EARLY EUROPEAN PLACENAMING PRACTICES IN AUSTRALIA
Part 2

Toponym typology

As mentioned in part 1, the lack of a standardised and practical typology for toponym specifics is a significant obstacle to any effective analysis of placenames.

Unfortunately, there is a very little literature devoted to the classification of toponym, specifics. The little work that has been published includes classifications according to: region, the time when a name was bestowed, the language of its origin, the type of feature (i.e. generics), alphabetic classification, and the motivation for the name. Several linguists and toponymists have formulated typologies that range from the simple to quite complex. These include typologies by Mencken (1967 [1919]), Stewart (1975), in the 1980s McArthur (2003), Marchant (1982), Smith (1993, 1996), Gammeltoft (2002), and Gasque (2005). Apart from Gammeltoft's schema none of these systems were found to be particularly effective or functional. Many of them had serious areas of overlap in their categories, some toponym classes were too narrow or too broad, other classes were inconsistent. Some systems were specifically designed to deal with a very restricted category of toponym, and were therefore, unsuited for analysis of to introduced toponyms or toponyms in general.

An effective typology needs to be both broad enough to include all types of toponym but also narrow enough to eliminate overlapping of categories, as well as those belonging to two or more categories. If a typology has too many categories, it becomes unwieldy, yet if it has too few it will be ineffective. A practical typology must also be flexible enough to allow for additions of categories without causing fundamental structural changes, as well as permit toponyms bestowed in different regions (international and national) and eras.

The typology formulated for this study (see Table 2) is hopefully a step in this direction.[1] It is centred around the

Figure 1. H.M.B. Endeavour at Endeavour River aka Charco Harbour. Courtesy of the British Library. (c) British Library Board. All Rights Reserved London, 1773 (Ferg 7243 vIII).

'mechanism' of the naming process. In other words, it is based on the *modus operandi* of the naming. Where available and relevant, it takes into account the procedures, methods, strategies, motivation, original reference and/or referents of names. The typology recognises nine major categories for toponym specifics, all of which are further divided into a number of sub-categories. The typology was also extended to allow toponyms bestowed after 1788 to be classified at a future date, for example, placenames stemming from:

- an occupation or habitual activity associated with the feature, as in *Fishermans Bend* etc., and
- a manufactured structure associated with the feature, as in *Telegraph Point* etc.

Accordingly, some of the categories in the inventory in Table 3 do not figure in the analysis of pre-settlement toponyms.

Analysis of the data

To obtain any insights into place-naming practices an analysis of toponym specifics is essential, because it is in these elements that the mechanisms of naming and clues to the belief and value systems of the name-givers can be found.

Frequency counts were taken of each relevant toponym category and sub-category for each nationality and are presented in Table 3.

Results

A total of 890 names were recorded – 153 Dutch, 257 British, and 480 French. No doubt we will have missed a few; however, we are confident that the vast majority of names bestowed between 1606 and 1803 have been documented. The final analysis was conducted on 862 toponyms because 28 names (3.1%) were either considered to be toponymic descriptors (e.g. *waterplaets* 'watering place', *zoutrivier* 'salt river') or no distinct classification could be given to them. The number of toponyms conferred by each nationality under each of the seven relevant naming mechanism categories is displayed in Table 3.

From the editor . . .

Welcome to new PA Members

A number of our readers, since our previous issue, have donated their $25 to support the Survey and become Members of Placenames Australia for the next financial year. We thank them for their support, and encourage all our readers to help in this way. As you know, this newsletter is free to all who want to receive it - and we'll keep it that way as long as we can. But we are grateful to those who are able to support our work (and the distribution of this newsletter) by sending their donations. ***If you can help in this way, see our back page!***

Since our previous issue we have had some update information for *Carinya* and *Barossa* . . .

Ref. Carinya - page 2. It is a popular house name both in Europe and Australia; although in the latter it is often spelled Karinya. The house owners claim that "it is an Australian Aboriginal word meaning 'happy home'", but I have not, so far, been able to find it in any Aboriginal word list. Sorry not to be more helpful.

Joyce Miles

Our records on Carinya also have nothing on the origin of the name, and I thought it was probably in Reed's "Aboriginal Words of Australia". Much surprised when it wasn't! The widespread use of the name probably comes from the list of Aboriginal names and meanings published in the Womens Weekly. I'm not sure, but I think it was in the 1920's - I'm sure it was responsible for many names spreading across Australia. I must try and locate a copy.

Brian Goodchild
Secretary, Geographic Names Committee
Landgate

Ref. 'Those awkward double letters again' in the (December) issue of the ANPS Newsletter regarding the name '*Barossa*', ever since the 1840s wrongly stated to mean 'hill of roses'? It appeared in *National Library of Australia New*, vol. XVII, no. 11 (August 2007), pp. 15-17, and is available on the Internet at www.nla.gov.au/pub/nlanews/2007/aug07/story-4.pdf.

Peter Trickett, in his 'Beyond Capricorn', purports to have identified a number of Australian landmarks on Terra Java on the so-called 'Vallard' atlas (1547). Since Terra Java is definitely NOT Australia, his identifications are the fruit of his imagination. My comments on his book were published in *The Globe* (Journal of the Australian Map Circle), no. 59 (2007), pp. 59-60. My book, 'Was Australia charted before 1606? The Jave la Grande inscriptions', published by the National Library in 2006, has just been republished.

W. A. R. (Bill) Richardson
Assoc. Prof. Flinders University.

Can anyone help Gerald Wollmer with the placename *LICOLA*?

I am trying to uncover the naming of the Barry Mountains Vic, however another name has emerged in my Victorian high country research, the naming of Licola Village postcode 3858.

Licola is located 254 kms north east of Mellbourne, 86 kms north of Traralgon, and 45ks north of Coongulla on the banks of the Macallister River.

Previously used as timber milling, on the Macallister River, Licola is the only privately owned town in Victoria, badly damaged in the 2006 fires and recent floods.

It is also known as the Licola Lions Club Village. Any information of Licola naming would be appreciated.

Gerald Wollmer
APNS Supporting Member   contact mobile   0423 296 642

Australia Through Time

Broken Hill prospers

SATURDAY, 15 AUGUST 1885 Broken Hill, built out of the mining promise of a rocky outcrop first discovered by Charles Sturt in 1844 and later marked out for mining by Charles Rasp, was declared a town this week. Mr Rasp and his six colleagues, who first staked their claim after his discovery of silver ore two years ago, formed the Broken Hill Proprietary Company two months ago as their claims continued to steadily show more potential for silver-lead ore. They have so far floated 2000 shares and reports are already indicating good returns. (Source: *Australia Through Time*. 2000 Edition. Sydney: Random House Australia. P. 84)

Unyka/Eungai

Today's Eungai is situated on the Mid North Coast of NSW. Two villages bear the names Eungai Creek and Eungai Rail. Both villages are approximately 4 kilometers apart with Mount Yarrahapinni in the north and both in the Nambucca Shire. Kesbys Creek runs through Eungai Rail and joins Eungai Creek stream North West of the former village.

When the North Coast Railway was completed between Sydney and Murwilumbah in the 1930's, Eungai Rail was reported to be exactly in the middle by being 333 miles between both at the Railway Gates.

In the early days both had the Pacific Highway running through each but with some three deviations they are today isolated from this busy highway.

Forests surround both villages with Ingleba in the north and Tamban south, west and east.

These sclerophyl forests abound with hardwood trees and sub tropical forests containing softwood in the creeks and gullies.

Black Butt (*E. Pilutaris*) is the predominant hardwood tree along with Grey Gum, Spotted Gum (*E. Maculata*), Red and Grey Iron Bark *(E. Crebra and E. Caleyi)* Flooded Gum, Red and White Mahogony, and Brush Box (All *Myrtacae),* Tallow-wood (*E Microcorysf mueli).* Turpentine (*Syncarpia glomulifera).*

These hardwood trees make excellent building material from flooring to frames for houses, bridges, sea water piles (Turpentine being resistant to cobra), mine construction etc.

Rosewood *(Dysoxylum fraserianum)* Red Cedar *(Toona Australis)* Coachwood *(Ceratopetalum apetalum)* White Beech *(Verbenaceae)* Black Bean *(Fabaceae)* and Silky Oak (*Proteacae).*

The softwoods are used for furniture making.

Eungai Rail - Sawmill and butter factory

The first inhabitants of this area were the indigenous people.

History of their existence and knowledge is limited as there is no written history. Their lives were uprooted by being placed on reservations and their culture was handed down by elders by word of mouth. In the early 1900's Europeans recorded this sparse knowledge.

In the Macleay and Nambucca River systems there were four main indigenous tribes being the Thungatti. Their language area reached from the tablelands east to the Macleay River and the sea. The Ngaku south of the Macleay River. The Ngumba reached from Nambucca Heads on the coast south to South West Rocks. Then the Gumbaingerra north from the Nambucca River to the Clarence River through to Ebor on the tablelands.

From the 1830's Europeans came firstly as cedar-getters and then pastoralists. The area from Collombatti north to the Eungai Creek and Algomera was known as "Unyka" an aboriginal usage.

This land was described by an Act of Parliament in 1836 as "*Beyond location".* Land south of the Macleay River was known as "Located lands" which was Crown Land that could be purchased at auction. The former was open to lease for 10 pounds per year for grazing

Clement Hodgkinson, an early surveyor, explorer and pastoralist was employed by the Government to survey in 1840's areas north of the Macleay River. He located Aboriginal tribes in the Unyka area as sub-tribes being of the main language tribes as Yarrabandinni, Clybucca, Tamban and Yarrrahapinni. Details of these are contained in his report *Australia from Port Macquarie to Morton Bay, 1845.*

Perhaps it is important to now describe the meanings of the Aboriginal names as best described from many bases:

Tamban   - place of wire grass
                    - Kurrajong tree
Yarrahapinni - Koala rolling down hill. Yarra was the name given to the Koala by Aborigines.
Clybucca   - Oak tree - crooked tree
Unyka   - noisy water or rippling or singing creek.

The author lived beside Kesbys Creek at Eungai Rail for many years and can vouch that this creek in flood time really sang and howled.

Today's Eungai was known until 1913 as Unyka and Tamban as Upper Unyka.

The Progress Association of Unyka petitioned the Government in 1912 to change the name to Eungai (pronounced Newnguy) thus the name was born to these small villages.

The Unyka name only remains as the Parish of Unyka, a reserve and a local Land Council exists.

❑   *Geoff Minett*
President
Macksville and District Historical Society

Australia Through Time

Silver at 'broken hill'

Monday, 10 September 1883 Mr Charles Rasp, a boundary rider from Mount Gipps station, has found deposits of silver and lead on a hill in the Barrier Ranges 700 miles inland from Sydney. He and six other men from the same station have staked out a claim on an outcrop which Mr Charles Sturt called a 'broken hill' when he passed through there 40 years ago. It remains to be seen how much is yielded for their 280 acre stake, which has cost them £70 each.

Despite initial expectations high enough to spark a rush in 1867, no gold was found. However, eight years ago silver-lead ore was discovered by Mr John Stokie and Mr P. Green at Thackaringa, which is only 20 miles from Mr Rasp's site. Samples of the ore were sent to England three years ago and proved to be extremely valuable. In Umberumberka, just near Thackaringa, 500 acres of mining leases have been applied for. (Source: *Australia Through Time*. 2000 Edition. Sydney: Random House Australia. p.76)

...Placenaming

Table 2. Toponym Typology

0	**Unknown** – where the meaning, reference, referent, or origin of the toponym is unknown.	
1	**Descriptive** – indicating an inherent characteristic of the feature.	
	1.1	**Topographic** – describing the physical appearance of a feature either qualitatively or metaphorically (e.g. *Cape Manifold, Steep Point, Point Perpendicular, Broken Bay, Mount Dromedary, Pigeon House Mountain, Cape Bowling Green, Pudding-pan Hill*).
	1.2	**Relative** – indicating position of a feature relative to another (e.g. *South Island vs North Island, North Head vs South Head, Groupe de l'Est vs Groupe de l'Quest*).
	1.3	**Locational** – indicating the location or orientation of a feature (e.g. *Suyt Caap, Cape Capricorn, South West Cape*).
	1.4	**Numerical/measurement** – measuring or counting elements of a named feature (e.g. *Three Isles, Three Mile Creek, The 2 Brothers, Cape Three Points*).
2	**Associative** – indicating something which is always or often associated with the feature or its physical context.	
	2.1	**Environmental** – indicating something of an environmental or biological nature seen with or associated with the feature (e.g. *Lizard Island, Shark Bay, Palm Island, Green Island, Thirsty Sound, Botany Bay, Magnetic Island, Cornelian Basin, Oyster Bay, Bay of Isles*).
	2.2	**Occupation/activity** – indicating an occupation or habitual activity associated with the feature (e.g. *Fishermans Bend*).
	2.3	**Structures** – indicating a manufactured structure associated with the feature (e.g. *Seven Huijsien 'Seven Houses', Telegraph Point*).
3	**Occurrent** – recording an event, incident, occasion (or date), or action associated with the feature.	
	3.1	**Incident** – recording an event, incident or action associated with the feature (e.g. *Cape Keerweer, Magnetic Island, Indian Head, Cape Tribulation, Smokey Cape*).
	3.2	**Occasion** – recognising a time or date associated with the feature (e.g. *Whitsunday Islands, Pentecost Island, Trinity Bay, Paasavonds land* 'Easter Eve's land', *Restoration Island, Wednesday Island, St Patrick's Head, Ile du Nouvel-An* 'New Years Island').
4	**Evaluative** – reflecting the emotional reaction of the namer, or a strong connotation associated with the feature.	
	4.1	**Commendatory** – reflecting/propounding a positive response to the feature (e.g. *Hoek van Goede* Hoop 'Good Hope Point', *Fair Cape, Hope Islands, Ile de Remarque* 'Remarkable Island').
	4.2	**Condemnatory** – reflecting/propounding a negative response to the feature (e.g. *Mount Disappointment, Passage Epineux* 'Tortuous Passage', *Baie Mauvaise* 'Bad Bay').
5	**Shift** – use of a toponym, in whole or part, from another location or feature.	
	5.1	**Transfer** – transferred from an other place (e.g. *Pedra Brancka, Rivier Batavia, 't Eijlandt Goeree, Orfordness, River Derwent, Lion Couchant, Cap du Mont-Tabor*).
	5.2	**Feature shift** – copied from an adjacent feature of a different type (e.g. *Cape Dromedary* from nearby *Mount Dromedary, Pointe de Leuwin* from adjacent *'Land van Leeuwin, Cap Frederick Hendrick* from surrounding *Frederick Hendrix Baaij*).
	5.3	**Relational** – using a qualifier within the toponym to indicate orientation from an adjacent toponym of the same feature type (e.g. *East Sydney < Sydney, North Brisbane < Brisbane*).
6	**Indigenous** – importing an Indigenous toponym or word into the Introduced system.	
	6.1	**Original placename** – using the Indigenous toponym already in place for that location or feature (e.g. *Ku-ring-gai, Parramatta, and Turramurra*).
	6.2	**Dual name** – restoring an original Indigenous toponym as part of a dual-naming process (e.g. *Uluru*[/Ayers Rock], [Darling Harbour]/*Tumbalong*).
	6.3	**Non-toponymic word** – importing an Indigenous word, not being a toponym and having no associative connection with the feature (e.g. *Charco Harbour* from the "charco" or *yir-ké* 'an exclamation of surprise').
7	**Eponymous** – commemorating or honouring a person or other named entity by using a proper name, title, or eponym substitute as a toponym.	
	7.1	**Person(s)** – using the proper name of a person or group to name a feature.
		7.1.1 **Expedition member** – where the named person is a member of the expedition (e.g. *Tasman Island, Point Hicks, Crooms River, Labillardiere Peninsula, Huon River*).
		7.1.2 **Other** – where feature is named after an eminent person, patron, official, noble, politician, family member or friend etc. (e.g. *Maria Island, Anthonio van Diemensland, Cape Byron, Terre Napoleon, Cap Molière, Prince of Wales Island, Princess Royal's Harbour, Cap Dauphin, Ile de la Favourite*).
	7.2	**Other living entity** – using the proper name of a non-human living entity to name a feature (e.g. *Norseman* after a horse, *Banana* after a bullock).
	7.3	**Non-living entity** – using the proper name of a non-living entity to name a feature.
		7.3.1 **Vessel** – named after a vessel, usually one associated with the "discovery" (e.g. *Endeavour River, Arnhem Land, Tryall Rocks, Cap du Naturaliste, Pointe Casuarina, Pantjallinngs hoek* after the *Nova Hollandia*).
		7.3.2 **Other** – named after a named non-living entity (e.g. *Agincourt Reefs* after the battle, *Vereenichde Rivier* after the Dutch United Provinces).
8	**Linguistic Innovation** – introducing a new linguistic form, by manipulation of language.	
	8.1	**Blend** – blending of two toponyms, words or morphemes (e.g. *Australind* from 'Australia' + 'India'; *Lidcombe* from 'Lidbury' + 'Larcombe').
	8.2	**Anagram** – using the letters of another toponym to create a new anagrammatic form (e.g. *Nangiloc* reverse of 'Colignan').
	8.3	**Humour** – using language play with humorous intent to create a new toponym (e.g. *Bustmegall Hill, Howlong, Doo Town*).
9	**Erroneous** – introducing a new form through garbled transmission, misspelling, mistaken meaning etc.	
	9.1	**Popular etymology** – mistaken interpretation of the origin of a toponym, leading to a corruption of the linguistic form (e.g. *Coal and Candle Creek* from 'Kolaan Kandhal', *Collector, Delegate, Tin Can Bay*).
	9.2	**Form confusion** – **alteration** of the linguistic form, from a misunderstanding or bad transmission of the original (e.g. *Bendigo, Dee Why* from *Dy Beach*).

Table 3. Place-naming practices

Toponym Category Level 1	Toponym Category Level 2	Toponym Category Level 3	No. (%) of toponyms		
			Dutch	**English**	**French**
1 Descriptive (n = 114)			**20 (14.4%)**	**50 (20.2%)**	**44 (9.3%)**
	1.1		17 (12.7%)	40 (16.1%)	22 (4.6%)
	1.2		1 (.7%)	5 (2%)	12 (2.5%)
	1.3		2 (1.4%)	4 (1.6%)	9 (1.9%)
	1.4		0	1 (.4%)	0
2 Associative (n = 84)			**18 (12.9%)**	**37 (14.9%)**	**31 (6.3%)**
	2.1		17 (12.2%)	37 (13.9%)	30 (6.1%)
	2.3		1 (.8%)	0	0
3 Occurrent (n = 42)			**5 (3.6%)**	**28 (11.3%)**	**9 (1.9%)**
	3.1		3 (2.3%)	17 (7.2%)	9 (2.5%)
	3.2		2 (1.5%)	11 (4.7%)	0
4 Evaluative (n =22)			**7 (5.0%)**	**9 (3.6%)**	**6 (1.3%)**
	4.1		2 (1.5%)	4 (1.7%)	3 (.8%)
	4.2		5 (3.8%)	5 (2.1%)	3 (.8%)
5 Shift (n = 24)			**6 (4.3%)**	**15 (6.0%)**	**3 (.6%)**
	5.1		6 (4.6%)	12 (5.1%)	1 (.3%)
	5.2		0	3 (1.3%)	2 (.6%)
6 Indigenous (n = 2)			**0**	**1 (.4%)**	**0**
	6.3		0	1 (.4%)	0
7 Eponymous (n = 574)			**83 (59.7%)**	**108 (43.5%)**	**383 (80.6%)**
			67 [1]	99 [2]	358 [3]
	7.1	7.1.1	17 (13.1%)	9 (3.8%)	90 (25.3%)
		7.1.2	41 (31.5%)	77 (32.8%)	151 (42.4%)
			16	9	25
	7.3	7.3.1	14 (10.8%)	8 (3.4%)	20 (5.6%)
		7.3.2	2 (1.5%)	1 (.4%)	5 (1.4%)

A Chi-square test of association was carried out on the seven main toponym categories (Level 1) and showed a highly significant difference in naming practices between the three national groups (Chi-square = 122.113, df = 12, p = .0001).[2]

All nationalities favour eponymous placenames (64% of the total). The French seem to be especially fond of them, with more than 80% of their toponyms falling under this category. This may reflect a national pride in honouring scientists and writers of note as well as, to a lesser extent, fellow crew members. Naming places after non-expedition members is the most widespread category for all three nationalities (31% of the total). In character with their commercial bent, the Dutch tended to name places after *VOC* officials. The British tended to favour the nobility and political figures, whilst the French appeared to be more enlightened and named places after scientists, literary figures, philosophers and military and naval figures. Naming places after influential people was of course a very convenient way of establishing a national identity in a far-flung land, not to mention gaining favour with influential people back home. Naming places after their vessels was more common with the Dutch than the British or French. Once again, this may be a reflection of their predominantly commercial interests.

British naming patterns show a preference for less emotive descriptive names, with more than 46% of them comprising descriptive, associative and occurrent toponyms. These kinds of names were also common among the Dutch navigators, with almost 40% of their toponyms coming under this category.

Not so surprisingly, transferred toponyms are uncommon among all three nationalities. Such toponyms are a natural and rapid corollary of settlement and colonisation.

Only two Indigenous words are associated with early place-naming in Australia. The first is *Moent* on the western tip of Cape York Peninsula, and is thought to derive from Wik-Mungkan or Uradhi referring to coals, charcoal or cremation ground (see Tent, 2005a, b; 2006). The other, *Charco Harbour*, is said to be derived from the language of the Guugu Yimidhirr people. It was used by Cook's crew to refer to the Endeavour River and is according to Beaglehole (1968: 366, fn.1) a rendition of *yir-ké* 'an exclamation of surprise'. Compared to the Māori of New Zealand and other Pacific islanders, Europeans had very little direct contact with the Indigenous people of Australia. This, together with the generally low esteem in which these people were held, may help explain the remarkable paucity of Indigenous Australian names on European charts, compared to other places in the Pacific.

Discussion

Overall, our typology worked surprisingly well for the majority of toponyms in the dataset, and proved to be an effective instrument in revealing place-naming practices of the three national groups.

Where to from here?

This study is an initial attempt at defining place-naming practices in the context of European exploration of Australia prior to extensive colonization. Like all classification schemes, our typology has limitations which will be addressed and modified as the dataset expands and more toponyms are

analysed. The next step will be to expand the dataset to include and analyse European toponyms bestowed during the 17th and 18th century European exploration of the Pacific and New Zealand. Further research aims to document in more detail the political and social conditions surrounding the planning of explorations to the Southland and Pacific. This information may assist in elucidating place-naming practices more precisely and may also help to identify the idiosyncratic differences between individual navigators' place-naming practices.

Most of the Dutch and French placenames bestowed during our survey period are no longer used or have been calqued into English. Not surprisingly, the majority of British placenames have been retained. De Fleurieu (1914) in his address to the International Society of Geographers, questions the theoretical validity of renaming locations which had previously been named by indigenous populations or previous explorers. He laments the loss of recognition of the efforts of the early navigators that these names bear witness to and suggests that continued efforts should be made to re-establish previous nomenclature. Our future investigations will catalogue all replaced placenames.

Our typology will also be further tested on a representative sample of Australian placenames conferred by the British settlers in the hope that it may be applied to all of Australia's approximately 5 million placenames. Such a typology may not only lead to a deeper understanding of the nation's placenames in general, but may also reveal regional and temporal place-naming fashions.

Conclusion

The early European navigators who charted the Southland's coastline made significant and influential contributions to the linguistic, cultural, social, and toponymic character of the continent. We are reminded daily of this legacy when we examine a map, consult a street directory, see a road-side signpost, write an address, or simply utter one of the many extant geographic names bestowed during the first 200 years of European association with this land.

Like people's given names, toponym specifics are more than just labels for identification – they are precious reminders of who we are, and whence we came. They define both people and places. A region's history is revealed through its toponyms.

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Footnotes

[1] This typology was developed and refined by David Blair and Jan Tent on the basis of Blair (n.d.).

[2] Chi-square analyses on toponym category Levels 2 and 3 were not conducted because too many cells in the cross-tabulations contained expected frequencies of less than 5.

Table 3. - Footnotes

[1] For 9 of these, it is not known whether they are 7.1.1 or 7.1.2.

[2] For 13 of these, it is not known whether they are 7.1.1 or 7.1.2.

[3] For 141 of these, it is not known whether they are 7.1.1 or 7.1.2.

❑ *Jan Tent*
Department of Linguistics
Macquarie University
Director, ANPS

❑ *Helen Slatyer*
Department of Linguistics
Macquarie University

Other news....

PLACENAME HISTORIES

Are you a Victorian toponymist? Have a passion for place names in Victoria? Well then, there's a new website for you!

VICNAMES is the online Register of Geographic Names in Victoria and is available at www.land.vic.gov.au/vicnames. VICNAMES holds the names of more than 190,000 place names and roads, including lakes, mountains, rivers; suburbs, localities, towns, cities, regions; roads, reserves and schools.

If you're interested in becoming an HCA, please contact Laura Kostanski at the Registrar of Geographic Names Office on (03) 8636 2530 or geo.names@dse.vic.gov.au.

More information will be published in the next newsletter.

Upcoming Event:

As advised in the March newsletter, Placenames Australia is planning a workshop for Research Friends and others interested in our activities. We can now confirm that this will be held in **Wollongong**, NSW on **Saturday 11 October**. The day's activities will include presentations of placenames research by some of our members, information about the work of the official state and territory nomenclature bodies, and the society's Annual General Meeting with election of officers. We hope that there will be no registration charge, and to be able to arrange discounted accommodation for those travelling from a distance. If you're interested in attending, please contact <fhodges@bigpond.net.au>, 61 Lee Street, Maitland, NSW 2320

Animals

The clues reveal placenames connected with animals (disregard spelling).

E.g. (See you later up this inlet …………..Alligator Creek)

1. (SA)   Should not be allowed in a china shop; small stream
2. (WA) $500 (*Colloquial)*; Miss Farrow
3. (QLD)   Could be Ernie or a native dog
4. (QLD)   Can have a blue tongue; no man is one (*Donne*)
5. (NSW)   Jumped over the moon; UK unit
6. (NSW)   Disc of wax used to attest a document; diamonds (*Coll.*)
7. (NSW)   Was outwitted by a tortoise, ground for playing cricket or football
8. (NSW)   Abandoned his spring cleaning to go boating with Rat; Paul Robeson's "Old Man"
9. (NSW)   A cunning hunted animal; the earth's solid surface
10. (NSW)   Looking at the Australian Coat of Arms, it stands on the left; land between hills
11. (NSW)   Once it was the mainstay of the Cavalry; large inland sheet of water
12. (NSW)   Its legs are a French delicacy, Henry VIII's Lord Chancellor
13. (VIC)   Associated with Bill and known in the USA as a bison
14. (VIC)   Counting them may induce sleep; a famous hoist
15. (VIC)   Can be charmed by a flute player; USA 20th c. crooner Rudy
16. (VIC)   Provides pork, either/.., consume
17. (TAS)   Not satanic but the Tasmanian ones; cook house
18. (TAS)   Gets the hump once
19. (WA/VIC/QLD)   A type of donkey (can be silly); baby's bed
20. (ACT/VIC)   Pride can rule the jungle

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The Meaning of "Munjie"

The meaning of the word "Munjie", amongst other things, is mentioned in an article by John O'Rourke (*Bairnsdale Advertiser* and *Tambo* and *Omeo Chronicle* 17.3.1910). This word has various attributed meanings including 'fish' by the Aboriginal Protector George Augustus Robinson. But almost certainly the true meaning, as recorded a number of times by Alfred Howitt, is 'place'. Hence Bukkanmunjie, the original name for Buchan, and also mentioned by O'Rourke, is "place of the woman's bag" and not "evil spirit of the jumping water" as O'Rourke claimed. John O'Rourke wrote:

> "Coming through from New South Wales one passes through 'rapid water' country, falling into Victoria, and it is found that the (word) Munjie occurs very frequently. Some of the New South Wales blackfellows claim Omeo as their territory, and there are lots of Munjies about there - Hiinomunjie, Tongiomunjie, Lumlamunjie, etc. When you came down to the still water the munjies ceased and I claim this finally proves that the name of the blackfellows for 'jumping water' was munjie." (pp.173-4)

Facing downstream at the junction of the Snowy and Buchan Rivers: once Lucas Point. *(National Library of Australia - John Flynn Collection - Buchan Caves Area P456/61).* Reproduced by permission, by Robert Haldane Photo Folio - John Flynn at Buchan: www.users.bigpond.com/haldane/flynn.html

O'Rourke continued:

> "There is another instance in the Mullick Munjie River, which empties into the Buchan. Formerly it was known as Quag Quag Munjie (Kooark / Quark / Quag = kookaburra; repetition is plural PDG). When the blackfellows became acquainted with milk they used also to call it mullick, and this river is a series of steep rapids, the water coming down like an avalanche of snow, so I presume they changed it in mullick, owing to the foam reminding them of milk." (p.174)

Unfortunately O'Rourke has found an elaborate solution for a simple problem. Rather than the tautology of "rapids like milk / jumping water" it is more likely "the place of the rapids / river like milk". The words Omullick[1] or Omellick[1] being merely pidgin English are not in dispute. What is certain is that the word Omunjie[1] was used fairly widely across tribal and language boundaries and mostly, though not exclusively, in the alpine and sub alpine districts. Its language origin is not known. It should also be noted that 'munjie' was used in individual names just as place names of origin have been used for individuals in the English language. Two that come to mind are Bruthenmunjie and Harry Derramunjie.

[1] From an unpublished review of Young, Michael with Ellen & Debbie Mundy (comps) *The Aboriginal People of the Monaro*. NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, 2000, np.

❏   P.D. Gardner

Answers 1. Bull Creek 2. Monkey Mia 3. Dingo 4. Lizard Island 5. Cow Flat 6. Seal Rocks 7. Harefield 8. Mole River 9. Fox Ground 10. Kangaroo Valley 11. Horse Lake 12. Frogmore 13. Buffalo 14. Sheep Hills 15. Snake Valley 16. Piggoreet 17. Devils Kitchen 18. Dromedary 19. Ascot 20. Lyons

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Placenames Australia...

Become a Supporting Member!

We realise that not everyone who wishes to support the Australian National Placenames Survey can do so by carrying out toponymic research and supplying information for our database. There IS another way—become a Supporting Member of Placenames Australia! In doing so, you'll help the Survey and its volunteer researchers by providing infrastructure support. In return, you'll have the assurance that you'll be helping ensure the continued existence of this prestige national project, and we'll guarantee to keep you in touch by posting to you a printed copy of this quarterly newsletter.

The Survey has no funding of its own—it relies on the generosity of its supporters, both corporate and individual. We will try to maintain our current mailing list, as long as we can; in the long term, priority will be given to Supporting Members of the association, to our volunteer Research Friends, to public libraries and history societies, and to media organizations.

Please consider carefully this invitation. If you wish to become a Member, write a cheque to Placenames Australia Inc, or arrange a bank transfer, and post this page to the Secretary at the address below.

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Dr Jan Tent, *Placenames Australia*
Linguistics Department
MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY NSW 2109
Fax: (02) 9850 9199 Email: director@anps.org.au

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We say thankyou to...

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Contributions

Contributions for *Placenames Australia* are welcome.
Please send all contributions to the Editor, Tricia Mack,
by email: <editor@anps.org.au>
Electronic submissions and photographic or other illustrations are greatly appreciated.
Closing dates for submission are:

31 January for the March issue	31 July for the September issue
30 April for the June issue	31 October for the December issue