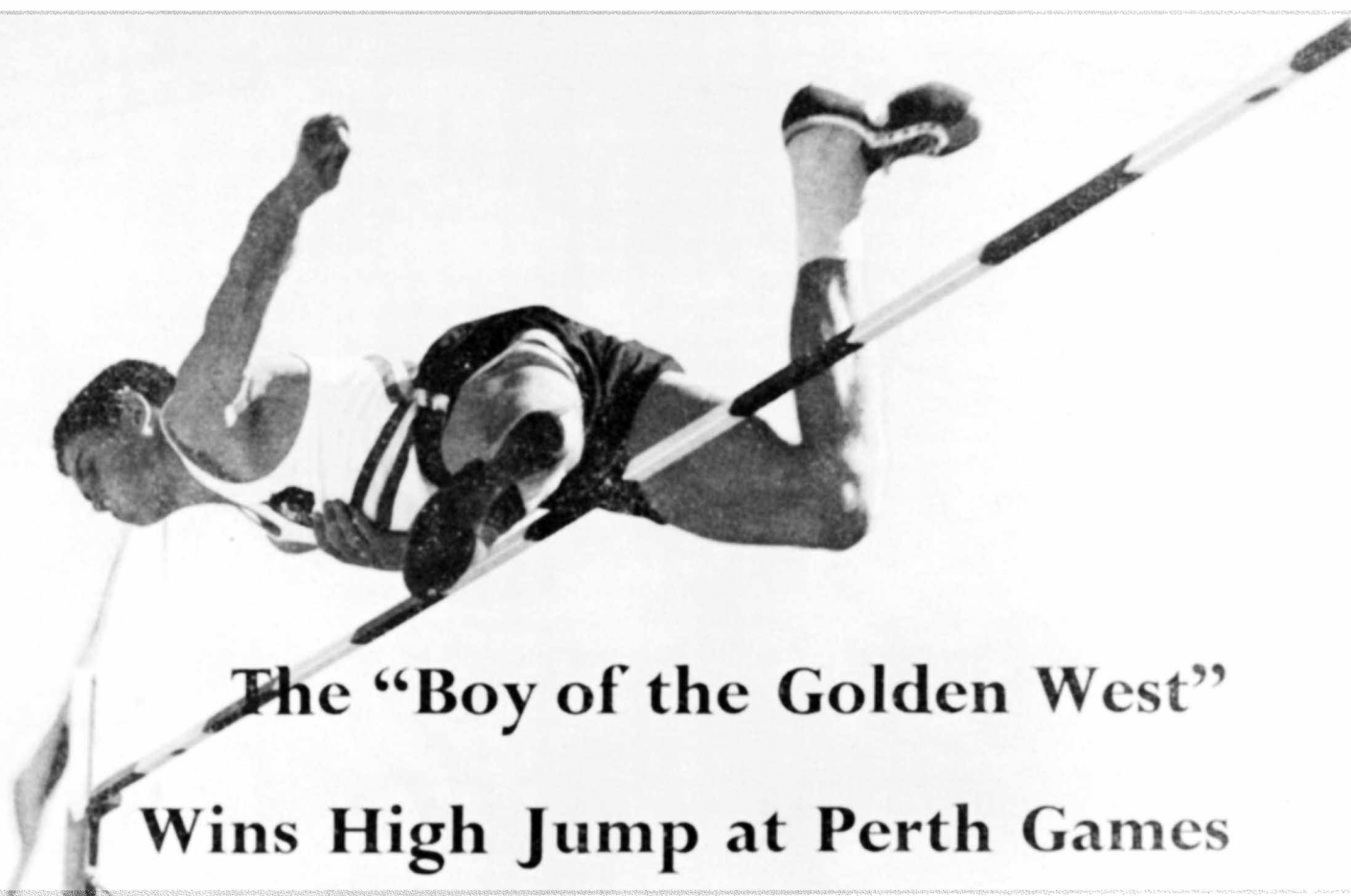
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## OUR COVER

*Australia's glamour high jumper at the Perth Commonwealth Games, Percy Hobson, steps off the plane at Bourke, for a hero's welcome in his home-town.*



## The "Boy of the Golden West" Wins High Jump at Perth Games

The glamour event of the Commonwealth Games—the high jump, was won by Australian champion Percy Hobson, a slim 19 years-old part Aborigine from Bourke, who set a new Games record of 6 ft. 11 in.

The previous Games record was 6 ft. 9 in. set by E. Haisley of Jamaica at the Cardiff Games in 1958.

Percy's gold medal performance was one of the highlights of the 1962 Games in Perth which were opened in November by the Duke of Edinburgh, who made a special flight from England for the great occasion.

Another gold medal was won for Australia by Aborigine boxer, Jeff Dynevor, of Queensland.

Percy Hobson rocketed to fame at the national athletics titles in Sydney last March. On the first day of the Australian championships he was too ill to jump after a bad bout of 'flu.

On the second day he came out and beat his old rival, Tony Sneazwell of Victoria on a count back when both had reached 6 ft. 7 in. Percy's clean, decisive jumping won the day then. Sneazwell had knocked the bar at 6 ft. 2 in. and 6 ft. 5 in.

Percy's previous best jump had been 6 ft. 10 in. at an interstate match in Melbourne in February. On that day Sneazwell pipped him by setting a new Australian record of 6 ft. 11 in.

Sneazwell has never done anything like this since and in Perth finished last at 6 ft. 7 in. behind Hobson, who

soared over 6 ft. 11 in. to win the Commonwealth championship gold medal.

"Chilla" Porter of Queensland was second with a jump of 6 ft. 10 in.

Percy, who is 5 ft. 10 in. tall, jumped 13 inches above his own height to set the record, and he did this by training mostly in his backyard.

The world record jump is 7 ft. 5 in. credited to Russian athlete Valerie Brumel, in July last year.

### Hero's Welcome

The entire town of Bourke to which he had brought international fame, turned out to welcome Percy home from Perth and the local brass band played "Hail, the Conquering Hero".

His success was perhaps the biggest sporting triumph in Bourke's history.

Townsppeople, who praised Percy's fine spirit and sense of sportsmanship, are hoping that their hero will represent Australia at the Tokio Olympic Games in 1964, in just 21 months time.

### OUR PICTURE

The boy from Bourke, Percy Hobson, sailing over the crossbar at 6 ft. 11 in. to win a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games







Jeff Dynevor, a manual training teacher at Cherbourg Mission Station, was one of three Queensland aboriginal boxers who made history in gaining selection for the Commonwealth Games.

Jeff's gym mates from Kingaroy who made the trip to Perth with no luck were Adrian Blair (lightweight) and Eddie Barney (flyweight).

Dynevor was in magnificent form in the bantamweight final when he stormed all over his opponent, Samuel Abbey of Ghana to win convincingly.

Eddie Barney (20) is a son of former Australian fast bowler Eddie Gilbert, who was a cricket sensation just before World War II. Young Eddie won his first Queensland title at the age of 13 and has since won six State titles.

Rocky Gattelari narrowly defeated Barney in 1960 to win Olympic Games selection for Rome.

Eddie Barney was considered unlucky to lose the decision in Perth to Michael Pye of England.

Australia finished as the top sporting nation of the Commonwealth with 38 gold medals.

The main medal winning came from the swimmers, who won 15 gold medals and figured in six of nine world records established.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

**Top Left: Percy Hobson proudly shows the coveted gold medal he won at Perth to a throng of young admirers**

**Below Left: Percy's mother (left) and Cr. Les Jones, of Bourke, escort him across the tarmac**

All these pictures are by courtesy of the *Sydney Morning Herald*



**Percy Hobson had two welcomes he will never forget. Top: His mother embraces him, and Below: In the centre of the picture Cr. Les Jones accords him an official welcome home on behalf of the people of Bourke**





### Chance for Kiddies

Immediately after the Games the New South Wales Swimming Association announced that early next year it will take a major step to build up Australia's strength in this sport.

On February 2nd at the North Sydney pool the Association will conduct its first junior age championships.

Three age groups will be catered for—under 10 and under 12 and possibly eight or nine.

*Dawn* hopes that some promising youngsters from aboriginal stations will get their chance here.

The secretary of the N.S.W. Swimming Association, Mr. Roger Pegram, would be very happy to find a budding champion among our junior swimmers.

### Michael Pye of England evades a long right from Eddie Barney of Queensland in their flyweight fight at the Games Boxing Stadium in Perth. Pye won a close decision

This picture and the back cover are official Perth Games Pool photographs

Mr. Pegram recently told the Press: "America has been running championships of this nature for some time now with fantastic results".

"America followed our lead in 1956—and now we are going to follow them."

Mr. Pegram said the junior age championships was the possible forerunner of greater emphasis being placed on age events.

A Japanese High School team of 23 swimmers will compete in a carnival at the North Sydney pool on February 10. This will be prior to their competing in the Australian titles at Perth during the third week in February.

Housing Commission Grant . . .

# ONE OF OUR SENIOR CITIZENS GETS HOME UNIT AT NARRABRI

The Chairman of the Housing Commission, Mr. J. T. Purcell, announced in November that one of our most esteemed senior citizens, Mrs. M. Hill of Narrabri, was a successful applicant for a home unit in a block of five flatettes recently built in the North-western town.

Mr. Purcell, who is a member of the Aborigines Welfare Board, attended the opening of the home units by Mr. G. Crawford M.L.A. later that month, and met Mrs. Hill who had been sponsored by the C.W.A.

Our picture, by courtesy of the Narrabri Courier, shows Mr. Crawford congratulating the shy Mrs. Hill at the opening ceremony. Others in the picture are Mrs. Crawford (left), Mrs. D. H. Sky of Narrabri and the Aborigines Welfare Officer at Moree, Mr. S. Preston Walker.





# GARDEN COMPETITION AT BOGGABILLA SETS SPLENDID EXAMPLE

The Spring garden competition at Boggabilla, for prizes donated by the Aborigines Welfare Board, brought out the strong community spirit of residents on the Station. No fewer than 22 entries were received and the contest led to the establishment of many new gardens which will now be permanent.



**First Prize Lloyd Dennison**



**Second Prize Eileen McIntosh**

**Third Prize Mavis Dennison**



**Not a prize winner but good effort in the most improved section**

Some of the newcomers to gardening displayed a good deal of enterprise and transformed their grounds while keeping up a running battle with stray dogs, chickens and on one occasion wandering horses.

The judges, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Grimes, horticulturists of Goondiwindi, praised the effort put in by the residents and expressed the hope that the competition would become an annual event.

The system of judging was based on points for the size of garden, layout, tidiness, variety of flowers and vegetables. Other points were awarded for pot plants, trees, shrubs, seedlings and lawn. A bush house collected eight points.

The first four prizes were donated by the Welfare Board. A consolation prize of £1 was donated by Mrs. R. F. Brown of Boggabilla, a business organiser and member of the local branch of the C.W.A., who takes a great interest in the activities of residents.

First prize (£6 cash) for the best garden was won by Lloyd Dennison with 63 points. Second (£3 for a garden tool) went to Mrs. Eileen McIntosh with 60 points. Third prize (£2) was won by Mrs. Mavis Dennison with 57 points. Walter Duncan won a £1 garden tool for fourth.

The consolation prize of £1 went to Mrs. Evelyn Binge for the most improved garden.

The judges distributed a number of packets of seeds as consolation prizes to several good triers whose gardens could be something to be reckoned with next year.

*Territory People  
knew  
how to use  
Ballot Box*

Aborigines in New South Wales have been able to vote at State elections for more than 50 years and at Federal elections since 1942.

The law, however, requires that to exercise this right the Aborigine's name must be on the electoral roll like any other citizen's.

History was made further afield in December when Northern Territory Aborigines voted for the first time at local elections and overnight became a force to be reckoned with in the community.

They knew they first must be on the roll but what is most important they knew how to use the vote.

Political commentators say that the Northern Territory public's attitude towards Aborigines will probably never be the same again as a result of their intelligent showing at the polls.

It is reported that at the remote Hooker Creek settlement, 600 miles south-west of Darwin near the Northern Territory-West Australian border, 104 natives voted.

Only ONE vote was informal.

This is a remarkable achievement for desert Wailbri tribesmen, many of whom are primitives, still hunting their food with spears and boomerangs.

In the Port Darwin electorate which has no Aborigines, there were 88 informal votes in a total of 1,608.

One commentator said: "The desert Aborigines never have enough food to waste or enough water to waste. Now they are showing they do not intend to waste precious votes either."

This all measures up with the experience of electoral officers from Victoria and Queensland who ran mock elections in native settlements two months ago.



**The desert hunter makes history**

They found that natives who had once been taught something never forgot and there was seldom an informal vote.

The Northern Territory Aborigines made their mark not with a cross but with ones, twos and threes in the appropriate squares.

Considering that natives represent almost one half of the Northern Territory population it is likely to be a long time before that is forgotten.

The N.T. elections cast strong light on Section 127 of the Australian Constitution, at present under review in Canberra. This section, framed at the turn of the century, says, "In reckoning the numbers of the people of the Commonwealth or of a State or other part of the Commonwealth, aboriginal natives shall not be counted."

When this section of Commonwealth census law came into force, there was a perfectly sound practical reason for it—that it was hopeless to expect to locate, much less count, all the Aborigines in Australia on one day.

# GEMLIKE SETTING OF WALLAGA LAKE ABORIGINAL STATION



One of the State's most attractive Aboriginal stations—Wallaga Lake—has been set up beside the lake of the same name 240 miles south of Sydney and six miles north of Bermagui, the big game fishing port made famous by author Zane Grey when he visited Australia in 1934.

The station itself commands one of the most beautiful sites on the New South Wales coast. It is partially surrounded by the Lake which abounds with fish and to the East overlooks the blue Pacific. The view to the West is one of mountain grandeur.

Proud residents claim the station has everything one could wish . . . 18 neat fibro and weatherboard homes for the people, a splendid social hall and one of the most attractive lakeside schools in the State. Twenty-two pupils attend the school which is under the control of the Education Department.

Today there are few remaining signs of a fierce bush-fire which swept the lakeside in 1951 and destroyed the office building and records it contained of the early history of the settlement.

The exact date of the founding of the station is not clear but prominent local resident, Mr. H. J. Bate, recalls that a school was started there about 70 years ago.

Mr. Bate remembers it well because he was the only white child attending the school.

It was perhaps fitting that Mr. Bate should in later life become a member of the old Aborigines Protection Board, on which he served for 15 years.

## The "New Town" of Wallaga Lake

Wallaga Lake station has a splendid water supply, being connected with the Mt. Dromedary reservoir which also supplies Bermagui.

The children there are well looked after and receive a monthly visit from Sister Wall of the Baby Health Centre at Bega.

Free garbage and sanitation service is carried out weekly by Eurobodalla Shire Council.

Present manager of the station, Mr. George Ord, says in a report to *Dawn*: "The Board has done and

## The Manager's Residence







The School at Wallaga Lake Station is one of the most attractive lakeside schools in this state.

is doing great things for the welfare and comfort of the people of the station."

Commenting on the early days of Wallaga Lake the manager said: "No story of the station would be complete without mention of former manager and matron, Mr. and Mrs. Sampey, who were in charge here for many years and dedicated their lives to the welfare and happiness of the people and were loved and respected by all."

Old residents of Wallaga Lake took an active part in the development of the South Coast. As an example, Bert Penrith is mentioned in Tom Mead's book on Twofold Bay whaling, "Killers of Eden". Bert is proud of a copy autographed and presented to him by the author.

Playground equipment donated by the Sun Toy Fund has been a boon to mothers on the station, who always know where their children are to be found.

## GROUP FORMED TO HELP INVERELL ABORIGINES

A group to assist aborigines in the Inverell district was formed at a public meeting in Inverell in November.

It will be known as the Inverell Aborigines' Assistance Group.

Dr. K. M. Whish was elected president, Mr. R. J. Graham secretary and Mrs. Wesley Brown treasury.

The management of the group will be vested in a committee consisting of the three executive members and four others.

These include the Rev. K. L. McDowell and Mr. C. E. Lawrence.

The two other committee members were unable to attend and sent apologies. Their election, therefore, has yet to be confirmed.

Sister Gibson, of the Far West Children's Health Scheme, was elected liaison officer between the group and local aborigines.

After an hour's consideration, the group adopted a 14-point constitution.

The aims of the organisation will be to:

- Promote the welfare of aborigines in the Inverell district in all ways possible.
- Foster and assist the assimilation of aborigines in the local community.
- Inspire community interest in the problems and needs of aborigines and initiate group action to meet these needs.

- Make its services freely available to aborigines.
- Co-operate with Aborigines' Welfare Board of N.S.W. and other organisations interested in the welfare of aborigines.
- Raise funds to carry out these aims.

All residents of the Inverell district subscribing to the objects of the group will be eligible for membership.

An annual subscription of 5s. was adopted.

Apart from the foundation members, members of the group shall not be eligible to vote at any meeting until one month following the payment of their subscription.

The financial year will conclude on June 30 and the annual meeting will be held in August each year.

The group adopted the definition of "aborigine" as that recognised by the Aborigines' Welfare Board.

The meeting decided to:

- Inform the A.W.B. of the formation of the group.
- Make immediate application to the Chief Secretary's Department for exemption from registrations under the Charitable Collections Act.
- Approach the Department of Taxation seeking contributions exceeding £1 as allowable deductions for income tax purposes.



## SUMMER CAMP BESIDE THE SEA

### OUTBACK KIDS COMING

The shores of historic Frenchman's Bay will be a haven for 80 outback children who go into summer camp at La Perouse this month.

**La Perouse Summer Camp is located among the trees in the background on the shores of Frenchman's Bay**

The children will come from all parts of the State west of the Great Dividing Range. For most it will be their first glimpse of the sea.

Station Manager at Moree, Mr. Des Reynolds, will conduct this year's camp on behalf of the Aborigines Welfare Board.

### SUMMER SCHOOL AT UNIVERSITY

## Welfare Board co-operating in sending Aborigines to class

Students at the 1963 residential summer school to be conducted by the Department of Tutorial Classes at the University of Sydney this month will include 22 Aborigines from all parts of the State.

Open to any interested persons—including our own people—the school will be held at Moore Theological College from January 5 to January 19.

The Aborigines already enrolled will take part in a community advancement and co-operative course.

In announcing the programme the director of Tutorial Classes, Mr. J. L. J. Wilson, said he believed the classes were the first of their kind arranged in Australia.

He said it would be an "interesting and valuable experience" for Aborigines and Europeans to live and study in such close contact.

Mr. Wilson said the Aborigines would work mainly as a group. However, they would join other European students, including a group studying active co-operation with Aboriginal communities, during plenary sessions. These sessions would include lectures, films and discussions. It was hoped that Aboriginal women would take part.

The Aborigines listed for attendance would come from stations, missions and country towns.

The Aborigines Welfare Board is co-operating in arranging for Aborigines to attend the classes. Costs will be shared by the Welfare Board, the Australian Board of Missions and the University.

Mr. Wilson said: "We will try to give the Aborigines a better understanding of the basic problems, skill and knowledge required to undertake community advancement projects and in dealing with some of the elements of co-operatives and their functioning."

"Some of the lectures will be by visiting experts but the main work will be based on seminar and workshop methods in which the emphasis will be placed on effective student participation."

Mr. Wilson said Moore Theological College could, with supplementary accommodation at Deaconess's House, accommodate about 100 students in residence.

However, applications had also been invited from non-residential students.

Courses, which will last a fortnight, include painting, creative writing, philosophy, literature and international affairs.

Other courses lasting a week will be held in anthropology, geology, archaeology and community advancement and co-operation for Aborigines.

## **SUPPORT FROM FAMED LA PEROUSE MAN FOR ABORIGINAL ART MUSEUM**

Bob Simms, perhaps the best known citizen of La Perouse, has promised support in locating items of aboriginal art for a collection at the Sydney headquarters of the Aborigines' Welfare Board.

The art museum was suggested by a former station manager and teacher, Mr. J. R. Milne, when he recently donated his own private collection to the Board.

Bob, a famed boomerang maker and thrower who figured in an important role in the British film, "Smiley", made a few years back in Australia, said he remembered Mr. Milne well.

"I was a member of the aboriginal party which Mr. Milne led across Sydney Harbour bridge at the bridge opening 30 years ago," he told *Dawn*.

"I made the ornamented boomerang which Mr. Milne presented to the Board so that it could go on display there. I gave it to him as a souvenir of that great day after I had carried it across the bridge and back."

Bob said he thought the idea of an art museum was a splendid one and added that he would be happy to present some of his own handiwork to the collection.



**The chips fly as Bob Simms shapes a boomerang from a white mangrove stick—the best timber for the purpose—at his La Perouse workshop**

**The master craftsman sights along the edge of the roughly hewn boomerang**





# Walgett Wanderings

Football is over—what a wonderful season the Walgett boys had at the Central School. With teams containing aboriginal as well as white boys, the Central School won at Tamworth, Goodooga, Coonamble and Walgett.

Robert Morgan was awarded the fairest and best player in the football game against Coonamble, which Walgett won 5 points to 3. Congratulations Robert.

“Come on Walgett!” “Come on Goodooga!” “You little beaut!” “Look at ’em tackle!” were among some of the cries from the spectators at the Goodooga School boys’ Football Carnival. The final was battled out between Walgett and Goodooga resulting in a win for Walgett 6 points to nil. Many commented that it was the best game of football they had ever seen. Some of the outstanding players for Walgett were Clarrie Lake, Richard Simpson, Robert Morgan and Alan Lake.

Neville Thorne, the young lad in fourth year at Armidale High School is back in Walgett for his holidays.

At the Barwon P.S.A.A.A. Athletic Carnival the following were the champions of their division:—

Lawrence Crawford	—Senior Secondary Champion.
Christine Walford	—Junior Secondary Champion.
Edna Dennis	—Senior Primary Champion.
George Rose	—Junior Primary Champion.
Valerie Sullivan	—Junior Primary Champion.
Jane Sharply	—Infants Champion.

“ Ah! Got there at last ”

Edna Dennis, Valerie Sullivan, George Rose, Jane Sharply and others during the weeks following this carnival attended a Regional Carnival at Narrabri.



Children enjoying the slippery dip at the playground

Although not winning anything they tried hard and certainly did not disgrace themselves.

More and more are attending the church services being held in the bush church over on the River Bank Reserve. Many are realising the value of a Christian attitude to life.

Dawn Morris, Lorraine Morris, Gloria Walford, Margaret Walford, Lorna Doole, Neil Thorne, Francis Thorne, and Gail Cargill have shown great improvement





The three teenagers are left to right—Guy Bullaman, Melina Dotti and John Denis

at school in the recent half-yearly examinations. Congratulations one and all.

The Sheppard family are back in Walgett again. Welcome home.

Ray and Verna Dennis entered the 2VM talent quest held in Walgett and were most successful in winning a second place. Congratulations to you both.

Mary Clarke outside her home



Colin Hardy, the young man originally from Brewarrina who endeared himself to the young people of Walgett, is gradually climbing the ladder of success in Sydney. To him, all the people of Walgett, are wishing every success.

Basketball is growing more and more. A number of teams recently visited Brewarrina. Janice Simpson, Eric Thorne, Phillip Hall, Ken Simpson and Bob Beale were among some of the best players.



## ABORIGINAL AS MEDICAL INSTRUCTOR TO NURSE

A fullblood Aboriginal, an orderly at a native hospital near Darwin, recently instructed a white nursing sister in tropical medical techniques.

The aboriginal is Phillip Roberts, 40, of the Alawa tribe from Roper River.

The Sister is Mrs. Lila Barlow, of the Church Missionary Society, who is going to Groote Eylandt.

This is the first time an aboriginal has ever been used in Darwin as a medical instructor.

“We are thrilled that Phillip has been able to help us,” the Northern Territory Director of Health, Dr. I. D. Byrne, said.

Sister Barlow has nursed in Africa, but has had no experience in using a microscope or identifying hookworm, a major disease among natives.

Dr. Byrne said: “We are short-staffed at the hospital laboratory. Our pathologists could not take time off to instruct Mrs. Barlow.

“Then Dr. Spike Langford suggested Phillip could do it.”

“My reaction was that we couldn’t get anyone better.”

“He is most proficient, and has done hundreds of hookworm tests himself.”

Phillip Roberts is a medical orderly at Bagot Native Hospital.

He was first taught how to use a microscope by Dr. Langford while they were on medical survey together 10 years ago.

Subsequently he also learnt how to operate a portable X-ray machine, how to use a hypodermic syringe and administer dangerous drugs, and how to treat leprosy patients.

## *Story of Flying Doctor in Gulf Country Cites Diane*

"It was good to read that recently at a school in New South Wales the pupils of the 4th and 5th grades, numbering about 150, elected an Aboriginal girl, Diane Cook, as their vice-captain. The head master remarked: 'The whole school is delighted. There is no more popular girl in the school and it is an honour which Diane thoroughly deserves.'"

The item above is an extract from a magazine story by Douglas Galbraith, written while serving with the Royal Flying Doctor Service in the Gulf of Carpentaria region of North Queensland.

[Diane Cook has since left Raymond Terrace High School and is training as a nurse at the Mater Hospital, Newcastle.]

We are sure you will be interested in the rest of the story which first appeared in the Literary Supplement of "The Age" newspaper, Melbourne. Here it is:

If you come to Arukun Presbyterian Mission, as I did, by aircraft from the Mitchell River Mission some sixty miles to the south, you will fly along the eastern shore of the Gulf of Carpentaria. These yellowish, shallow waters lapping the low mangrove swamps are not attractive. The contrast between the flat sameness of this coast-line and the green foothills and rain forests of the east side of the Cape York Peninsula is striking; just as the muddy-looking waters of the Gulf contrast with the sparkling, blue-green waters of the Coral Sea.

The rivers, too, are so different, because those flowing westwards to the Gulf twist and turn over the brown, yellow and ochre flats, doubling back in tormented contortions, in their frustrated efforts to reach the sea.

For most of the year many of them are rivers only on the map, in reality they are parched and gapping ravines, with only an occasional pool. Still, the "big fellows"—the Mitchell, the Archer and the Embley—are usually fairly well filled, even during the "dry", as they flow through the interminable forests of scrubby ironbarks. These big rivers often marked the aboriginal tribal boundaries.

The pilot pointed over to starboard as the Flying Doctor Service De Havilland Drover began to lose height. We were, he said, coming in over Wutan, the holiday camp at the mouth of the Archer River of the Arukun Mission Station.

Certainly it looked romantically tropical, with sandy beach, coconut palms, pawpaw and banana trees and great, vivid splashes of red hibiscus. But the wonderful thing was to see numbers of aboriginal children running excitedly along the beach and giving an obvious welcome to the aircraft.

Neil, the pilot, flipped his wings in acknowledgment as we turned along the river to Arukun itself, where he made a perfect landing on the airstrip right in front of the mission house.

As we stepped out, the children engulfed us, shouting happily and bearing off our luggage and parcels. They all wore the attractive dark blue lap-laps of the mission, boys and girls of all ages being bare dark skin from the waist up. With his hand outstretched in welcome came Rev. W. MacKenzie, known through the Gulf as "Bill", a sturdy, broad-shouldered man with a short, stubborn nose, a determined chin and a very merry twinkle in his eye. At his side, with her cheerful smile was Mrs. Mac, known on the mission as "Mother", while Bill is "Peipa". Truly these two are mother and father to the 500 aborigines in this mission.

Bill MacKenzie was born some 60 years ago in the New Hebrides, where his father had been a missionary for 40 years. On his father's death Bill said he also would give 40 years' service as a missionary. He has completed 38 years of this dedicated work. Most of this time has been spent at Arukun, where his wife has worked with him.

Arukun was founded by the Presbyterian Church, which asked the Moravian Order, because of their previous experience in missionary work, to initiate the mission. So in 1904 the present mission house was built. The builder, a Samoan known as Peter, died on this verandah from a native-flung spear.

Bill MacKenzie told us more about the mission. Today this is a complete settlement, with a population of about 500 aborigines, including 120 children, a school, store, timber mill, cattle station, meat killing and cold storage, and, of course, a church. So that the needs of the mission are now full community needs—social, medical, education and employment, as well as religious.

At present medical care comes from the monthly visit of the doctor of the Flying Doctor Service. There is radio-telephone communication with doctors at Thursday Island and at Cairns, and the Cairns Aerial Ambulance has taken out many ill and injured people. But the day-by-day responsibility rests on the shoulders of Sister Alison Cameron. This can indeed be a heavy responsibility. For example, Sister Cameron, under medical radio-telephone direction from Thursday Island, has had single-handed to carry out obstetrical procedures which would be worrying even to an experienced doctor. These sisters serve three years without leave and then have three months' furlough.

On educational matters there are many shortcomings. Arukun is fortunate in having Miss Mary Gillon, a great-granddaughter of that famous missionary Dr. John G. Paton, of the New Hebrides.

Miss Gillon is apparently the only kindergartner on the mission station. It was a joy, later, to see and hear Miss Gillon's class of pre-school aboriginal children. Surely this kind of teaching should be available to every mission.



(The illustration above is from a breezy Christmas Card received by Dawn from *The Grolier Society of Australia Ptd. Ltd.*)

## EVERYONE IN THE BUSH

For the other hundred or so children of all school ages Mrs. Bill MacKenzie has to cope, ably assisted for a few sessions each week by Mrs. Bartlett, the wife of the engineer.

The education of the aborigines seems to be the lynch-pin of the campaign to accept real governmental and community responsibility for our Australian aboriginal population and a vital step for a process of assimilation.

Tom Bartlett, the engineer here, told me that many of the adolescent youth show considerable mechanical skill, but that their lack of solid primary education is a great obstacle in teaching them to be tradesmen. In North Queensland it seems certain that the churches, even with State Government help cannot provide out of their overall budget the education which it is our Australian responsibility to provide for our young aboriginal population.

Most people are surprised to learn that in Australia, there are some 70,000 aborigines and that the numbers are steadily increasing. So that it is no longer a question of trying to provide a peaceful ending to a dying race. The problem is now one of our national responsibility towards the native race in whose land we live. And it seems indisputable that with good facilities for primary and for technical education—facilities available to every white Australian child—it would not be long before these children could take their just place in employment and in society.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

"It's really true," said the kangaroo,  
 "We're in it under K,"  
 "Well fancy us," said the platypus,  
 "Alive to see the day!"

"We're quite rare," called a native bear,  
 "We're under K with you,"  
 "I'm a lucky fowl," cried the sleepy owl,  
 "We make a note Woo-hoo."

"If you're looking for me' I'm in M, O and P,"  
 Said the possum with a grin,  
 And the black swan bent, with a look intent,  
 "I'm sure," he said, "That I'm in."

"Well just read that," said the plump wombat,  
 "I'm quite important, look!"  
 And the rabbit stood, and said, "Well they should . . .  
 But . . . I mightn't be in a book."

"I don't care a hoot," said the bandicoot,  
 "If they've given me any space,"  
 "I'm under T," cried the tortoise, "See!"  
 With the page close to his face.

Said the goanna to frog, "They're as good as a log  
 To climb away from the rush,  
 Between me and you, I've read them all through  
 And there's everyone in the bush."

Pixie O'Harris  
 May, 1962



At Arukun is a timber mill run entirely by aboriginal labour except for one white tradesman. This is a modern power-operated mill. The trees are cut and reduced to building material for the making of pre-fabricated living huts. Eventually all the aboriginal population will be housed in these instead of the present palm-leaf huts. Very proud they are, too, of these neat bungalow-type huts. Then there is the cattle station with its herd of Ayrshire cattle.

Leaving Arukun we fly almost due north to Weipa, over the same barren, brown country, with occasional patches of green at the edge of the rivers: or over the shallow, mud-yellow waters of the Gulf of Carpentaria.

At Weipa, the devoted group of mission workers face the task of guiding the biggest project so far of assimilation of the aborigines into modern industrial conditions.

Already some 40 of the adult male aborigines are working for the big Comalco project, whose Weipa headquarters are a bare half mile from the mission station.

### IN THE GARDEN . . .

## **PLANTING FOR THE NEW YEAR**

### NOVEL IDEAS

Most gardeners like to be able to exercise their ingenuity in planning their garden by adding, where suitable, a rockery or ornamental pool, a window box or perhaps some other highlight to their garden scheme.

The aim should be to incorporate these features as if they are part of the garden, so that they do not appear as if they have been just "dropped there". For instance a rockery is not just a heap of stones, but should, if possible, be incorporated in a slope, much as it would be in its natural state. If these aims are kept in mind with whatever is added to the garden, they cannot but help improve its appearance and provide other interests apart from the more usual features.

### SHRUBS ARE HARDY

It is fairly safe to say that no soil is too poor nor any position too exposed, to grow a shrub or tree of some kind. The cause of many failures is choosing the wrong variety and hoping that, for instance, a tropical shrub will succeed in a cold mountain district and vice-versa. Many trees do adapt themselves to a variety of conditions but in general they should be chosen with some thought as to the situations in which they are to be grown.

### CLIMBING PLANTS

It is unfortunate that many climbing plants which would be otherwise very decorative are allowed to grow unchecked. Some varieties have very vigorous growth but this can be kept in trim by regular pruning after each flowering.

If this pruning is neglected the time will come when they have to be cut right back, thus leaving them bare and unsightly for some weeks. Some of the less vigorous plants, particularly soft-wooded varieties, require only light top clipping from time to time. Not only does it keep them in trim but encourages lower growth and makes the vine more decorative.

With the increased tempo of activity there will soon be opportunity for a large proportion of the male aborigines to work for Comalco.

Difficulties there must be; difficulties of the aborigine in being part of a mixed white man population, with access to alcohol and with some lessening of the direct control of the mission staff; difficulties of their children growing up near a community of white people, drifting away from their tribal beliefs and family ties. There may be problems of the white man and the dark-skinned girl, a problem which has bedevilled the white man-aborigine relationship since Australia's earliest colonial days.

The Comalco Company plans to build a complete new mission station on the other side of the river and although there are great regrets at leaving their old mission area there is a lively anticipation of the facilities which can be provided at the new site.

All of us will wish success to this great Australian project.

### JANUARY IS THE MONTH TO SOW

#### FLOWERS

Acroclinium (Everlasting Daisy), Ageratum, Alyssum, Anchusa, Anemone, Antirrhinum (Snapdragons), Aquilegia (Columbine), Arctotis, Balsam, Brachycome (Swan River Daisy), Calendulas (Broad-leafed Marigold), Candytuft, Carnations, Christmas Bush, Cineraria, Cosmos, Dianthus, Freesia, Gaillardia, Gertsera, Geum, Globe Amaranth, Gypsophila, Leptosyne (Yellow Marguerite), Linaria, Lupin, Marigold (French), Mathiola (Night-scented Stock), Mignonette, Nasturtium, Nemesia, Pansy, Petunia, Phlox, Poor Man's Orchid (Schizanthus), Poppy (Iceland), Portulaca, Primula Malacoides, Ranunculus, Saponaria, Scabiosa, Statice (Annual), Stock, Sweet Pea, Sweet William, Sweet Wivelsfield, Veridium, Verbena, Voila, Wallflower, Zinnia (Early January).

#### VEGETABLES\*

Bean (French, Wax and Climbing), Beet, Silver Beet, Broccoli (Green), Brussels Sprouts, Radish, Turnip, Cabbage, Carrot, Cauliflower, Celtsuce, Cress, Endive, Salsify, Tomato, Kohl Rabi, Lettuce, Mustard Parsley, Parsnips, Peas, Swede.

#### FLOWERING BULBS

Agapanthus, Amaryllis, Billbergia, Brunsvigia, Canna, Clivia, Crinum, Cyclamen, Hippeastrum, Nerine, Scilla (Blue Bell), Sternbergia and Vallota.

\* While the main sowings of Autumn and Winter vegetables can be left until next month it is possible and often preferable to start maincrop Cabbage and Cauliflower now. Lettuce sown this month will head-in when the weather becomes a little cooler.

For a quick crop of beans sow Brown Beauty now, water thoroughly at sowing time, repeating in about five days and then keep the water up to the young plants.

A reminder for gardeners in districts with severe Winter frosts—sow Brussels Sprouts before the end of the month.

# PETE'S

# PAGE

Dear Kids,

This month its hats off to Carroona Aboriginal Public School who have presented a splendid picture of the work of their school for 1962 in their annual publication CAPS.

CAPS as you will easily see is a title derived from the first initials of the school name. The little magazine, neatly roneed on a duplicating machine made available by the Department of Education is chockful of interesting items in which I'm sure you'll be interested.

The magazine says that in 1963 a record number of children will enrol from Carroona at Quirindi High School.

Attendance at High School is a privilege available to all students these days.

"Good reports are coming back from children who began High School careers in 1962," the magazine says. "In this changing world it is good to see children making every effort to prepare themselves for their future life as best they can. They should make the most of every opportunity offered to them."

Nice work Carroona, a school which continues to excell at sports also as *Dawn* reported recently.

CAPS contains a Writers' Page and I'd like to quote some of the items. Here are a few at random:

"My Best Friend", by Gary Porter (3rd Grade): My best friend lives at Carroona. He is about nine years old and he is little. He comes down to this school and

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**Good-looking girls of Inverell—They are (back row) Sandra Connors, Beryl Connors and Esma Madden; (front row) Barbara and Linda Connors and Elaine Boney**



DAWN, January 1963

he has black hair. He has a car. He gives me some lollies. He sings out to me if I am walking past.

"David", by Barbara Allen (3rd grade): One day there was a boy whose name was David. He went out into the fields watching his sheep. There he heard a voice singing out for him to come and fight. So David went out, took a sling with him and hit the giant to the ground. David went over, took his sword and cut off the giant's head.

"A Rainy Day", by Ted Allan (5th grade): One rainy weekend we had a game of ludo. Richard and I played Jack and Roger and we won. In another game, my man chased Roger's man right around the board before I could kill him. After we had finished playing I went home to dinner following which I read some comics.

"What I would Like to Be", by Annie May Sampson (6th grade): When I am 21 years old I would like to be a nursing sister. When I leave school I would study all the things a nurse should do. Then if I could be a good nurse I would train as a sister. I would like to go to a big hospital in a big city. It would be lovely to work in a busy hospital where there are many people. It would be interesting to help the hospital raise money. I would like to remain a sister as long as I could.

CAPS also contains a little limerick from an anonymous source which might amuse you. It goes like this:

There was a young lady of Lynn,  
Who was so uncommonly thin,  
That when she essayed  
to drink Lemonade,  
She slipped through the straw  
And fell in.

Trust you are all enjoying the school holidays,

Your sincere pal,

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## Our Back Cover

**Jeff Dynevov of Queensland attacking Samuel Abbey of Ghana in their bantamweight final fight. Dynevov won and gained a gold medal**

