

Nowra, Eurobodally, Yarragee,
Primbee, Eden, Bateman's Bay, NSW 1964

Dhurga
Dharawal
Yaygir

TRACK A

Brown's Flats, near Nowra, 31/08/1964

F.T.4

Percy Mumbulla, Dhurga and Bob Cooper, with some language from Yass (Wiradhuri?)

00:00

Dhurga vocabulary

- Smoke, water, ocean, tobacco
- Food, meat, kangaroo or wallaby, snake
- Treesx, bommerangx

05:00

Percy Mumbulla tells JM of his background, relationships with other Aborigines etc.

Mentions relatives and people JM could contact for help with salvaging languages – Bert Penrith, Bob Parsons, David Carpenter, Bella Sims.

08:00

Mentions Jimmy Chapman at Narragunda.

09:00

Mentions Herbert Chapman (married one of the Adler girls at Wreck Bay) – Aden Thomas from Eden.

10:00

Recalls life at Eden in the old days.

Dhurga vocabulary

- Blackfish, flathead, mullet
- Lake x; Lake Dromedary (Gulaga)
- Frog, reeds, boat x, canoe x,
- Swan, sand x, clever man, going thru the rules;
- Jesus Christ, thunderstorm, lightning x, rain x.

17:00

Talking to Bob Cooper about Charlie Cooper and his father from Yass.

Eurobodalla, NSW 1/09/1964. Wally Blakeney, Yaygir from Maclean, North Coast.

20:00

Yaygir vocabulary

- Trees x, wood x
- It's a nice day; it's a rainy day
- Storm, lightning x, rain coming x,
- Sun is shining (same as for 'It's a nice day')
- Kangaroo x, I'm going to camp x
- I'm going for a walk; where?;
- I'm going a long way; Hello or come here;

- Here he comes

24:30

- Hurry up, we'll go fishing; to go in a boat

Wally Blakeney belongs to Yaygir tribe on the Clarence River – mother was Sophie Morrison

- Where is the water; it's over there a long way
- Good fresh water; bad swampy water (no good) –
- Same for food

29:00

- Nice place to sleep or to camp

JM's assistant Mrs Stewart asks if the language is spoken actively or not – WB says it is not spoken by the young people but the older ones speak it among themselves when they are together.

32:30

Wally Blakeney suggests Monday to Thursday in October would be a good time to talk to the peapickers on the South Coast.

33:30

Yaygir vocabulary

- I'm going now; summer is coming;
- who's that over there; go and get me a drink of water;
- Here comes the storm;
- Kangaroo x, birds x; meat – bulong (also can be used for names of animals as kangaroo)
- I've gone over to get some meat (bulong)
- Water

38:00

Wally Blakeney explains that 3 words in Yaygir might mean ½ or a dozen words in English – and speaks a few sentences as if talking to his brother about his trip down from Maclean.

41:30

Yarragee, NSW 1/09/1964. JM talks to Jimmy Little Snr (also present Mrs Little and her sister Mrs Murray).

42:10

Jack-Jacky song (unaccomp)

(Jacky-Jacky and Two-up transcribed by John Gordon – Lib Acc 5379)

44:00

Two-up song (unaccomp)

46:30

Dhurga vocabulary

- Fish, ocean, meat, bread, woman, man x;
- Possum (in Dhurga and Lachlan lang)
- Horse, dog, bird

51:00

- Canoe (Monaro lang)
- Track; hands x, eyes, nose x, smoke tobacco (Monaro and Lachlan lang)

54:00

Song – Queensland track sung by Jimmy Little (this song was recorded) – transcribed by J Gordon Lib 5379)

57:00

Explanation of Two-up song with translation of words.

59:00

Dhurga language

- Policeman (Monaro and Shoalhaven lang)

61:30

- White man; white woman
- Mt Dromadary; a hill

63:00

End of Track A

TRACK B

Yarragee, NSW Jimmy Little cont...

00:00

Story of the little bandicoots and why they became bandy, connected with Mount Dromedary.

02:00

Jimmy Little tells of his father who was a blacktracker from Captain's Flat and was used to track bushrangers.

03:30

Tune on a leaf – "I'll take you home again Kathleen" – Primbee, NSW 10/09/1964. Mrs John Anderson

Dharawal vocabulary

- Snake, man, clever man, father, woman or mother, children
- Eye, nose, hair, foot; wind (n s e or w)
- Snapper, snake; weak in the head, stupid;
- Stone tomahawk x, night owl x, house;
- Policeman, rain, horse

10:00

- Strong drink; drunk
- Butterfly x, moth x, hut, cook
- Fire x, ashes x, sunset x, tomahawk
- Night owl (also means bad omen) x.

End of F.T.4

13:00

Eden, NSW 4/10/1964. Recording made by Dick Davidson speaking with his father, Archer Davidson a white man who had contact with the Aborigines in the whaling days and knew some of the language (Dhurga)

Dhurga vocabulary

- Woman, bird, water (sea on beach)
- Go quickly over the sea
- Sea, humpback whale, killer whale

F.T.5

- Island, point with bombora (words for north and south of a bay)
- Bird, woman, good, meat, bread, man;
- Dingo, rain, drink x

19:00

- Witchetty grub; x, night x, day x
- Crab, spider x, snake x, possum x, roo x
- Monkey bear? Sunrise, sunset x
- Long reef or rock running out to sea
- Little bay or harbour
- Kookaburra x, native cat x, bandicoot x
- Boomerang and woera (same; spear x

25:00

- Black man and white man, women x
- Camp, lake, thunderstorm x, snake, goanna x
- Food good fishing plenty

29:00

- Hut (for whalers); wife (of Blackman)
- Good, flying possum

30:00

Mention of Charlie Bobbo a half Maori from Tilba who might know some language – also old Albert about Wreck Bay who could be still alive.

- Mountain or big hill

31:00

Remarks by Dick Davidson and about old Mr Davidson's record for a whale

33:20

Dhurga vocabulary

- Bandicoot

34:00

Dick Davidson tells JM of a Mr Allen from Eden, now dead, who had some vocabulary in a book. His son may have this book.

35:00

Bateman's Bay, NSW 14/10/1964. Percy Davis gives limited Dhurga vocabulary and sings songs

36:00

Song about attracting the fish and spearing it accompanied by an old violin.

Dhurga vocabulary

- Blackfish, silver bream x

40:30

JM reminds Percy Davis of the song he had sung once before called "the lament of the sea because people were catching fish", but he had forgotten it.

42:20

Repeat of song at 36:00. Percy Davis says he was born at St George's Basin and his father came down from the Oxford River before he was born – some doubt about his tribe.

46:10

Dhurga vocabulary

- Young woman; old, woman x, sea, father – Percy Davis here gives the name of his father
- Children, eye, nose x, ear, cheeks x
- Chin x; kookaburra x, birds
- Brother-in-law, mother-in-law x (Mrs Chapman's words?)

Yarragee, just outside Moruya NSW 15/10/1964. Jimmy Little, Monaro tribe (Dhurga)

53:30

Dhurga vocabulary

- Woman, man, meat, sea or ocean
- Father and mother, children
- Possum; eye, nose, feet
- Kookaburra, bandicoot (ngali – same as meat)
- Waddy, mountain, hill (mountain is given as gulaga which is also the name for Mt Dromedary)

57:10

- Policeman (Shoalhaven and Monaro lang)
- Mopoke, log, brother, sister, son, daughter or anything to do with family
- Go through the rules
- Silly man; nice x good x
- Home or camp, friend; dead or spirit

59:30

- Horse, wild dog, corroboree, clever man
- Honey, thunderstorm, beer, drunk, rabbit
- Fire, smoke, ugly x, burn or burnt, hurt
- Firestick; money, turtle, cockle, oyster
- Head, snake, mirage

62:30

End of Tracks B and Field Tape No. 5, record III, Track 1