

Charlie Mc Mahon

One of the world famous didgeplayers



MIDNIGHT OIL STAR and NOMADS

Lost tribe brings him fame again

Charlie McMahon first made the headlines at 16 after he blew off his right arm making rocket fuel, when he wanted to be an astronaut.

"I awoke in a plum tree, with one arm missing below the elbow and realised I had to change my lifestyle," McMahon told the Daily Mirror.

This week Charlie, 33, and unofficial sixth member of chart-topping pop band, Midnight Oil, was famous again.

Player

The former Blacktown didgeridoo player was one of two white men who guided the nomadic Pintubi tribe members to a Northern Territory out-station.

It was Charlie, a Bachelor of Economics and Sociology, who played the nomads their first western music - a Midnight Oil cassette.

McMahon has frequently lived with the

By DAVID DAWSON

Pintubi Loritja tribes while fitting pumping equipment to bores and wells on remote outback stations.

"I lived with the Pintubi Loritja tribes in the western desert," Charlie said.

"I helped move them out of settlements on to their own land. All the time I was teaching myself more about didgeridoo playing."

Acclaim

It was in his role as a didgeridoo player with Midnight Oil in the U.S. and Europe that Charlie won international acclaim.

Prestigious American music magazine, Billboard, praised the former Sydney University lec-



This Pintubi boy had never seen a white man before, but his reaction was a smile

turer when he toured the U.S. with Midnight Oil in April.

Encore

Its concert critic said: "The highlight of the 75-minute set was the encore when guest Charlie McMahon came on to play an

Aboriginal didgeridoo. The crowd loved it."

McMahon, now signed to Sydney's Hot Records, has performed on Midnight Oil records.

Slim Dusty wanted to record Charlie after seeing him perform at a party during filming of the Slim Dusty movie.



MIDNIGHT OIL MAN LED PINTUBIS FROM DESERT

By DAVID DAWSON

A MEMBER of top rock group Midnight Oil helped lead nine primitive Pintubi Aborigines to civilisation after 25 years of isolation in the Great Sandy Desert.

Charlie McMahon, 33, who toured the U.S. with Midnight Oil in April, was one of two white men who guided five adults and four teenagers to a Northern Territory out-station.

McMahon, who taught himself to play didgeridoo after he lost an arm in an accident, played the nomads their first western music - a Midnight Oil cassette.

A Bachelor of Economics and Sociology, he has frequently lived

with the Pintubi Loritja tribes while fitting pumping equipment to bores and wells on remote outback stations.

"I lived with the Pintubi Loritja tribes in the western desert," McMahon said. "I helped with their outstation movement . . . moving them out of their settlements onto their own land."

"All the time I was teaching myself more about didgeridoo playing."

McMahon won international acclaim as a didgeridoo player with Midnight Oil in the U.S. and Europe and also on record.

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