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School Rover

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

‘The smallest deed is greater than the grandest intention.’



Featuring recently on the School Assembly was Mr. Roland Reck who performed on guitar and harmonica

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY : MARCH 8

The occasion did not slip by without mention at Djarragun. Congratulations to the Senior Secondary School girls who provided the rest of the school with a bright start at morning assembly. The Years 11 & 12 girls sang ‘You’ve got a Friend’ backing a rising star for future Australian idol contender, **Latoya Armitage**. Swivelling hips of **Sila Guligo, Christina Waianga and Lilly Nomoa** entertained the assembly and the

mesmerizing beat of the Polynesian drums drew **Mr. Tekoa Tafea** into the gyration field. **Malu Waianga** explained that the balloons decorating the microphone stand were green and purple representing ‘hope’ and ‘justice and dignity’

Ms Jean Illingworth, the Principal commented on the importance of directing respect towards women who have been generally the victims of societies throughout the world over many centuries. We are in a lucky country where some dignity has been given to women in terms of equal opportunity and fairness. In times past, women were paid half the wage that men received for the same type of employment despite the qualifications earned. Everyone on the campus were encouraged to pay special attention to all the women around the school and to remember one certain woman in our lives who has earned greatest respect.

ROCK AND WATER PROGRAMME :

Featuring in the Cairns Post on Saturday, March 6 was **Mr. Brian Dowling** and three of our students **Ned Ingui, Iona Nawakie & Steven Daniel**. Subsequent to an article stating that our youth in Cairns are subject to and perpetrators of bullying, the Cairns Post was invited to come out to record the successful programme operating at Djarragun. Djarragun staff has been workshopped in this system which is the brainchild of **Freerk Ykema** from the Netherlands.

YEAR 13 : Many of our youth float through school-life without giving much thought to their realistic futures. We have a small group with talents that they are willing to explore and develop. Fortuitously, we also have at Djarragun the personnel which can promote ambitions and provide the added impetus to sincere learners.

Mr. Alf Gulotta coordinates the Vocational Education programme in the school and presently, one will witness the busy ply of skills development in welding, woodcarving, mechanics, computer technology and hairdressing.

CONDOLENCES : To families and community members on Murray Island, we record our expression of sympathy for the recent passing of a revered mother and grandmother and elder of the Torres Strait, **Mrs. Ettie Passi**.

Also a message of sympathy to the family of student, **Greg Asse** from Badu Island whose uncle passed away last week.

PROJECT SUBMISSION : Some members of staff have been assisting the Principal, **Ms Jean Illingworth**, towards a submission for funding to a project that focusses on the development of boys' behaviour and its management. The project has to include other schools as a cluster group and Djarragun (as the initiator) will be termed the 'Lighthouse School' within that schema.



NEW MEMBER OF STAFF : Welcome to **Ms Keren Tokunai** who is the new assistant teacher in Ms Rose Marie's class replacing **Ms Nancy Baker** who has been at Djarragun since 2003 and who now helps to conduct the dance practice through the school.

Ms Keren was a teacher Aide/Home Tutor in Lae, PNG and her interests include basketball and touch football. She was introduced to the school by Aunty Jackie and her desire is to help people, enjoy working with children and she eventually would like to be a teacher.

NEW ROOF TO THE TUCKSHOP VERANDAH :

A sturdier roof was completed to make the tuckshop verandah a little more weatherproof. In addition, covered verandahs have been installed on two sides of the Administration Block. Almost raised in obscurity in front of the school was the construction of a small footbridge that will give easy access to a car parking area on Maher Road. Attractive tall street lighting decorates the front driveway and parking zones at the campus frontage.

-SPORTS PACK-

UNDER 15 : DJARRAGUN vs GORDONVALE

On Wednesday, March 10, we played our first game of Rugby League to start off the season at Alley Park Oval in Gordonvale. The first try was scored by **Chris Hodges**; **Kumi Abua** made two tries and **Terry Tapim** scored one try. **Peter** converted one of the tries. **Jellicoe Yoren** made a good break but was tackled close to the try line. **Sabai Elisala** made good breaks as well but the Gordonvale team had him marked. Our coach is **Mr. Vimal Shankaran**; the captain is **Jellicoe** and the Vice Captain is **Kumi**. During the game, I played in the dummy half position and **Jellicoe** played five eighth. I was injured on the ankle and knee and **Shaun Waianga** hurt his shoulder and might be out of the game for about six weeks. The final score was 18 - 10
Toshie Wigness

RUGBY LEAGUE : Djarragun College vs Gordonvale State High School

- As the first real chance to test the mettle of this year's League team, our players provided a small spectator group with an exciting display of skill and speedy play. Congratulations to the **Gordonvale High School** team which finally stamped its superiority on this occasion. Both teams were locked at nil for all of the first half but the ball found its way across nearly every blade of grass on the field in that duration.

Gordonvale drew first blood during the second half and that seemed to up the ante as far as the Djarragun team was concerned. Try-scoring suddenly fell into fashion and within moments, Djarragun had earned itself leadership on the scoreboard.

A lot of finesse was shown by players who displayed an uncanny ability to keep the ball in play, exercising gymnastic routines within both their set plays and impromptu speculations. Strong forages into the opposition were made by **Daniel Ware** who used the first line of defence more as a speed bump rather than an obstruction. **Michael Billy** mesmerized everyone (including his own teammates) with his dummies, feints and sidesteps. When his support players can latch onto his style, it will increase the opportunity for quick breaks through the opposition defence. In fact, a number of players apply similar tactics and this adds to the dimension of possible game plays and manoeuvres.

Isach Kaworo is a wily player who engages speed and agility to his style; **Bablu Day** blusters his tall frame through the opposition rank in Willie Mason-fashion. **Alfred Pierce** lived up to his name and always looked the candidate to drive through the line whenever he held the ball. Wiry **Trevor Wosomo** was a difficult target for any opposition to contain when he built up a head of steam and his long stride denied an easy grasp by tacklers. **Terry Messa** etched the look of a gladiator on his face as he threw himself headlong into the flailing arms of the three or four tacklers needed to stop him. Relative 'young-guns' to the team, **Kirri Blarrey**, **Vincent Wosomo**, **Daniel Ware**, **Tali Tabuai**, **Edward Matasia**, **Peter Wosomo** and **Iveno Elia** threw themselves into the challenge and gave evidence

of topics to write about in subsequent newsletters
Some players, like **Joey Gibuma**, threw themselves into the fray to the point of exhaustion and cramp but found it altogether too difficult to disguise a severe limp and had to submit to the ice-pack brigade on the sideline. Enthusiasm never wavered.

On quite a few occasions, Djarragun jerseys loomed along the try line but the Gordonvale team maintained an effective barrier and produced its first try following a scintillating run along the entire length of the left wing. Thanks, both teams, for providing an entertaining match. The rigour of the competitive spirit did not wane right to the final minutes and the ball hardly ever found itself reefed from the state of perpetual motion.

DJARRAGUN vs BENTLEY - Open team

(March 17) In similar fashion to last week's effort, Djarragun players confidently jogged onto the impressive field at Bentley College but they managed to reverse the final result and come out winners this time.

The first fifteen minutes stood at stalemate while both teams meandered back and forth across the field seemingly happy enough to flex muscles and test the waters.

Following his own chip kick over the opposition back line, **Greg Asse** took the initiative and scooted across to press down the first try. Very prominent during this match were the efforts of **Saggi Eseg, Vincent Wosomo, Talofar Baudu, Samuel Guligo & Daniel Neliman**. Some of their movements seemed to defy gravity. After very many moments of tense defence pinned on their own try line, Djarragun was relieved when **Vincent Wosomo** effected a crucial intercept and raced the full length of the field to slam down his contribution to the scoreboard.

Bentley answered with a deft try only minutes later and hammered at the door for an extensive passage of time in the second half. **Talofar Baudu** scored the third try and the game finished at 16 - 4.

CONSTRUCTION SITE: SCHOOL-BASED COURSE : Iveno Elia & Alfred Passi this year are enrolled in this course with **Mr. Don Standen** and recently had the opportunity to practise on an Excavator to level the banks for the gardeners and prepare the earthworks for footpaths. Both were previously engaged in concrete work boxing outside the patio at the school dormitories.

The boys took to the excavator and bobcat almost naturally and picked up the operation of each very quickly. Many thanks to Mr. Glen Tier (G & S Tier)

Mr. Don vouches for the confidence and abilities of both boys in a busy schedule. Both are punctual, easy to work with, have initiative and stickated-ness. They often approach **Mr. Don** for more projects.

(A note of sympathy to Mr. Don who was injured recently and was forced reluctantly to stay home to recuperate from his knee injury)

WENDELL SAILOR VISITS DJARRAGUN

Thursday, March 18 : Wendell made his first visit to our school and addressed the whole school assembly. He was accompanied by Mark Aligheri who is the local promotions officer for the Rugby Union Football code. We can cover this event more fully in the next issue of the Newsletter when photographic support will be available.



Always the popular meeting venue on the school campus is the computer room. Eagle eyes and nimble fingers focus intently on iMac -Gaylene Brown, Phillip Whap & Edmund Nawakie

MS MARGUERITE RODMAN : Hello! My name is Marguerite Rodman and I am a volunteer reader to the lower grades of Djarragun College for several hours a week.

I was born in Gordonvale on the 29th April, 1936, attending primary school in Gordonvale and High School in Cairns. After doing the equivalent of Grade 10, I left school and worked as a clerk typist at the Mulgrave Mill for two and a half years and then for GSES at Meringa for a further two years before marrying and moving to live in Mackay. We moved onto a farm near Deeral (between Gordonvale and Babinda) in 1960 and that is where I still live. My husband died in November, 2002.

I have three sons and two daughters and two grand-daughters and four grandsons. Two of my sons and one grandson live nearby whilst the other members of my family live at Woodford, Tambo and Townsville.

Basically, a homebody, besides the few hours I give to Djarragun College, I go to put books on shelves at the library of the Cairns school of Distance Education (until last year my grand-daughters had done all their schooling through Distant Education as they had lived on a property near Chillagoe before moving to Tambo) and attend meetings as a member of MU Australia with All Saints Anglican Church, Gordonvale. I am very family orientated because besides having two sisters and a brother, seven nieces and a nephew of my own, I have four sisters-in-law and three brothers-in-law and 21 nephews and nieces and 42 great-nephews and great-nieces. Both my mother and mother-in-law are still living although both are in their nineties.

Marguerite Rodman

WRITER'S CRAMP

Helyn and the Bully

One day in a town called Greenville, there lived a girl named Helyn who like to read lots of books that started from fiction books to non-fiction books. She was a really smart girl and a very helpful student. It was her first day at school and she was really getting in to having to be in the new school. She met a girl called Tyana and became best friends with her. They did lots of things together that kept them really honest and faithful to each other but she was about to meet her worst enemy that could make Tyana a really bad friend.

The other students didn't tell Helyn about the big bully in the school.

One afternoon, Helyn and her best friend, Tyana, were walking to the canteen. All of a sudden, people were forming a big circle and Helen saw a huge tall and chubby girl who was standing one metre away from her and she was with two other huge and tall girls just looking at her. She stopped and paused.

"Well, well, well! Oh, isn't it the new dork!! And oh, she's also a total bookworm," said the bully.

"Not as dorky as you are, and, by the way, at least I'm good at reading and by the looks of it, you might be stuck reading children's books," said Helyn.

The bully was in shock to see the freshman with a lot to say but the bully couldn't help being a total dork herself. She said to Helen, "Watch out because I will be paying an uninvited trip to your parents' house."

The next day, Helyn and Tyana were walking from their Numeracy Class to the toilets to their hair up again when the tall, fat chubby girl stood straight across the toilet and told her to go to another school because she's better at everything.

However, Helyn didn't care what the bully said and she just kept on ignoring the bully for quite a while.

The bully didn't bother picking on Helyn and Tyana because they didn't care what any bully said to them.

by Kimberly Kerry



As a part of the Health Programme, some students were engaged in a module in First Aid. Here, likely candidates for the makeshift Triage wrap up their skills - Aunty Harriet Tapim & her one-armed bandits - (l-r) Daisy Dau, Anai Ganaia, Sophie

David

RECYCLE BUS : On Thursday (March 11) the Recycle Bus was stationed at Djarragun for the day and our students were given the tour of its educational facility. Hopefully, the recycle bug will catch everyone and wastage is brought into line in our society of 'disposable goods'.

SCHOOL BUSES : There are now four coaches that service the school with transport every day. One takes on the Yarrabah range and the other three pick up and deposit in the town areas.

Certain responsible students are assigned as monitors is a bid to maintain good behaviour through effective reporting. The increase by an extra bus means that the attendance is improving and this is a comforting thought both for the school and parents alike. Within the classes there are award incentives to encourage attendance and punctuality. Even despite the recent spate of extremely wet weather, students are appearing in the numbers that indicate healthy commitment. Congratulations all round.

ABORIGINAL DANCE ROUTINE

Thanks for the hour of entertainment on Tuesday, March 16 when Garry Towney performed for the whole school assembly after lunch break. This was Garry's first visit to Cairns which he found very hot and steamy unlike his part of the world near Walcha, NSW.

Garry exhibited and explained the use of various artifacts pertaining to Aboriginal culture and history. The students were appreciative of his simple delivery and respectively groups of boys, girls and staff followed him through brief renditions of the kangaroo, emu and broлга dances.

Alfred Pierce assisted with the loud speaker system and firstly introduced and later offered a word of appreciation to Garry at the conclusion of the



presentation.

GEDEM

Someone has been receiving special treatment at the Optical Centre and is now referred to as "His Eyeness".

Who likes to know that the Middle School printer is working?

Who eats a packet of potato crisps for breakfast?

Who slipped on the turf playing chaisey at the bus stop?