

# Walgett Wanderings

It was with deep sorrow that we learnt of the death of Sid Williams early this year.

Sid was a returned soldier from World War II.

His funeral was well attended by aborigines as well as white folk.

He was very cheerful and well liked by all who came in contact with him. His playing of the gum leaf was always of a first-class standard.

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Colin Hardy, of Brewarrina—the young fellow who went to Sydney last year to do more study in singing—is progressing from goal to goal.

He has toured with the Willie Fennell Show several times.

Colin was very popular down at the Aborigines Welfare Board's Summer Camp at La Perouse during the summer school holidays.

At present he is being trained by a leading personality in the singing world.

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Since the swimming baths have opened at Walgett, the sport has become very popular.

Among the promising up and coming swimmers are Geoffrey Thorne and Eddie Morgan.

Both boys are being coached during the swimming season and are very keen to become district champions.

Another promising young swimmer is Sandra Williams who seems to concentrate on the 110 yards distances.

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The Walgett Aboriginal Mission Church at the River Bank Reserve, opened at the end of February, was crowded to overflowing for the ceremony.

The ministers of the various churches in Walgett were present.

Vicar Dowe opened the church while Rev. Swartz offered the prayers. Mr. Southwell of the United Aborigines Mission at Bourke gave the dedication address.

In the evening Rev. Jeppson from Gunnedah conducted a service and showed films with a Christian message.

The building of this church was the answer to many people's prayer and simple trust and faith.

The service held every Sunday night out at the Government Station commenced once again this year.



Johanna Denis, one of the girls attending Walgett Central School.

Harry Greene continues to provide the music for the service.

This year we have welcomed Baymies Fernando who has now joined Harry to present a greater volume of music.

One evening at the Government Station service we were privileged to have Jeff Doolan from Bourke to give us a very challenging address from the Word of God.

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Neville Thorne after passing his Intermediate Certificate at Walgett has now gone to Armidale High School to continue his studies in fourth year.

He is enjoying every minute of it. He has made many new friends and is a very keen sportsman.