

Placenames Australia

Newsletter of the Australian National Placenames Survey

an initiative of the Australian Academy of Humanities, supported by the Geographical Names Board of NSW



A clash of toponymies:

Phillip Island, Norfolk Island Archipelago

Names matter. Placenames matter too when turning space into place through naming. Naming hierarchies often value one set of toponyms over another. Priorities, cultural values and different ethnic backgrounds may favour incompatible sets of names. The placenaming and community consultation which took place during the rabbit eradication program and the proclamation of Phillip Island as a part of the Norfolk Island National Park during the late 1980s starkly depicts how several toponymic ideas have been at odds with each other and how their coming together or ‘clash’ has resulted in different placename maps.

Approximately seven kilometres south of Norfolk, the five square kilometre Phillip Island is a significant element in the cultural and linguistic landscape of Norfolk.

Over the three major periods of settlement on Norfolk, Phillip Island developed a great deal of variation in its placenames as a result of the way different groups of people have treated and named the same places. Insider toponyms are commonly linked to the Norfolk Islanders and their language (Norf’k) and do not commonly appear on official maps. However, in the community these names exist on the top of the ‘toponymic heap’—*Coynes Cove* holds less weight than *Dar Tomato*; *Red Road Valley* was named by a non-Norfolk Islander and thus holds less toponymic weight than *First*

West End Valley. Phillip Island placenames designate clear boundaries in the history of the language on the Norfolk Archipelago: Norf’k names only exist as names bestowed after the Pitcairners arrived in 1856. These locally-known unofficial names and their authenticity clash with and are questioned in the presence of English names.



Phillip Island (Photo: Joshua Nash)

Phillip Island data was collected on several fieldtrips to Norfolk in 2008 and 2009. Most of the data was sourced from an archive documenting the community consultation (with some heated public comment) held at the Norfolk Island National Park headquarters on Mission Road, Norfolk Island. The files document a large part of that community consultation, which involved the Norfolk Island Government, the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service (ANPWS), and the Norfolk Island community. The data shows overwhelmingly

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From the Editor



Joshua Nash, as many of our readers will know by now, is a specialist in the placenames of island communities. On page 8 we give details of Josh's new book; and our main article in this issue is his report on Phillip Island. Beginning on page 3,

Arne Bölling (University of Heidelberg) reports on a sample of Sydney suburb names, and shows that although most of the names are taken directly from nearby features, when you dig into history a little, the picture is not so simple.

Our report on strange road sign combinations (September issue) sparked some interest and some

further contributions (see page 5). We're also happy to report that *Bland* Shire has made progress in its tourism links with *Dull* in Perthshire and *Boring* in Oregon: the Shire's community ambassador has now returned from a Scottish holiday greatly enthused about her welcome there! In the meantime, our correspondent Anne Croft has drawn our attention to *Damboring* in WA. This seems to offer the potential of an Extremely Uninteresting Tourist Trail; but before we take it any further we will need to establish whether anyone actually lives in Damboring. (At this stage, we only know it has a railway station, an intermittent lake and some rocks. We promise to investigate further.)

David Blair
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Murray Chapman Award 2013

This \$5000 prize is for previously-unpublished papers on Indigenous placenames in NSW, and honours the late Murray Chapman. The Geographical Names Board of NSW has announced joint winners for this year's Award; congratulations to:

David Nash ('*Bulga, Nyrang* and other Pidgin Placenames of NSW')

Jim Wafer ('*Ourimbah* and the Polysemy of *ourin*')

Placenames Australia Award 2013

We are pleased to announce that **Port Macquarie Historical Society** has won this year's PA Award. The \$1000 award is to support the Society's research proposal *The origin and meaning of names of significant estates established during the first decade of free settlement in the Port Macquarie and Hastings region (1830—1840)*. The Research Leader for the project is Dr **Tony Dawson**, who featured in our June 2006 issue as an ANPS Research Friend. Tony is also the author of the well-received biography *James Meehan—a most excellent surveyor*.

Congratulations to the Society and to its President, Debbie Sommers!

ANPS Workshop and PA Annual General Meeting

Our ANPS Workshop was held in Canberra on 4th September, in conjunction with this year's CGNA Annual Meeting. Excellent papers given by Peter Phillips, Harold Koch and David Headon focused on the history of Canberra's placenames; the program concluded with a theoretical paper by Jan Tent on different approaches to toponymic research.

The workshop was followed by our AGM, which was attended by an encouraging number of our Supporting Members. The main item of business was the election of office-bearers and members of the PA Management Committee—and that resulted in two new names being added to the group: Charles Koch, and Greg Windsor (Vice-President).

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Writing toponym histories

When we write placename histories we are dealing with complex processes, which are often played out over centuries and which reflect society and culture at the time the names were established or altered. Such is certainly the case with Australian toponyms: from the foundation of Port Jackson onwards, placenames have been used to express the namers' attachment to their British former home, to commemorate a loved person, or to imply descriptive or associative reference.

In my current PhD research, I have been examining the history of the suburb names in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra. In a central part of the thesis, I use the typology of the Australian National Placename Survey¹ to categorise the processes involved in classifying placenames; this typology is based on the motivation² of the namer and applies typology tags to interpretations of a single phase of a feature's naming (Tent and Blair 2011).

After collecting documentation data on as many Australian placenames as possible to build a nationwide toponym database, the first objective of ANPS is to establish the immediate reason for naming a place and to label it according to the typology. In many cases, the feature will have been named because of its relationship to an adjacent or historically preceding feature; the Survey's history-based approach incorporates documentation for those related features in its database. The final product resulting from this series of analyses is a 'narrative', or toponymic etymology, which in the ideal case enables us to trace back all etymological steps relevant to the Australian part of a toponym's history. Linking the name to its antecedents is thus the ultimate aim of ANPS³, and it represents a part of my thesis I want to look at more closely in this article.

Having tested Tent and Blair's typology for the two metropolitan areas of Melbourne and Sydney as well as for the capital city of Canberra⁴, I conclude that the typology is practical for the urban Australian context. We have to bear in mind that *each phase* of a name's etymology has one interpretation established, and one associated typology tag, i.e. a placename with a rather complex toponymic etymology can have a number of different typology tags, depending on which etymological step is considered for classification. In my analysis, the phase of a name's history generating its typology tag is the one that is pivotal to implanting the

name into the Australian toponymic system. In Table 1, I list twelve examples from my Sydney database to illustrate how different typology tags develop, depending on whether we look at the first or second step of a name's etymology. I will describe five examples in detail. In general, it is clear from the examples that different phases in a toponym's development require different typology tags, and an overall classification for the etymology would need to reflect that fact.

Let us look at the five names of *Abbotsbury*, *Annandale*, *Camperdown*, *Kirkham*, and *Lakemba*. According to the first-step motivation, *Abbotsbury* is a **feature shift** since the suburb derives its name from William Browne's 'Abbotsbury Estate', established in 1816 (Gapps 2010: 118). The earlier step of the name's etymology reveals that Browne named his grant after Canadian-born Major Edward Abbott (who arrived in NSW in 1790), from whom he had bought it in 1810 (Gapps 2010: 117). Major Abbott was present during the pioneering days of Abbotsbury, and is the reason for assigning the **eponymous** tag to that earlier stage of Abbotsbury's naming history.

Second, the first phase of *Annandale* is also a **feature shift**. It took its name from 'Annandale House', built by Major George Johnston, 'the colony's hero of the 1804 Castle Hill rebellion' (McClymont 2003: 26). Johnston named his house after his Scottish birthplace of Annan, Dumfriesshire. Said to be 'the first man ashore at Port Jackson'⁵ in 1788, he soon held positions of responsibility, serving as Governor Phillip's adjutant and Hunter's aide-de-camp, before he received his brevet rank as major. He also quarreled with both King and Bligh, and in 1808 led the revolt which became known as the 'Rum Rebellion', culminating in Johnston deposing Governor Bligh. His motivation for naming his Australian home is revealing, since it serves as a perpetual reminder of the Scottish background that pertains to this person of (military) importance. *Annandale* is a representative of the high number of suburb names transferred from the settlers' much-loved home places in Great Britain—which is accounted for perfectly well by including this second step of Annandale's etymological history, and by applying the **transfer** tag.

Third, the naming process of *Camperdown* demonstrates yet another two-step chain of motivations: classifying the suburb name as a **feature shift** represents its first

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and confusion. (Derek and Andrea Greenwood's submission (#6), NINP/029)

These points of view are countered by another submission (Allan Tavener (#11) NINP/029):

I think it would be the most appropriate time to reinstate the spelling of the Island's name to 'PHILLIP' rather than 'PHILIP' which it has been spelt in recent times. The Island was named by Gidley King '...in honour of His Excellency Governor Phillip.' (quote from King's Journal. 28 Feb. 1788.

These views are rebutted by a local archaeologist and former museum curator with the clearest and most cogent argument for not changing the spelling of Phillip's name:

I am not alone in the objection of changing the spelling of Philip Island to include another 'I'. The old spelling is a legal spelling and a spelling in common usage throughout the Third Settlement [after the arrival of the Pitcairners]. I can not [sic] see the necessity for changing the name back to the historical spelling after more than 130 years of accepted usage. Spelling reform or a change of name is usually required where there is risk of confusion or some practical reason for doing so. In fact the change will blur the distinction that exists between the more

famous Phillip Island [Victoria]. It is felt by some that the change of spelling emanates from an ego desire to make a mark on history (no offence). To me it represents another attempt to change yet another aspect of the Third Settlement [after the arrival of the Pitcairners] for no purpose. (Robert Varman's submission (#12) NINP/029)

I favour the Australian Government's spelling 'Phillip Island' (double l) and I do not believe there is much at issue, even after having been involved in a longitudinal study of Norfolk toponymy for more than seven years as a non-resident of Norfolk. Below is a more general point of view on the process of placename changes; Varman continues:

There seems to be some discrepancies between some of the names given on page 8 - figure 2.1 [Map 2 in this paper] and the local names and even amongst the local names. I would suggest that considerable thought be given to this small matter. If interest is taken to changing some of the names to locally known ones then this would satisfy a lot of people; if no interest is shown then the draft [sic] plan could well alienate the 'locals' who would consider the plan as a 'fait-accompli' and show no further interest. The most important reason for adopting established

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Signs of confusion and encouragement



Our correspondent Geoffrey de Rossi Reynolds recently came upon this combination of road signs (*left*) near Numinbah on the QLD/NSW border. Geoff feels that he was lucky to find a way home!

And our Director draws our attention to the intriguing combination of signs (*right*). He suggests the local council at La Perouse should be given credit for its encouragement of residents' activities.



Meanwhile, Margaret Robb from the Portland Historical Society tells us that our photo in the previous issue is actually an old photo of the entry to South Portland Cemetery, rather than Cape Bridgewater. Although the sign is no longer there, Margaret says it was useful, since it avoided congestion at the main gate and required hearses and mourners to leave via a side gate that had a safer exit onto the road. The photographer, Chris Woods, agrees that Margaret's identification is correct—and indeed the photo was an old one, taken on 14 November 1999.

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names is that if there should be an emergency of any kind on the island then everybody would be familiar with the general area.

Even just looking at the name of the island we can see how names can clash—different spellings tell different stories; people want their own names deposited in the landscape; placenames matter. Three names derived from the archive tell how Norf’k names on Phillip, one which also uses Norf’k article grammar (‘dar’ for ‘the’), exist at the top of the Norfolk toponymic hierarchy (Table 1):

NAME	HISTORY
1. Dar Tomato	The bay, the beach and steep slopes on the western side of Phillip. Wild tomatoes grow half way up on the steep slope/cliff. Chopie Evans climbed up the cliff to the tomatoes and left his hat there to prove he’d made the climb. Was referred to as Coyne’s Cove during the rabbit eradication program after Peter Coyne who worked for ANPWS on the program.
2. Valley on Top Niggers Hoof	Was referred to as Tobacco (Baeccer) Valley during the rabbit eradication program.
3. Second West End Valley	Was referred to as Whitewood Valley (after the few relict whitewood trees) during the rabbit eradication program.

Table 1 – Selected local placenames on Phillip Island (Norfolk Island National Park file: NINP/029, 1989; quoted in ANPWS 1990: 124-128)

One of the most knowledgeable persons I interviewed on Norfolk, someone whose opinion I hold in high regard and who did a lot of fishing on and around Phillip, used the name ‘Baeccer Valley’ instead of ‘Valley on Top Niggers Hoof’ (see item 2 above), which most islanders would consider to be the authentic or ‘original’ name. Even the label ‘original’ is problematic when describing indigeneity on Norfolk because the Pitcairners were not the first people to inhabit the island; nor do I subscribe to the idea that having Pitcairn blood heritage (‘comefrom’) involves or implies an innate link or ability to understand the workings of Norfolk Island better than any other

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individual. As regards toponymy, I believe knowledge comes through experience and contact with place, language, names and people, not through a preconceived idea that ethnicity predetermines an individual’s aptitude to accessing and using toponymic knowledge.

Table 2 lists other more esoteric placenames on Phillip Island:

NAME	HISTORY
1. South Peninsula	The name given in the convict days to what is now known as Garnet Point on the extreme southern tip of Phillip (<i>garnet</i> is the Norf’k name for gannet birds).
2. South Rock	The most southerly point on the Norfolk Archipelago.
3. Foul Water	A name dating from convict times (pre-1856) just off Garnet Point.
4. Collins Bay	The name was given in the convict days to what is now known as Dar Moo-oo (<i>moo-oo</i> is Norf’k for the native flax used in plaiting and weaving).
5. The Brothers/ Twin Brothers	Convict name of two rocks which some claim has been erroneously named Sail Rock.

Table 2 – Esoteric placenames for Phillip Island obtained through interviews (source: the author, 2013)

Phillip Island toponyms demonstrate a clash between the differing ideas of what is highlighted in language and place relationships on Norfolk Island. I am reluctant to accept the power of cultural veto given to Norf’k names or to accept that they represent the only authentic perspective of placenaming on the Norfolk Archipelago. But when questions of authority arise, older convict names are not as valued nor considered as accurate as younger Norf’k names by the Norfolk community. This has led me to place more importance in my research on the role of social allegiance as applied to names and language, rather than simply focussing on truths and facts about the history of names. When there is a choice, Norf’k placenames are somehow considered more important and significant in Norfolk society than non-Norf’k names.

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Because English and Norfolk toponyms are included as nationally gazetted names (e.g. Australian Surveying & Land Information Group 1992), their inadvertent recognition by the Australian Government is significant. Perhaps this clash of toponymies on Phillip Island is also representative of a much larger clash between language, officialness of names, and the need for legislation and more comprehensive documentation of Australia's other lesser-known minority languages.

Endnotes

¹ This map is called 'Coyne's Map' because it is attributed to the work carried out by Peter Coyne, the head officer the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service on Norfolk Island at that time. Coyne was responsible for much of the documentation work on Phillip Island, which led to Phillip Island being proclaimed as part of the Norfolk Island National Park in 1996.

² This submission is referring to Denham's map from 1856 on which the former spelling of 'Phillip Island' became 'Philip Island'.

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Joshua Nash

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etymological step, tracing it back to Governor William Bligh's estate. Completing the 'placename story' of this inner-city suburb, William Bligh had previously named his estate after the *Zeeslag bij Kamperduin* ('Sea Battle of Camperdown') off the Dutch coast near the village of Camperduin in 1797—he had commanded *HMS Director* in this decisive naval action between British and Dutch forces during the French Revolutionary Wars. Tasked with ending the illegal rum trade in the colony, Bligh was made Governor of NSW in 1805, an appointment which indicated the renown and confidence he retained from his naval exploits. The motivation for naming his estate is reflected in the toponym's **incident** tag: *Camperdown* records 'an event, incident, or action associated with the feature' (Tent and Blair 2011: 85)⁶. Looking at the matter from another perspective stresses the importance of linking the suburb name to its antecedent toponymic history: we have reason to assume that if Bligh had not participated in the *Zeeslag bij Kamperduin*, he most likely would have chosen a different name for his land grant.

Fourth, the Sydney suburb *Kirkham* derives its name from Surveyor-General John Oxley's 404 ha property 'Kirkham', indicating a **feature shift** tag. Searching further reveals an interpretation of an earlier phase of

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Kirkham's naming: Oxley, engaged in coastal survey work from the early 1800 onwards, led the Lachlan and Macquarie River expeditions, and in 1823 discovered the Tweed and Brisbane Rivers, along with the site of the present city of Brisbane. Eight years before, he had named the land granted to him by Governor Macquarie in 1815 'after his home in Yorkshire' (Anderson 1989: 47): therefore a **transfer** tag is applied to this interpretation of the earlier phase. Again, the result is an in-depth analysis of a toponym's history, combining its current with its first-recorded Australian usage.

Finally, *Lakemba* brings back memories of 'Lakemba Cottage', home of entomologist Benjamin Taylor and named after the mission station on the island of Lakeba in Fiji 'which was conducted by his father-in-law' (Pollon 1988: 145). According to the interpretations of the two phases of Lakemba's history, the typology tags are parallel to those applied to Kirkham: the first-step interpretation has its **feature shift** tag, whereas the interpretation of the earlier (second) phase has its **transfer** tag.

Table 1 contrasts the typology tags of commonly-accepted interpretations of the first phase with those of the second phase in the naming process of a suburb.

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Reports from the Trenches...

Brunswick Community History Group in Victoria is one of the most productive history societies around. Its publication list over recent years includes nearly twenty items, and the book *The story behind the sign—street names of Brunswick* has now been added to the list. This new publication, by the group's President, Francesca Folk-Scolaro, was launched in August.

Some time ago a collection of stories from the group's regular newsletter, *Fusion*, was published in CD and book form to mark its 25th anniversary. One of those stories, by Gillian Sansom, connects the naming of Brunswick to the sad story of George IV's wife:

George IV succeeded to the English throne in January 1820, at the age of 58. However, his private life had been causing consternation in England since he was 22, when he fell in love with Maria Fitzherbert, a Roman Catholic widow six years his senior. A secret marriage between the two was decreed not valid under English law and in 1795, an unwilling George was married to his cousin Caroline Amelia Elizabeth of Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel, Germany.

The marriage was a disaster from the beginning. One child, Princess Charlotte Augusta, was born exactly nine months after the wedding, but when she was three months old George deserted his wife.

Caroline was denied access to her child and any rights as wife of the future King. In 1813, she left England and travelled in Italy and other European countries for the following seven years. When George the Third died... Caroline entered London in 1820 to popular support... but Caroline was denied a palace and forcibly excluded from her husband's coronation at Westminster Abbey.

Caroline of Brunswick died broken-hearted in 1821, and was buried in Brunswick, Germany...

To make the connection between the unhappy Caroline and the new land on the other side of the world, we

...BRUNSWICK, VIC

must go forward eleven years when a man called Thomas Wilkinson sailed for Australia... During land sales in Brunswick in 1841, Wilkinson and Edward Stone Parker bought sections of land from one of the first land speculators, D.S. Campbell... Thomas Wilkinson named his estate 'Brunswick', generally believed to be for the royal house of the late Queen.

The article notes the commemorative plaque which can be seen on the front of 356 Sydney Road (*below*).



Photo: Wikimedia Commons

In the interests of historical transparency, we should point out that the article ends by noting that this is only one explanation of the naming. In fact, we are aware of at least one other etymology: that the development was named after Captain George Brunswick Smyth, who was in charge of mounted (military) police in Port Phillip in 1839. We romantics at ANPS, of course, would much prefer to believe that Brunswick commemorates the 19th century's forerunner of Diana, Princess of Wales—but history is seldom simple, it seems.

The Brunswick Community History Group can be contacted, and its publications ordered, through the website <http://home.vicnet.au/~bwkhistg/>

Insular toponymies

As well as writing this issue's main article on Phillip Island, Joshua Nash has written on Nepean Island and Norfolk Island in recent issues. We are pleased to be able to let you know that Joshua's book *Insular toponymies: Place-naming on Norfolk Island, South Pacific and Dudley*

Peninsula, Kangaroo Island has now been published by John Benjamins. Details and ordering information are available on the publisher's website:

benjamins.com/#catgalog/books/clu.9/main



Suburb name	First-step motivation	Second-step motivation
Abbotsbury	Feature shift	Eponymous
Abbotsford	Feature shift	Transfer
Allawah	Feature shift	Indigenous
Annandale	Feature shift	Transfer
Austral	Feature shift	Descriptive
Camperdown	Feature shift	Incident
Caringbah	Associative	Indigenous
Cranebrook	Feature shift	Associative
Kareela	Descriptive	Indigenous
Kirkham	Feature shift	Transfer
Lakemba	Feature shift	Transfer
Narwee	Feature shift	Indigenous

Table 1: Classifying Sydney suburb names

In my corpus of almost 700 placenames in the Sydney area, the examples shown above present only a small part of the actual number of names with such a ‘story’ attached to their history of naming. The majority of **feature shifts** derive their names from houses, estates, other dwellings, or land grants⁷.

I conclude that it is essential to look at all information when studying the history of a toponym: besides providing a comprehensive understanding of Australian history in general, such in-depth analyses generate multiple and different typology tags and thus result in profound insights into the etymology of a placename.

Arne Bölling

Endnotes

¹ See Tent and Blair (2009, 2011), and Tent and Slatyer (2008: 4). For some one hundred years scholars have tried to come up with adequate typologies of placenames worldwide; well-elaborated papers are scarce, however. Regarding the approaches considered in my thesis, Peder Gammeltoft’s name-semantic system especially designed for British and Scandinavian toponyms stands out in that, compared to former approaches, its classification is strongly tied to the namer’s motivation. Gasque (2005) and Rennick (2005) take similarly efficient approaches. Other typologies, such as Mencken (1921), Rudnyćkyj (1957) and Stewart (1975), show inconsistencies, use pseudo-formula, and imply overlaps of categories. The only previous typology designed for the Australian context was by Rosemarie Gläser (1998), who ignored the non-English phase of Australian exploration and settlement, and implemented a rather Anglo-centric classification.

² Tent and Blair (2011: 81) are not satisfied with the term ‘motivation’, pointing out that it is ‘simplistic’, and would prefer ‘a more suitable equivalent or superordinate’.

³ ANPS work ‘so far has concentrated on collecting documentation data and on establishing a theoretical base in such matters as the

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“motivation” typology,’ Blair states (pers. comm., 6 July, 2013). Few toponymic etymologies of Australian placenames have so far been written.

⁴ In all three of the surveys, I include local government area names as well as suburb names of the respective cities to provide a basis for a comparison. The inclusion of lower-level address features, such as *localities*, would not have changed the results significantly. In addition, the names of *unbounded localities* (as opposed to *suburbs*, which show clearly defined geographic limits) were excluded as they are less well documented.

⁵ <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/johnston-george-2277, 12/4/2013>.

⁶ In this case, the definition of an **incident** name requires slight modification: *Camperdown* records an action associated with a person relevant to the history of the feature, rather than the battle being related directly to the feature, i.e. the estate of Camperdown.

⁷ There are a few names which retain the same typology tag, no matter which etymological step is looked at: *Balmoral*, named ‘[a]fter the Royal family’s Scottish castle which was bought by the Prince Consort for Queen Victoria in 1848’ (Anderson 1989: 12), has **transfer** tags according to both the first-step and second-step analyses.

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A musical diversion

Geographical songs

There are countless songs with placenames in their titles and lyrics, but relatively few whose subjects are placenames themselves. Perhaps the best known is *I've been everywhere*. It was written by Geoff Mack in 1959 and made popular by Lucky Starr in 1962. It was adapted in later years for the American, British/Irish, and New Zealand markets, replacing the Australian toponyms with local ones. The song has been adapted to numerous other countries, and the lyrics changed to list various brands of beer. A version even featured on *The Simpsons*, and ABC Television's *Aunty Jack Show* in the 1970s had a version which was easier to learn and remember; it went: 'I've been to Wollongong, Wollongong, Wollongong, Wollongong...'

Placenames have also been the subject matter for more serious music. Ernst Toch's (1887-1964) delightful *Fugue aus der Geographie* (Geographical Fugue) from 1930 is an unusual piece in that it is, in Toch's own words, 'gesprochene musik' (spoken music) vocalised in staccato fashion. His composition caused a sensation at the time, although Toch considered it to be trifling piece.

Geographical Fugue comprises four voices, each uttering various toponyms in strict contrapuntal fashion. Toch's original libretto reads:

Ratibor!

Und der Fluss Mississippi

und die Stadt Honolulu

und der See Titicaca,

Der Popocatepetl liegt nicht in Kanada,

sondern in Mexiko, Mexiko, Mexiko!

Kanada, Malaga, Rimini, Brindisi,

Kanada, Malaga, Rimini, Brindisi.

Ja! Athen, Athen, Athen, Athen,

Nagasaki, Yokohama!

Nagasaki, Yokohama!

In 1935 John Cage saw to it that the work was translated for English-speaking audiences. *Ratibor* was changed

to *Trinidad* (*Ratibor* being the German for *Trinidad*) and *Athen* (with the stress on the second syllable) was replaced by *Tibet*.

Trinidad!

And the big Mississippi

and the town Honolulu

and the lake Titicaca,

the Popocatepetl is not in Canada,

rather in Mexico, Mexico, Mexico!

Canada, Málaga, Rimini, Brindisi,

Canada, Málaga, Rimini, Brindisi,

Yes! Tibet, Tibet, Tibet, Tibet,

Nagasaki! Yokohama!

Nagasaki! Yokohama!



As far as toponymic songs go, I believe Toch's is the very finest (if you can call Toch's work a 'song'). It is truly a musical masterpiece. There are numerous versions to be viewed on YouTube; this, by the Century Singers, is a classical example of the English translation:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uZfSolxrLWo>

I must admit I prefer the original German version because it scans much better than the English. I hope you enjoy this magical toponymic piece of 'gesprochene musik' as much as I do.

Jan Tent

Songs and Places

If we include not only songs that are lists of toponyms but also those which use placenames as a theme, a wider world opens up. For example, a song with placenames as its focus is *If we only had old Ireland over here*, recorded by the American singer, Hank Locklin, in 1964. The 'here', however, is Australia. The emigrant's hope is for Blarney to be in Sydney, Dublin in Melbourne, the Shannon to join the Brisbane River, and Killarney's lakes to flow into Botany Bay. This toponymic heaven

...a musical diversion

would mean the end of emigration: 'Erin's sons would never roam/All the boys would stay at home'. It's likely, though, that the Irish girls would still want to see the wider world. There are a number of versions on YouTube, including one by Slim Dusty.

The toponymic song website *Australia by Song* (australiabysong.com.au) has been developed by Dan Schaumann as a resource for 'songs about Australian towns and locations'. It presents an interactive map of Australia that takes you, in a click, to the various States and Territories and to the placename lists for each. Most of the entries have links to iTunes and YouTube versions

of the songs. In Queensland, Lee Kernaghan sings plaintively about under a 'Goondiwindi Moon', while in Western Australia, Cold Chisel sing about 'Red Sand' in Coolgardie. The 1970s band, Redgum, hails from Adelaide, so it's not surprising that a number of the South Australian songs on the *Australia by Song* website feature that band and Adelaide city and surrounds. Too often we focus on placenames for their historical significance and forget the wider purpose they serve. Placenames in song can call up the past and point to a more hope-filled future. They often make us want to sing.

Dymphna Lonergan

Placenames Puzzle Number 48

Monetary Units II:

The clues reveal names of monetary units (former or current, colloquial or official) that hide out in Australian toponyms. The 'what' clues identify the monetary units; the 'where' clues indicate where they can be found, e.g. What: This Melanesian monetary unit sounds more enthusiastic than most; Where: In a location just north of Peterborough (SA) ... Pekina. Note: many currencies like to hide themselves within toponyms!

- What:* This monetary unit sounds a little like a type of cigar or the old Danish woman who smokes it.
Where: In a lake, just behind Copacabana Beach on the NSW Central Coast.
- What:* In the Lao People's Democratic Republic they like to have a siesta.
Where: In the small township on the Glenelg Highway west of Ballarat.
- What:* Neither North nor South Korea did this in their 1950s war, yet their monetary units say they did.
Where: In the town on the Victorian coast west of Phillip Island.
- What:* The monetary unit of Kazakhstan.
Where: In a railway station along the Loxton Road in southeast South Australia just east of Wanbi, and about 160 km east of Adelaide.
- What:* This monetary unit sounds almost authentic in Iran.
Where: In the harbour just west of the township Zeehan (Tas).
- What:* The monetary unit of Cambodia also sounds roughly authentic.
Where: In the location between Omeo and Corryong (Vic).
- What:* This monetary unit is definitely authentic in Brazil.
Where: In a goldfield 7 km north of Bermagui on the NSW South Coast.
- What:* The monetary unit of Croatia.
Where: In a bay with a well-known marina, within the Kuring-gai Chase National Park, north of Sydney.
- What:* The Nigerian monetary unit.
Where: In a National Park located south of Charters Towers (Qld) and near the townships Moranbah, Glenden and Clermont.
- What:* The Irish used to love to have a flutter with this old monetary unit, especially on the water.
Where: In a location in the Lower Eyre Peninsula near Lake Greenly (SA).

Jan Tent

1. Cockatoo Lake
2. Skipton
3. Wonthaggi
4. Piltange
5. Trial Harbour
6. Nariel
7. Montreal
8. Akuna Bay
9. Nairana NP
10. Kapura

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