

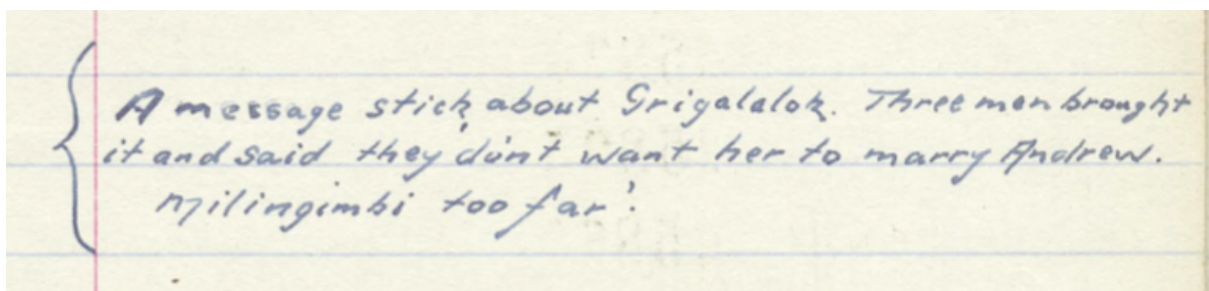
The letterstick objecting to Garidjalalug's marriage to Andrew in Milingimbi (SAM_A_45825)

Piers Kelly, last updated 31 May 2023

This document is a condensed summary of research into SAM_A_45825 at the South Australian Museum. Earlier research is in the document All notes on the Garidjalalug 1 message stick.docx

On 12 April 1954, a large donation of 200 objects entered the South Australian Museum, gifted by "H. A. Norman, from the estate of Mrs W. A. Norman". Most were listed as originating from Goulburn Island and various sites in Arnhem Land.

Among them was a message stick (A-45825) which is one of three in the Norman donation. In the original museum register is the note: "A message stick about Grigalalok [Garidjalalug]. Three men brought it and said they 'don't want her to marry Andrew. Milingimbi too far.'"



Garidjalalug (or Guritjaluk) is a common name on Goulburn Island, but we suggest that the two individuals mentioned on the letterstick are Rosie Guritjaluk from Goulburn Island who married Andrew Birrinydjawuy in Milingimbi in ca. 1924 or prior. Lindy Allen (pers comm) says that Rosie's granddaughter, Rose, lives in Darwin. She is a court interpreter and named after Rosie.

Images of Rosie Guritjaluk



Figure 9.3 Rev. James Watson distributing food to children assisted by Rosie from Goulburn Island, wife of Andrew Birrinydjawuy Garawirrtja, Milingimbi, 1924.

Source: Hubert Wilkins, Courtesy of Byrd Polar Research Center, The Ohio State University. Wilkins32_14_39.

From: Hamby, Louise, with Dr Gumbula. 2015. "Development of collecting at the Milingimbi Mission." In *Strings of connectedness: Essays in honour of Ian Keen*, edited by Peter G Toner, 187-214. Canberra: ANU Press.

[In Occams as 1924_Wilkins32_14_39_in_Hamby2015.png](#)



"823. Communicants at Goulburn Is. [Eight women and eleven men including Rosie Gurritjulun, Rosemary Moldami, Nangulumin, Jumbo Mukguddu, John Gedower and Yorum outside church, Goulburn Island]. c. 1925", In Nos. 821-918: *Photographic prints of missionaries and Indigenous people in the Northern Territory, ca. 1885-1938*, State Library of New South Wales.

Call numbers: PXA 1137/nos. 821-918

Record Identifier: YRIZKx2n

Permalinks: <https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/record/YRIZKx2n>;

<https://archival.sl.nsw.gov.au/Details/archive/110373145>

Note: this image is also at:

<https://educationmob.keepingculture.com/archive-store/view/6/116596>

On Facebook Cameron Plastow wrote of this image: "'Communicants', including 'Rosie Gurritjulun, Rosemary Moldami, Nangulumin, Jumbo Mukguddu, John Gedower and Yorum', outside the church at Goulburn Island, most likely in the year of its construction, 1927. 'John Gedower' was John Gadawar Ganaraidj (c.1906-1971), and 'Rosemary Moldami' was Mondalmi Milimili (c.1910-1969), the sister of the Rev. Lazarus Lamilami. Gadawar and Mondalmi were husband and wife, married in this church on the 27th of June 1927, although it's not clear whether that was before or after this photo was taken. (From the State Library of New South Wales.) Information: Catherine Berndt, 'Mondalmi (1910–1969)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mondalmi-7622/text13321>, published first in hardcopy 1986, accessed online 22 May 2021.

In OCCAMS as 1925-SLNSW_PXA_1337_823.jpg



"866. Candidates for Baptism. [Group of men and women including Jumbo Mukguddu (2nd left in background) and possibly Miyalkuway and Rosie Gurritjulun (in foreground), Goulburn Island]. 1916-1919." In Nos. 821-918: *Photographic prints of missionaries and Indigenous people in the Northern Territory, ca. 1885-1938*, State Library of New South Wales.

Call numbers: PXA 1137/nos. 821-918

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<https://archival.sl.nsw.gov.au/Details/archive/110373145>

In OCCAMS as 1916_1919-SLNSW_PXA_1337_866.jpg



From Education Mob archive at:

<https://educationmob.keepingculture.com/archive-store/view/6/116624>

Rosie appears to be the one at the centre of the image, Webb on the far right holding the child and possibly Donald Thomson on the far left. If it is Thomson this would date the photo to ca. 30 July 1935 when Thomson visited Milingimbi for a few days. He was carrying message sticks as an intermediary in the Caledon Bay Crisis.

In SLNSW, this is: "851. Europeans. [Group including Eduard Handschin, Gurritjulun, Lloyd Warner, Rev. and Mrs Webb, and Ailsa and Donald Webb, Milingimbi], 1928". PK: According to Lindy, the man on the far left is the cook pictured in 1916_1938-SLNSW_PXA_1337_871.jpg

In OCCAMS as 1928-SLNSW_PXA_1337_851.jpg



"848. Rev. and Mrs T.T. Webb. [Rosie Gurritjulun, Mrs Evelyn Webb and Donald, and Rev Ted Webb with Ailsa,) Milingimbi]. 1923-1938", In Nos. 821-918: *Photographic prints of missionaries and Indigenous people in the Northern Territory, ca. 1885-1938*, State Library of New South Wales.

Call numbers: PXA 1137/nos. 821-918

Record Identifier: YRIZKx2n

Permalinks: <https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/record/YRIZKx2n>;

<https://archival.sl.nsw.gov.au/Details/archive/110373145>

Note: This image is also at:

<https://educationmob.keepingculture.com/archive-store/view/6/116621>

In OCCAMS as 1923_1928-SLNSW_PXA_1337_848.jpg



PRG 933/13/59

Title: Rosie and a child [PRG 933/13/59]:

<https://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/PRG+933/13/59>

Summary: "Rosie with white staff child", Creator: Shepherson, Harold; Approximately 1935.

In Occams as [1935-SLSA_PRG_933_13_59.jpeg](#)



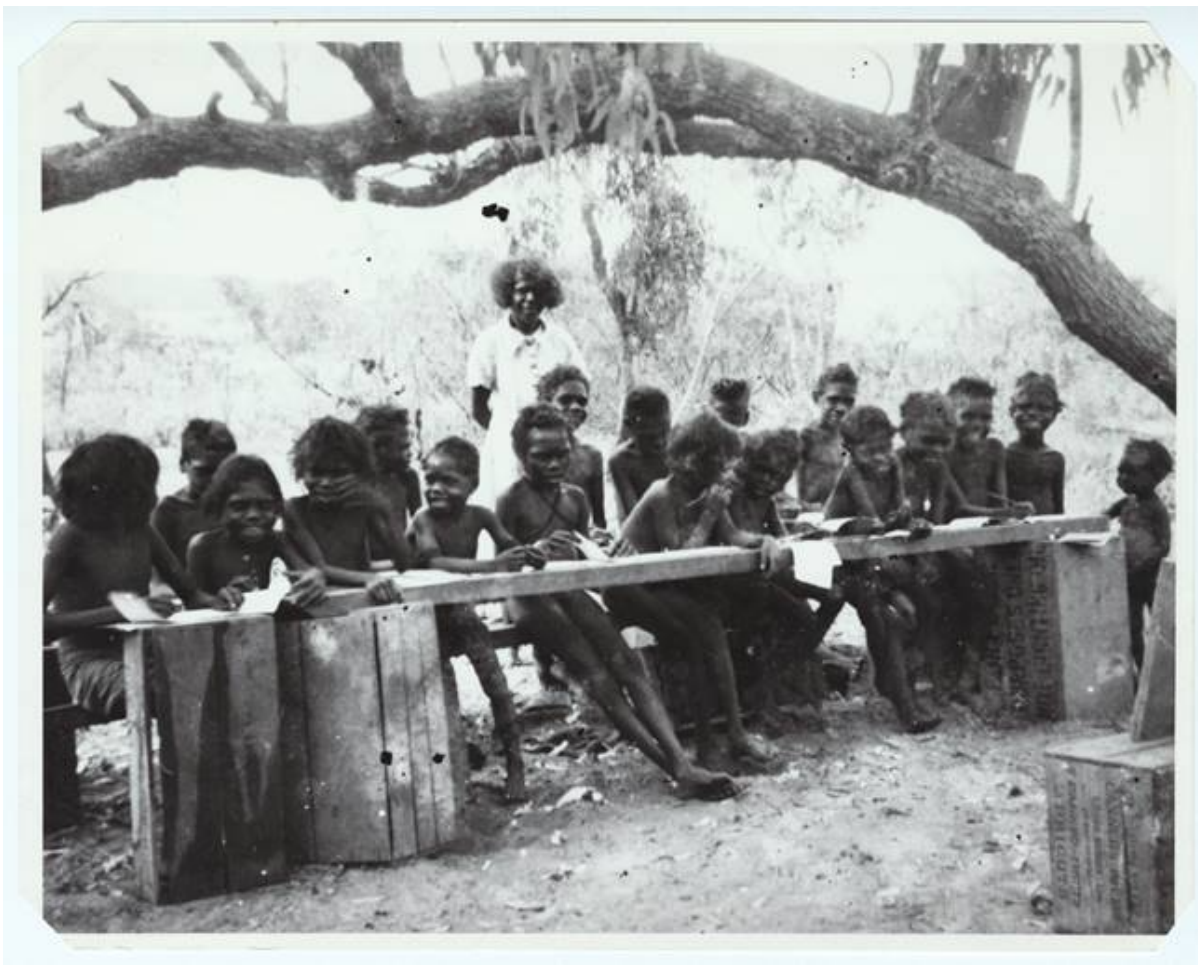
PRG 933/13/595

Title: Ella Shepherdson and Milingimbi Mission staff [PRG 933/13/595]

<https://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/PRG+933/13/595>

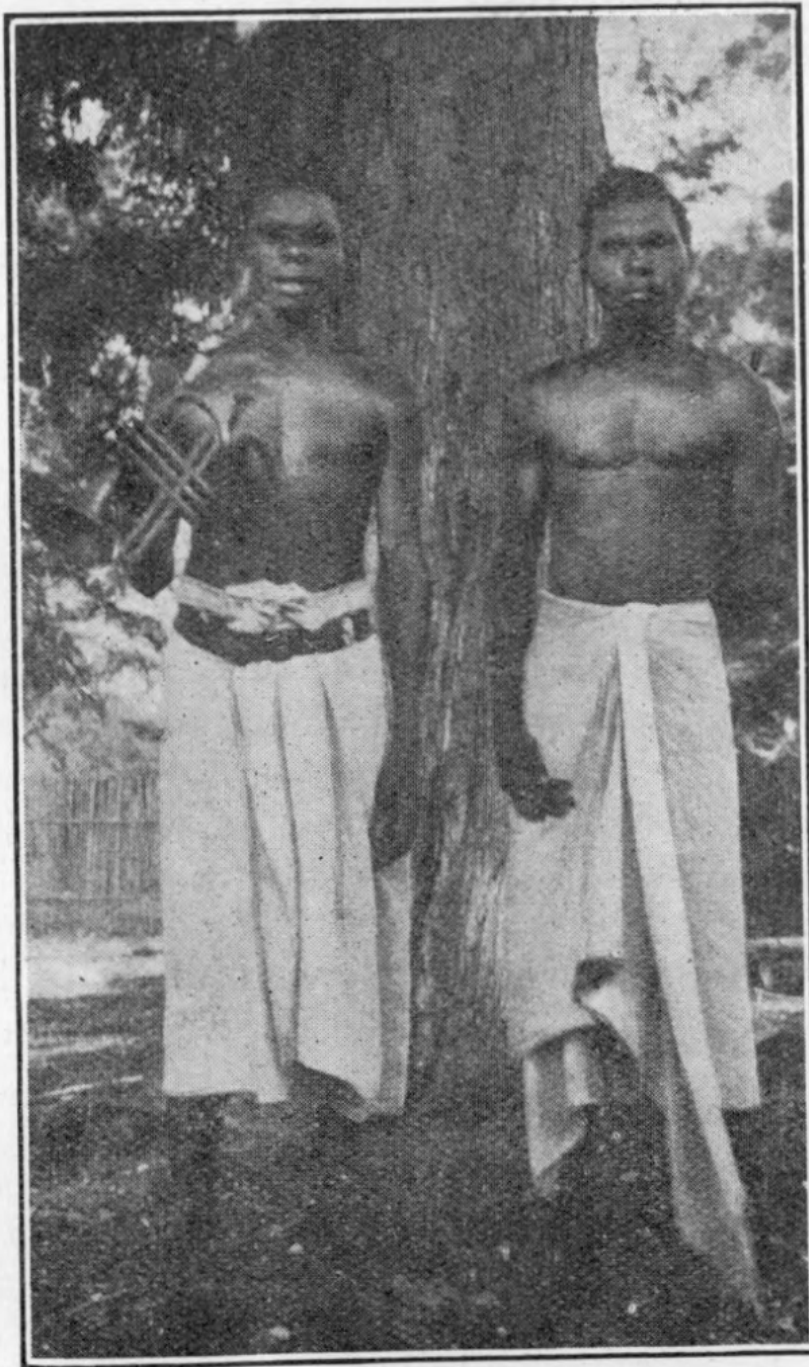
Info: "Ella 2nd from left, back row/Rosie second from left front row. Mrs Shelton and Mr Shelton. Staff at Milingimbi". Creator: Shepherdson, Harold; Approximately 1935

In OCCAMS as [1935-SLSA_PRG_1933_13_595.jpeg](#)



Title: Untitled. Supplied by Sue Reaburn on 2 May 2023, still being processed by SLSA.
Provisionally coded PRG933_13_50

Images of Andrew Birrinydjawuy



Daniel and Andrew, Aboriginal Preachers

From: Anonymous. 1925. "Women's work." The Missionary Review 35 (4):12-13.
In Occams as [1925-Womens_work_The_Missionary_Review_35_4_12.png](#)



From Webb, Theodore. 1931. "Aboriginal heroes of faith." *The Missionary Review* 41 (2):4-7.

In Occams as

[1931-Webb_Aboriginal_heroes_of_faith_The_Missionary_Review_41_2_6.png](#)



PRG 933/13/158

Title: First Christian service at Yirrkala Mission [PRG 933/13/158]

<https://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/PRG+933/13/158>

Info: "The first Christian service held at the commencement of the Yirrkala mission. From L-R Rev and Mrs Chaseling, Andrew, interpreter, Mrs Webb and Rev TT Webb, Girma the Mission boat Captain in far left 1935". Reverend T.T. Webb was the superintendant of Milingimbi Mission for many years and established the mission at Yirrkala in 1935. Girma is possibly pictured in the image.

The same image is here:

<https://educationmob.keepingculture.com/archive-store/view/6/116978>

In OCCAMS as 1935-SLSA_PRG_933_13_158.jpeg



"821. Andrew – the interpreter. [Andrew Biranydjawi, Milingimbi].1923-1938", In Nos. 821-918: *Photographic prints of missionaries and Indigenous people in the Northern Territory, ca. 1885-1938*, State Library of New South Wales.

Call numbers: PXA 1137/nos. 821-918

Record Identifier: YRIZKx2n

Permalinks: <https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/record/YRIZKx2n>;
<https://archival.sl.nsw.gov.au/Details/archive/110373145>

Note: this image is also at

<https://educationmob.keepingculture.com/archive-store/view/6/116594>

In OCCAMS as 1923_1938-SLNSW_PXA_1337_821.jpg



PRG 933/23/48

Title: Dedication of the Milingimbi dispensary [PRG 933/23/48]

<https://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/PRG+933/23/48>

Info: "Dedication of dispensary, 1930s." This small building was erected by the Milingimbi Community. Ella Shepherdson worked here for many years, treating sundry ailments and sometimes serious diseases and injuries. The building was opened by Rev T.T. Webb (standing in the centre), assisted by Andrew, the leading Aboriginal interpreter. The new dispensary replaced the previous, delapidated building in their old camp area. During the Second World War the dispensary building along with the Church, were bombed and razed to the ground during attacks on Milingimbi by Japanese forces.

In OCCAMS as [1930s-SLSA_PRG_933_23_48.jpeg](#)



"871. Cook on the Luggar. [Aboriginal crew including Andrew Biranydjawi (left) and the cook on mission lugger (Larrpan?) , , Arafura Sea]. 1916-1938." In Nos. 821-918: *Photographic prints of missionaries and Indigenous people in the Northern Territory, ca. 1885-1938*, State Library of New South Wales.

Call numbers: PXA 1137/nos. 821-918

Record Identifier: YRIZKx2n

Permalinks: <https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/record/YRIZKx2n>;

<https://archival.sl.nsw.gov.au/Details/archive/110373145><https://archival.sl.nsw.gov.au/Details/archive/110373145>

In OCCAMS as 1916_1938-SLNSW_PXA_1337_871.jpg

Possible image of Andrew and Garidjalalug together



PRG 933/23/33

Title: Djapani and Bandaka's Wedding [PRG 933/23/33]

<https://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/PRG+933/23/33>

Summary: "Djapani and Bandaka's Wedding - Mr Whale. Left to right: 1. Andrew Birrinydjawuy - Gupapuyŋu (Survikili) - no clan, Djangirrawuy's brother. 2. Wife [Miyalk?]. 3. Binyaliny (Bandaka's mother). 4. Yinawiri (Liyagawrumirr) - Bopani's son. Waru (2)'s mother. 5. Bandaka. 6. Djapani. 7. Wili Walilipa. 8. Baṯanga. 9. Makarrwala (Harry)". Creator: Shepherdson, Harold; Approximately 1935.

In OCCAMS as 1935-SLSA_PRG_933_23_33.jpeg