

Nhulunbuy may get art gallery, museum

Dr. Colin Jack-Hinton, director of the Museums and Art Gallery Board of N.T. recently foreshadowed the establishment of an art gallery and museum in Nhulunbuy.

Dr. Jack Hinton told guests at the opening of Nhulunbuy's first art show that his Board was hopeful of this eventuating.

The exhibition was sponsored by the N.T. division of the Arts Council of Australia.

Two of Darwin's leading artists, George Chaloupka and Dennis Schapel were present. Each exhibited paintings.

Mrs. Nan Giese, M.B.E., president of the Arts Council of Darwin also attended.

Blaze of colour

The Walkabout Hotel's Lanai lounge was a blaze of colour as guests viewed the exhibits which showed to best advantage against the stark white brick and contrasted the rich green tropical plants.

It was an exhibition of paintings, sculpture, drawings, wall hangings, photographs and even featured a collection of fibreglass birds.

Local artists whose work was shown included Barbara Burgess, all of whose paintings were sold, Trish Hughes, Jean

Duthie, Annette Jones, Gai Mather, Robert Couch, Allen Bowden, Richard Wolderdoys, Alan Cummings, Lars Westerholm and Asta de Toster.

Sponsorship

Gove sponsorship of the exhibition was by the Nhulunbuy area schools' committee whose president Mrs. Gladys Agius supervised the organisation.

Mrs. Yetti Judin designed the layout for the exhibits.

Dillingham - Jennings - Mainline constructed the stands.

On the last day of the exhibition all the Nhulunbuy Area School students, pre-schoolers and children from Yirrkala School attended the show.

This was the third function sponsored by the Arts Council in Gove, the previous two being the Darwin Theatre Group's production of the "The Legend of King O'Malley", and the visit of the Ray Price quintet.



Maureen Allot, who had previously won a trip to Zurich and back in the Hercules aircraft competition, poses alongside one of the exhibits at the art show.

TOP ARTIST PAINTS THE GOVE SCENE

Prominent artist Sali Herman on a recent visit to Gove described one section of the mining area as "a lunar landscape in red".

Mr. Herman's paintings of various aspects of Gove will soon be seen in Australian galleries and private collections.

Sali Herman, O.B.E., spent two weeks in Gove as guest of the Chairman, Mr. David Griffin, staying at Wallaby Lodge with Mr. Allan Coogan, Deputy General Manager and Site Manager.

Swiss born and Paris trained, Mr. Herman has been in Australia for 34 years and is in the top rank among Australian artists. His work, eagerly sought by galleries and private collectors, commands high prices.

Boundless energy

At 73 years of age Mr. Herman has boundless energy and on his daily trips around the area he captured Yirrkala coastline, Rainbow Cliff, the granite quarry, the mine site and features of the plant area.

Mr. Herman took photographs, made notes, sketched and absorbed the general atmosphere, shapes and colour.

His paintings will be completed in his Avalon studio in Sydney.

Each evening while at Gove Mr. Herman fished at Wallaby Beach and had two successful outside expeditions with Mr. Coogan.

Regular tours

Gove not only attracts artists of Mr. Herman's calibre but it has become a regular port of call for mining area tours run by the Bizjet Company.

A party which dropped in recently saw bauxite mining and shipping at a later stage than any previous party.

Nabalco guides ensured a complete tour from open cut mining locations to the marine terminal.

One of the visitors was Mr. L. Dominic, a senior investment adviser with Lombard, Odier and Cie, Geneva.

Another was Mr. L. Marsh, of the Commonwealth Bank, Sydney, who revisited Gove many years after having served there in the R.A.A.F.



Sali Herman has an interested spectator as he sketches part of the Gove scene.

TWO WIN TRIP TO EUROPE

Two popular young Nabalco people came in for a stroke of luck as a result of the first visit of a Hercules airfreighter to Gove a month ago, when it brought the power station heavy equipment from Switzerland.

They won a trip to Europe when the Hercules made its

return trip, travelling via Hong Kong, where it was picking up a back-loading of textiles.

The happy Nabalco representatives on the return flight were Maureen Allot, a telex operator in the PABX, and Rolf Scherrer, Swiss born architect.

A great moment in Gove's history INVESTITURE OF ROY MARIKA M.B.E.

The investiture of Roy Marika, president of Yirrkala Village Council, as a Member of the British Empire was a momentous event in the history of Gove and Arnhem Land.

Administrator of the Northern Territory, The Hon. Mr. F. C. Chaney, A.F.C., flew from Darwin to bestow the award.

Included in the official party were Mrs. Chaney, the Hon. Mr. Justice W. Forster (Judge of the N.T. Supreme Court) and Mrs. Forster, Captain Allan McIntosh (R.A.N., Darwin), Group Captain Ross H. Glassop (R.A.F., Darwin) and Mrs. Glassop, Lt. Col. Brian Passey (Army, Darwin) and Mrs. Passey, the Rev. Gordon Symons, Chairman of the Methodist Overseas Mission and Mrs. Symons.

Roy Marika had extended invitations to all his Nabalco friends among whom were Mr. A. G. Coogan, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Gilbert, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Black, Mr. and Mrs. Brian Hart, Mr. and Mrs. Max Douglas.

A large crowd gathered on the Mission oval for the investiture and Roy Marika sat with his family near a decorated totem pole surrounded by ceremonial spears.

Mr. Ron Weepers, official secretary of the Administrator, announced the arrival of the official party and mentioned Mr. Marika's involvement in improving conditions for his people.

Bestowal

Mr. Chaney bestowed the award and congratulations were then extended to Mr. Marika who joined the official party under a palm shelter.

Performers ranging from the tiniest children to men and women engaged in a series of dramatic native dances.

Following this Roy Marika M.B.E. thanked the Administrator and dignitaries for the honour bestowed on him and expressed pleasure that so many people had attended the ceremony.



The investiture of Roy Marika, M.B.E.

Gove's safety record

The accident frequency rate during the construction period of the Gove Project has been lower than the national average figures quoted by the National Safety Council.

It is Nabalco's objective to improve further this performance by the expansion of the Safety Section.

Mr. W. H. (Bill) Duthie who was appointed Safety Engineer to head up the Section is a fully qualified professional engineer with an intimate knowledge of the plant, being associated with construction projects since his arrival in 1970.

During the last few months the Safety Section has completed, issued and put into operation the following procedures:

Safety tag out, entry into vessels, standard clearances, caustic and acid, protective clothing and equipment, first aid treatment for caustic burns, accident investigation and reporting.

Instruction

Basic safety training programmes for supervisors are now being conducted and similar programmes will be introduced for other personnel.

All new employees are given basic safety instruction and this is followed up by supervisors immediately the new employees commence work.

There are five qualified First Aid officers at Gove and shortly, a series of first aid courses will be offered to selected personnel.

Completion of these courses will enable the persons undertaking them to obtain their St. John First Aid Certificate.

Some lectures have been given to school children on the dangers of unexploded ammunition, which may still remain in the Gove area from war time activities.

PEN FRIEND WANTED

A young student, S. T. Fioli, of Malabunga High School, Rabaul, East New Guinea District, TPNG, wants to know something about Australia.

He is 14 years old, a day student in first form.

"I am keen to learn about other countries," he said in a nicely penned letter to Nabalco in Sydney recently.

He is interested in Australian aborigines and in "cowboys" and he would like some pictures.

Should anyone care to write to this young Rabaul student they can address their letters to him at the high school.



Four men who play a big part in Gove's safety receive no payment for the service they render.

They are volunteer firemen who back up the regular fire team on a 24-hours-a-day stand-by.

These men, and their regular jobs, are: Ron Gollan, in charge of airport maintenance for Nabalco,

Oreste Tonetti, Angelo Mendez and John Bell, all employed at Nabalco workshops.

Nabalco gave a dinner to the volunteers in appreciation of their great help and Mr. Ken Gilbert (Construction Manager), on behalf of the company, presented them with cheques in recognition of their services (see picture).

Also present at the function were: Mr. Max

Douglas (Personnel Administrator), Mr. Russell McNamara (Superintendent, Security and Services), Mr. George Fairweather (Senior Safety Officer and Acting Fire Officer), Mr. Douglas Craigie (Safety Officer), and Mr. Fred Orewes (Workshop Foreman).

The regular firemen, Alan Hogg, Klaus Helms, John Troedel, and Barry Anderson were also present.

The Captain was 'King of the Kids'

Captain R. A. J. Smith, master of the Australian Territory Service cargo ship M.V. "Safia" recently gave a personally conducted tour of his ship to an unusual group of visitors.

Those proudly inspecting the ship were five and six-year-olds from Yirrkala Pre-School — 13 aboriginal children and one cute little blonde.

Their teacher Miss Felicity Field realising that in their craft lessons the children made mostly models of boats, canoes and things connected with water, instigated proceedings to have them see a real ship and its workings.

Several mothers went too and after a timid beginning the kids were greatly interested and were thrilled when taken through the engine room and wheel-



The kids line up on deck with the Captain and mothers.

house.

After the tour the Captain, First Officer and Nabalco's assistant customs and tariffs officer Mr. David Edgar, entertained the children in the day room where ice cream and soft drinks were served.

Another group of school-

children, but much older, also visited the bauxite and alumina project at Gove about the same time.

These were senior secondary school students from Sydney, Adelaide and Gove.

The boys and girls were shown the mining area and followed the bauxite "trail"

through to the loading stage.

The party included: Jane Peterson, 14; Rowan Peterson, 13; Jane Black, 14; Sally Black, 10; David Myers, 15; Colleen Kells, 16; Phillip Hart, 15; Sherry Hart, 13; Mark Hughes, 14; Christopher Hughes, 11; Kirsty Grant, 16.

Specialists to fly to Gove hospital

- Regular visits by specialists will be made when Gove District Hospital is fully operational later this year.

- At present there are two doctors in attendance and the appointment of a third resident medical officer is imminent.

A surgeon and a psychiatrist already make regular visits and with development, calls will be made by a pediatrician, gynaecologist and eye specialist.

The massive hospital complex is the first modern building seen on the drive along Matthew Flinders Way, past the Mount Saunders construction village area towards Nhulunbuy township.

The entire hospital area covers approximately 20 acres and comprises the main hospital block, administration building, nurses' quarters, service building, mortuary, medical and hospital warehouse and eight private homes for senior staff.

The casualty section is incorporated in the administration building, which currently serves as a temporary medical centre and 12-bed hospital until the main block opens this year.

The top floor will have a central sterile supply department, operating theatre, labour ward and recovery rooms.

A sophisticated X-ray section will also be on this floor.

When completed the three-storey hospital will provide 64 patients' beds and will serve Nhulunbuy, and the entire eastern area of Arnhem Land, including Milingimbi, Rose River, Elcho Island and Grootte Eylandt.



The hospital, almost ready for complete occupation.

PROGRESS IN THE TOWN

Average handover rate, twelve houses a week!

Handover tactics

Week by week there is less dust around Nhulunbuy as the area gets greener with the growth of Spraygrass, an instant mulch that springs up almost overnight to become lush grass.

This method has successfully grassed the surrounds of 13 blocks of family flats, and several approaches to the Town Centre.

Dillingham - Jennings - Mainline built up the rate of handover of houses to an average of 12 per week.

This rate was maintained until project completion.

Single staff quarters

The Commonwealth single staff quarters have been completed and are now occupied by Northern Territory Administration employees and school teachers, who formerly lived at ELDO.

Curbing, guttering and sealing of roads within the town is complete, and landscaping has commenced in the residential areas.

Nhulunbuy's shopping precinct, located in the Town Centre, is a complex of four buildings, connected by colonnades and covered walkways.

Some of the shops will be in operation this month.

Block One of the complex is a two-storey building containing Bank of New South Wales premises, office suites for Town Administration staff, and two areas for letting to a newsagent and a menswear store.



Pictured in long trousers (left), Mr. Coogan accepts the keys of the last house from the chairman of A. V. Jennings Industries, Sir Albert Jennings.

The second block forms the link between the super-market and office block, and will contain coffee shop and take-away food bar. Associated with it will be a covered outdoor eating area, under Block One.

A pharmacy overlooks the main pedestrian shopping thoroughfare leading to the

supermarket and there will be a ladies' hairdressing salon.

Blocks Three and Four will house major retail shopping outlets, including the supermarket.

Leading off from this area will be a series of four shops, including women's and children's wear, delicatessen, and butcher shop.

Smaller shops

Several smaller shops will form an arcade and amongst these will be a gift shop, electrical goods shop, and airline booking office.

All the blocks are linked by a series of covered walkways for protection against the weather.

The Town Centre has been planned as an "introverted" system of pedestrian commercial activity, isolating motor vehicles to the ring roads surrounding the Centre.

The Town Square, which will be known as Endeavour Square, will be landscaped and paved, and contain seats, drinking fountains, and several varieties of potted plants and shrubs.

On April 13, 1972, a handover ceremony took place at Lot 466, in Providence Circuit, Nhulunbuy, the last house constructed by the prime contractor for the town, Dillingham - Jennings - Mainline.

The ceremony was attended by the D.J.M. Joint Venture principals, represented by Messrs. E. Carter, A. Anderson and J. Casey of Dillingham Corporation, Sir Albert Jennings and Mr. K. Turley of A. V. Jennings, Messrs. R. Baker and M. Paul of Mainline. Nabalco was represented by Messrs. A. G. Coogan and J. T. Thompson.

The total number of houses constructed in Neighbourhood No. 1 in 61 weeks was 356.

The houses are built of precast concrete panels and all Nabalco's houses are fully air-conditioned. The Government houses are ducted for future air-conditioning.

A further 104 houses have been completed in Neighbourhood No. 2 by Harris James, Unison Joint Venture.

A MAJESTIC COURT HOUSE

On the southern side of the Town Square, Nhulunbuy's Court House stands tall and impressive.

Although only a one storey building, it has the height of two, giving a majestic look to the Court Room with its 20 ft. ceiling and rich panels of Tasmanian oak.

Behind the Court Room is the Magistrate's suite and offices for the Clerk of Courts. There are also witnesses' waiting room, legal representatives' office and amenities room.

The Attorney General's Department took over operation of the Court House in March.

Police offences and minor cases are heard by a Stipendiary Magistrate who makes regular visits from Darwin.

The Court House, on Wed-

nesday afternoon 17 May, was the scene for Nhulunbuy's first naturalisation ceremony.

Darwin Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. David McCann officiated and led the 10 future Australians through the ceremony.

Mr. McCann then congratulated the new citizens and Mr. Alen Black, the Town Administrator, explained to them the privileges and responsibilities of Australian citizenship.

Among the people who congratulated the new Australians were Mr. J. P. Morrison, Master of the Supreme Courts and Mrs. Polishuk, secretary of the Good Neighbour Council of Darwin.