

March, 2002



Placenames Australia



NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL PLACENAMES SURVEY

Asia Pacific Institute for Toponymy goes live

As announced in the last newsletter, the Australian National Placenames Survey now has a new and more secure home within the Asia Pacific Institute for Toponymy. The APIT came into full existence on January 1, 2002, and is funded for five years by a Millennium Innovations Grant from Macquarie University. We can now explain in more detail how the Survey and the Institute will work hand-in-hand to the benefit of both cultural and technical aspects of toponymic research in Australia and beyond.

The APIT will carry out its diverse functions by means of three functional sections.

The *Historical and Cultural Toponymy* section will be the home of the core activities of the ANPS, and will function as the central resource for studies in Australian toponymy. Its principal functions will be to develop and maintain a database of historical and linguistic information on Australia's placenames, and to build links within the national community of placenames researchers. The work of this section will be coordinated by ANPS Director David Blair. During the year ahead we shall build on the pioneering experience of WA to establish interdisciplinary committees in other states and territories to coordinate the individual research projects being done by local researchers.

The *Education and Training* section will develop a variety of teaching programs in connection with placenames research and serve as a respected provider of training in toponymy. Its work, managed by Susan Poetsch, will embrace both the standardisation issues important to those working for government agencies and the cultural aspects relevant to

those investigating placenames from historical, linguistic, and sociological viewpoints. An introductory course directed at individual family and local history researchers will be delivered as part of Macquarie University's continuing education program (see the advertisement on page 6), and related materials will be made available on the ANPS website. Members of the ANPS team will also present a course on placenames research at the Australian Linguistics Institute, a biennial event to be held most fortuitously at Macquarie University between 8 and 19 July.

The *Technical Toponymy* section will be responsible for building an international presence to establish Australia and the region as significant contributors to methodological innovation and models of international best practice in issues of standardisation and technical toponymic research. This section will be directly overseen by Flavia Hodges. In these activities we shall be working very closely with the state and territory nomenclature bodies (as well as Commonwealth entities and representation from New Zealand) that make up the Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia, and also with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

Although the focus of this newsletter will be squarely on the Australian National Placenames Survey, we shall also keep you in the picture about other related activities of the Institute.



□ Flavia Hodges
APIT Director

French placenames on the Victorian Coast

A major French scientific exhibition under the command of Nicolas Baudin left Le Havre in France on October 19th, 1800, with instructions to explore Van Diemen's Land and the southern coast of New Holland. The expedition comprised the ships *Géographe* and *Naturaliste*. Baudin reached Australia at Cape Leeuwin on May 27th, 1801, and then sailed north along the coast of Western Australia up to Timor. If he had followed instructions and sailed east, he could have charted the southern coast beyond the Dutch discoveries, before Matthew Flinders arrived in this area. This would probably have resulted in a greater number of French names in the southern states, than those that currently exist.

When Baudin eventually explored Van Diemen's Land and then sailed westwards through Bass Strait, he met Flinders at Encounter Bay on April 8th, 1802. Consequently, the French claim to prior European discovery is limited to a small part of present-day South Australia between Encounter Bay and Mount Gambier. The northern coast of Bass Strait in present-day Victoria had previously been sighted by Lieutenant James Grant in December 1800, while sailing eastwards to Sydney



Cape Duquesne is presumably named after the French naval officer of the same name.

in the *Lady Nelson*, thereby ensuring that the major Victorian coastal features have English names.

Even though the French area of prior European discovery was limited, the voyage brought home a wealth of scientific and geographical knowledge. Kangaroos and emus roamed the grounds of Empress Josephine's home at Malmaison, while grevilleas and she-oaks grew in the chateau gardens. The French also prepared detailed charts of the coastline they had explored and named many coastal features. Places named by members of the Baudin expedition and other French explorers, are now a distinguishing aspect of the coastlines of Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania.

Perhaps less well-known are the names that the Baudin expedition applied to the Victorian coast. These names were not adopted by Flinders, who was probably repaying the "compliment" that the French had paid in ignoring his names in South Australia. However, since that time, some of the French names have been restored along the Victorian coast, although in one case at least the restoration is probably on a different feature (Cape Marengo). These surviving names derive from the journal published by naturalist

François Peron and the atlases prepared by cartographer Louis Freycinet. Baudin died before he could return to France; none of the names mentioned in his journal relating to the Victorian coast have survived.

In comparing the published French journals/atlasses with modern charts, I have been able to identify eight names applied by the French on the Victorian coast that are in current use, viz.

1. Venus Bay (Baie de la Vénus)

Named after the ship *Venus*, in which George Bass sailed to the Pacific islands to obtain supplies for the fledgling settlement of Sydney. On his return, Bass sold some of the supplies to the French, who were in Port Jackson at the time.

2. French Island (Î. des Français)

This name honours the French explorers and their country of origin.

3. Cape Marengo (Cap Marengo)

Presumably, this commemorates Napoleon's great victory in Italy over the Austrians at the battle of Marengo in 1801, and/or one of Napoleon's famous horses, who was named Marengo after the battle.

In this issue

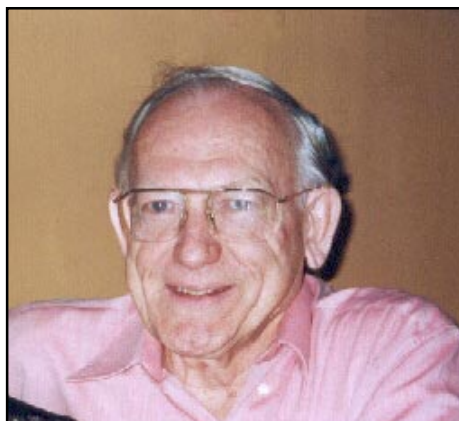
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An ANPS Research Friend - Ron Potter

For the past few years the ANPS has been securing funding, establishing its operations and making contact with state and territory, national and international nomenclature authorities. We have now begun to move into the next phase of the Survey, that is to have more public input into placenames research.

Recently, David Blair and Flavia Hodges have appealed for voluntary public assistance through several ABC local radio as well as a few commercial radio station interviews in various states/territories. We have also made



"Curiosity, pure and simple" - Ron Potter

contact with volunteers through Dale Lehner's contacts in her work on the Darling Downs (Qld) and through Bill

Noble's presentations to Historical Society meetings.

In each issue of *Placenames Australia*, we'll try and keep you up-to-date with the work of a current Research Friend. This issue it's Ron Potter.

The ANPS aims to have the work of Research Friends entered onto our database via our website on the internet. We had hoped that the database would be ready in 2001, however lack of funds has meant that 2002 is a more realistic timeframe. Currently staff and students at the Computer Science Department at Curtin University in Perth (led by Robert Iverach) are enthusiastically beginning to grapple with the complexities of the database and the challenges involved in making it web accessible, with varying levels of user access.

In the meantime, ANPS Research Friends are going ahead with collecting information about placenames in their respective local areas and storing it for us until the database is ready for input.

How did I become interested in placenames? Curiosity, pure and simple. I found myself wondering why particular places gained the names they now carry. So I started looking in libraries around South East Queensland and elsewhere. Then I found that the research into placenames gave interesting insights into our history and culture. As my research efforts grew I thought of publishing the results so when I developed my own website I made that the venue for my efforts. It may be found at www.ucaqld.com.au/

~piula and click on 'Placenames of South East Queensland'.

I first came across the ANPS on the internet, but my first attempt to make contact failed. Then one night while in the car I heard an interview that prompted me to try again. Since then I have been in contact through Dale Lehner. I have been expanding the area of my interest to include the Darling Downs and to date that is the area in which I have contributed material to the ANPS.

□ Ron Potter

If you are interested in becoming a Research Friend of the ANPS, we can send you an information package. Just fill in the form on the back page of this issue and send it to Susan.

4. Cape Volney (Cap Volney)

Presumably, this cape is named after the French historian, travel-writer and philosopher, Constantin Volney (1757 – 1820).

5. Cape Reamur (C. Réaumur)

Presumably, this cape is named after the French scientist, Rene Réaumur (1683 – 1757), who invented the now obsolete Reaumur thermometer and temperature scale. A "u" has been dropped in the current spelling of the cape's name.

6. Cape Duquesne (Cap Duquesne)

Presumably, this cape is named after the French naval officer, Abraham Duquesne (1610 – 1688), who helped France overcome the Dutch naval supremacy of his era.

7. Descartes Bay (Baie Descartes)

Presumably, this bay is named after the French philosopher and mathematician, René Descartes (1596 – 1650).

8. Cape Montesquieu (Cap Montesquieu)

This cape commemorates the name of

French philosopher and jurist, Charles Montesquieu (1689 – 1755).

With the bicentenary of the French passage through Bass Strait set to take place in March/April 2002, it is an appropriate time for Victorians to acknowledge their French heritage as contained in the above names. All eight names are registered as official names in the Victorian Register of Geographic Names. Australians could learn something from the French example of naming places after writers, scientists and philosophers.

□ Chris Richards

I Quote...

In this issue we present the full text of J.D. Lang's 'Colonial Nomenclature', of which lines from stanzas 1-3 are often quoted by those who regret the wholesale replacement of the Indigenous network of placenames by introduced names commemorating colonial worthies. In its full context, however, it is apparent that Lang

would prefer to populate the Australian landscape with placenames honouring traditional British libertarian role models, such as John Hampden who resisted payment of Charles I's ship money tax; poet Andrew Maxwell who supported the Parliamentary cause in the English civil war; and 13th century Scottish independence leaders William Wallace and Robert the Bruce. The classical

Greek placenames *Marathon* and *Thermopylae* are also suggested because of the stout defence of classical civilisation against the barbarian Persian Empire that took place there in 490 and 480 BCE. In the remaining stanzas Lang lauds Britain's linked qualities of freedom and virtue (and attacks the degeneracy of the Romans) at the very period of significant imperial expansion in Africa and India.

Colonial Nomenclature

*'Twas said of Greece two thousand years ago,
That every stone i' the land had got a name.
Of New South Wales too, men will soon say so too;
But every stone there seems to get the same.
'Macquarie' for a name is all the go:
The old Scotch Governor was fond of fame,
Macquarie Street, Place, Port, Fort, Town, Lake, River:
'Lachlan Macquarie, Esquire, Governor,' for ever!*

*I like the native names, as Parramatta,
And Illawarra, and Woolloomooloo;
Nandowra, Woogarora, Bulkomatta,
Tomah, Toongabbie, Mittagong, Meroo;
Buckobble, Cumleroy and Coolingatta,
The Warragumby, Bargo, Burradoo;
Cookbundoon, Carrabaiga, Wingecarribbee,
The Wollondilly, Yurumbon, Bungarribbee.*

*I hate your Goulburn Downs and Goulburn Plains,
And Goulburn River and the Goulburn Range,
And Mount Goulburn and Goulburn Vale! One's brains
Are turned with Goulburn! Vile scorbutic mangle
For immortality! Had I the reins
Of Government a fortnight, I would change
These Downing Street appellatives, and give
The country names that should deserve to live.*

*I'd have Mount Hampden and Mount Marvel, and
Mount Wallace and Mount Bruce at the old Bay.
I'd have them all the highest in the land,
That men might see them twenty leagues away,
I'd have the Plains of Marathon beyond
Some mountain passyclept Thermopylae,
Such are th' immortal names that should be written
On all thy new discoveries, Great Britain!*

*Yes! let some badge of liberty appear
On every mountain and on every plain
Where Britain's power is known, or far or near,
That freedom there may have an endless reign!
Then though she die, in some revolving year,
A race may rise to make her live again!
The future slave may lisp the patriot's name
And his breast kindle with a kindred flame!*

*I love thee, Liberty, thou blue-eyed maid!
Thy beauty fades not in the hottest clime!
In purple or plebeian garb arrayed
I live thee still! The great in olden time,
Roman and Greek, worshipped thy very shade
And sung thy beauty in their song sublime.
'Tis Paradise to live beneath thy smile,
Thou patron Goddess of my native isle.*

*But he that loves fair Liberty must be
Virtue's sworn friend. The vicious is a slave
And serves a tyrant, nor can e'er be free.
Of old her wooers were like Brutus, brave;
Like Marvell, incorrupt; Milton, like thee!
A recreant race woos now and digs her grave;
Byron their leader, whose high-lineaged muse
Walks a vile pimp and caters for the stews!*

*Choice work for British Peers! Baser alliance
Than Austria's with her band of despot kings!
For he who setteth virtue at defiance
And holds her dread commands as paltriest things,
Whate'er his rank, learning, or wit, or science,
Or high pretence of love for freedom, brings
A tyrant worse than Slavery in his train
And binds men with a more ignoble chain.*

*On Freedom's altar ere I place strange fire
Be my arm withered from its shoulder-blade!
Yea! were I lord of Great Apollo's lyre,
I'd sooner rend its chords than e'er degrade
Its sweet seraphic music to inspire
One vicious thought! When built on vice, fair maid,
Thy temple's base is quicksand; on the rock
Of virtue reared, it braves the whirlwind's shock.*

(SYDNEY, 1824)

John Dunmore Lang (1873) Poems: Sacred and Secular; written chiefly at sea, within the last half-century, by John Dunmore Lang, D.D., A.M., Minister of the Scots Church Sydney; recently and for many years, one of the representatives of the city of Sydney, in the parliament of N.S. Wales; Hon. Member of the African Institute of France; of the American Oriental Society; and of the Literary Institute of Olinda, in the Brazils. Sydney: William Maddock. pp (i), 153-156

Placenames in the news - Dalby, Queensland

An article in the Friday evening edition of the Dalby Herald on November 27, 1931 asked, 'Where did Dalby get its name?' and describes some of the many Dalbys that it could be named after. You can also check the progress of the Australia v South Africa test match and the price of prime wether mutton at the Cannon Hill stock sales on 27/11/1931!

THE DALBY HERALD, FRIDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 27, 1931

THE FIRST TEST

BEAUTIFUL WEATHER.

Australia Batting.

(SPECIAL TO "HERALD.")

BRISBANE, Friday.

The weather is beautiful for the first test match, Australia v South Africa, commencing to-day, and the cricket should be a batsman's paradise.

The teams are:—

AUSTRALIA.—Woodfull (captain), Ponsford, Bradman, Kippax, McCabe, Trickett, Oldfield, Oxenham, Grimmett, Wall, Ironmonger, Rigg (12th).
SOUTH AFRICA.—Cameron (capt), Verel, Taylor, Mitchell, Christy, Curwen, Bell, Quinn, McMillan, Dalton, Vincent Viljeon (12th).

BRISBANE, Friday, later.

Woodfull won the toss and had no opposition in batting. Ponsford was the captain's opening partner. Runs came fairly briskly from the commencement, but after the bowlers got the spot the scoring was painfully slow. With the score at 32, Ponsford took one from Bell, and Mitchell led the catch. Bradman was next, and he appeared a little uneasy, and after a couple of uppish strokes, settled down and at the luncheon adjournment he and Woodfull were still together. Scores:—

AUSTRALIA—1st innings.

Ponsford, c Mitchell, b Bell	19
Woodfull, not out	23
Bradman, not out	30
Sundries	2

Total, 1 wicket for 74

Bowling.—Morkell 0 for 22, Bell 1 for 21, Quinn 0 for 23, Vincent 0 for

(Luncheon Adjournment.)

DISTRICT NEWS

(From our own correspondents.)

BELL

CHILDREN'S BALL.

A children's plain and fancy dress ball, in aid of the Bell State School, was held in the Bell School of Arts on Saturday night. The grand march took place at 9 a.m., after which the young people continued their volleys to the strains of Ryan's dance and. A very large crowd applauded

WHERE DID DALBY GET ITS NAME ?

A question that has often been asked in this district, possibly over the whole of the last half-century, is, "Where did Dalby get its name?" There are several Dalbys in the old countries. Within 15 miles of Leicester, is Dalby Magna, Dalby Parva, and Old Dalby, or Dalby in the Wold. In the Isle of Man is yet another Dalby, of which a native (Mr. Jas. Crellin) sends the following description:—

Dalby is a pretty little village pleasantly situated near the west coast of the Isle of Man, about five miles to the south of the ancient city of Peel. The name Dalby is derived from two Norse words Dal and by (meaning Dale town) and was evidently given to this place by the Norse conquerors of the island about one thousand years ago. The hamlet has a small elementary day school, a Church of England and a Methodist Church. The people are sturdy and industrious. They belong to the Celtic race, and, until recently, conversed with each other in the Manx dialect, but, of course, for economic reasons, the native tongue has given place to the more useful English speech.

The population is steadily declining and many families have migrated to sunny Australia and other parts of the British Dominions, where there are better opportunities to succeed. The Dalby district is composed of small farms. The land slopes gradually to a rocky sea coast which terminates in a rather dangerous reef called "Yn Arbyl" (meaning the tail). The view from this neighbourhood on a clear day is very extensive. Across the sea to the north-east the Mull of Galloway in Scotland, a distance of 16 miles, is distinctly seen. To the west, at a distance of over 30 miles, the Mountains of Mourne in Ireland stand out in rugged grandeur like a sentinel, while to the south, a few miles distant, lies an isolated hill called "Cronk ny Irej Lad" (hill of rising day). This part slopes abruptly to the sea and forms the most stupendous coast phenomenon of the district. The other features of this interesting district are: Dalby Point, a headland on the northern boundary; Dalby Lug, a picturesque glen with a clear stream and waterfall, forming the southern

boundary; and Dalby Mountain, rising over 1000 feet, forming the eastern boundary.

The Dalbys of Leicestershire are situated about the Great Northern and London and North Western railway lines. Dalby Magna, as its name indicates, is the larger centre, but its population in 1901 was less than 400. It is a collection of old world dwellings about an open common, its chief architectural feature being an old world church. Built originally in the Norman style, St. Swithin's had a west tower, with a spire, and its southern nave has been extended. The tower fell as long ago as 1658 (the year in which Cromwell died), and it has never been re-erected. The tower bears an old clock, with five bells, two of which are dated 1598, and 1684, one bears no date, while the others were re-cast in 1784. The register of St. Swithin's dates back as far as 1591. Dalby minor, or Dalby Parva, as it is called, is still a smaller centre, with 144 inhabitants, and lies three miles to the east of Magna. Dalby Hall, close by, is a Elizabethan building, and is the seat of the Burns-Harrop family. Old Dalby, or Dalby-on-the-wold, is situated eight miles W.N.W. of Dalby Magna. The soil of the whole neighbourhood is clayey, with a clay sub-soil, and the district is chiefly grazing, though some corn and root crops are grown, and Stilton cheese manufactured. Dalby Magna possesses two hotels, the Prince of Pales, and the Royal Oak.

The question "Where did Dalby get its name" was asked as long back as the time of Sir Joshua Peter Bell, who therefore can have had nothing to do with the naming, and was apparently unable to discover the source for himself. There appears to have been a fair amount of immigration of Manxmen just prior to the establishment of the town, which was first known locally at least, as Myrall Creek, so that the Manx origin is not an unlikely one. Somewhere the idea originated that the name was chosen in the office of the Home Secretary of the time at Sydney, and that it was named after a prominent officer of that department, but this has so far met with no confirmation.

THE STR

APPARENT CO

Transport Council

BRISBANE

The most important decision in the railway trouble, the decision of the Transport Council to communicate with North Queensland Rockhampton, urging that of all railway employees an immediate return to decision was reached after had the provisions of the deal with railway dispute fully explained to them influenced by the better no hope of the men's stages in the railway bill becomes law.

AUSTRALIAN

MANY MISCON

People discuss climate come within coo-ee of e feelings on the matter; comfort is misery to a writer in the "Tele discuss food, again w reeling on any definit listening to the so-ca we are at liberty to b food in Australia is th worst in the world. Ye of climate or of food tively clear and sloq consider what nonsense matter of our pronou or twang. There is n certain to make ever the collar, for or aga

But for or against conviction that people when they begin to to ter of pronunciation arises chiefly from th not being able to u understood. There ar general discussion of ficult as it is to descr there exists a set of purpose; the same cussing food. But fo of your accent, my somebody's twang, w venting all sorts of ph nothing except to tl will say: "Mrs. S sounds dark"; or, "T rican twang in Mr. bush everyone spe These remarks are en and the speaker's op quite evanescent so selves forget what i had been trying to e The phonetic expert have needed to inv

SPORTING

THE TURF.

Brisbane Anticipations.

BRISBANE, Friday.

COMMERCIAL

Cannon Hill Stock Sales.

BRISBANE, Thursday.

Seven thousand five hundred sheep were penned at Cannon Hill to-day. Values were firm, prime wether mutton bringing 2½d. and trade mutton

Reasons for naming the Blue Mountains a bit hazy

According to many, the Blue Mountains are so named because of the blue haze that is evident from any lookout in the area and when viewed from the Sydney Basin.

The official explanation for the haze is known as the 'Rayleigh scattering' which states that *"If an observer looks at a distant object with the intervening atmosphere illuminated by sunlight, the eye will receive the blue scattering rays of sunlight in addition to the rays reflected from the object itself. Therefore any distant object will always appear to display some shade of blue."* In the case of the Blue Mountains, the proliferation of various species of eucalypts (gum trees) in the region causes the oils in the trees to evaporate in the heat of the day. This oil is then held in suspension in the air through which the sunlight passes adding to the blueish tinge over the whole area.

There is another theory that the British naval officers who accompanied Governor Philip and who held a number of posts of authority in the

original colony, saw a similarity with the Blue Mountains of Jamaica and referred to them as such without officially naming the area. In the mid to late 18th century, Jamaica was an important British Navy staging port and most naval officers would have served there at one time.

The name of what is now a World Heritage National Park is a bit convoluted. There is a hill at the northern end of Queens Road in Lawson called the Blue Mountain. This hill lent its name to an inn built by Henry Wilson in 1848. He called it the Blue Mountain Inn.

The name of the village that sprung up around the inn became known as Blue Mountain. Later, this started to cause confusion with the whole region so in 1879 the village was renamed Lawson in tribute to the explorer who, along with Blaxland and Wentworth, made the first successful crossing of the range.

Governor Philip originally named the

northern area Carmarthen Hills and the southern area Lansdowne Hills in 1788. Francis Osborne, Marquess of Camarthen and Duke of Leeds, was British Foreign Secretary at the time; William Petty, Earl of Shellbourne had served as Prime Minister for a few months in 1782-83 and been made Marquess of Lansdowne in 1784. The names didn't stick and even Governor Philip referred to the area as the Blue Mountains in 1789.

The local government area was referred to by a number of names for several years. Kanimbla shire began in 1906 then changed to the Blue Mountains Shire in 1907. In the meantime Katoomba municipality was formed in 1889. Katoomba became a city in 1946, merging with Blackheath municipality in 1947 to become Blue Mountains City.

The complete story of the Blue Mountains geography can be found in Brian Fox's excellent "Upper Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia" 1999.

□ Bill Noble



Want to know more about names?



Names are all about us: Louise, Eric, Hopkinson, Chang, Wahroonga, Normanhurst. Have you ever wondered about their origins and meaning? Would you like to learn how to use reference resources to find reliable answers?

Macquarie University's Division of Humanities is offering a series of weekend seminars on both personal names and Australian placenames.

PERSONAL NAMES FROM FAR AND WIDE

William T. Noble

Saturday 6th and 27th April 2002 from 9am to 5.30pm

Cost: \$50 (\$30 Concession) for both sessions

AUSTRALIAN PLACENAMES

Staff of the Australian National Placenames Survey

Saturday 11th, 18th, 25th May 2002 from 2am to 5.30pm

Cost: \$50 (\$30 Concession) for all three sessions.

Offering of the seminars is subject to sufficient enrolments; it is possible that either or both may be delivered as weekday or evening classes if warranted by demand. A discounted fee of \$75 (\$50 concession) is available for those enrolling in both seminars.

To enrol or for further details, contact Susan Poetsch, ANPS, Department of English, Macquarie University, NSW 2109, email spoetsch@hmn.mq.edu.au, or phone her on (02) 9850 7937.

AUSTRALIA'S INNOVATIVE UNIVERSITY

Placenames in Focus - Dorrigo NSW, Condamine Qld

One of the most frustrating issues in placename research is that of conflicting origins - where more than one seemingly quite legitimate possibility comes to light. Nowhere has this been more of a problem than with placenames that have both a purported European and Aboriginal origin.

A recent letter in *The Sydney Morning Herald* (Travel section 12/01/2002 p5) takes up the issue of the origin of the name Dorrigo in northern New South Wales. It had been suggested in an earlier newspaper article that the name came from a General Don Dorrigo, a Spanish military hero. Kerry Shipman of Dorrigo refutes this, saying that such a person has never existed. This, she says, has been confirmed by The Spanish Military Academy in Madrid. Furthermore, Dorrigo is a word from the local Gumbainggir people that means either 'stringy bark' or 'edge of the world'.

This is not a new problem, of course. In 1925 the Queensland Place Names Committee outlined a similar problem. It is well known that Allan Cunningham named the Condamine River 'in compliment to the officer who is Aide-de-Camp to His Excellency the Governor', (Lieutenant de la Condamine, H.M.'s 57th Foot). (*From Cunningham's Journal, 1827*) 'Doubt is impossible as to the origin of the name....'. However, the Committee had been informed that it meant:

... "house on the stream" from gundi, house, and maian, waterhole; and indeed both those words are found in Ridley's vocabulary of the Kamilaroi - the very tribe which once occupied that district; moreover, in the accompanying list of place names we find the word gundamaine, and the derivation gundi maian, which may easily be taken as a form of Condamine. (Fourth Report, Qld. Place Names Committee, June 1925 p3).

The rather desperate question was



The Condamine River near Warwick, Queensland in May 2001.

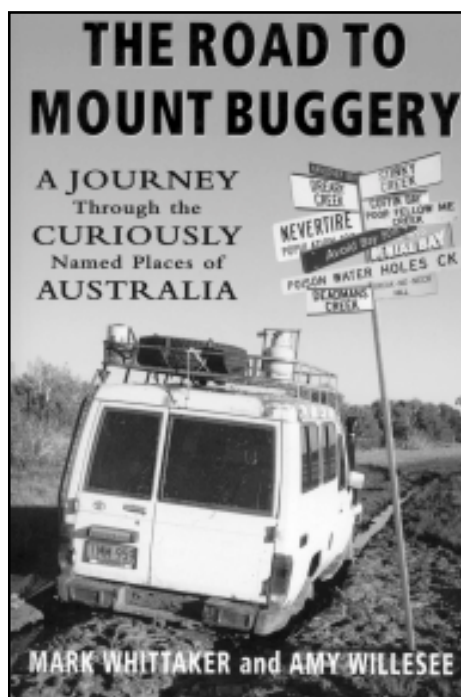
asked in the report: 'What relationship is there between the *De la Condamine* of history, the *Condamine* of the maps, Ridley's *Gundamaine*, and both the *gundi* and the *maian* of his vocabulary?'

For the Australian National Placenames Survey we have decided to address this problem by recording all possible origins with, where appropriate, an indication of the probability of the accuracy. So don't

be shy, we want to hear all options, even if they may seem a bit farfetched. Firstly, we will be sure of recording the 'correct' origin. Secondly, researchers will know that we are aware of other possibilities, and not feel that they need to inform us. This does not apply only to names with a purported Aboriginal origin. We do realise that in some cases we will record many possibilities. That in itself should be quite interesting!

□ Dale Lehner

New publications



The Road to Mount Buggery: A Journey Through the Curiously Named Places of Australia, by Mark Whittaker and Amy Willisee, published by Macmillan, 2001.

We thought we would include this book in this column of this issue since David and Flavia had lunch with Mark before he and Amy began their trek to places such as Point Torment, Disaster Bay, Mount Hopeless, Lake Disappointment, Mount Unapproachable, Starvation Lake, Humanity Seat, Deadman's Dugout and Skeleton Point. When we heard that their book had been published, we felt relieved that they must have returned safely!

The Placenames Puzzle

Our thanks to Joyce Miles for creating this quiz for readers to try. The solutions are at the bottom of the page.

Places Around Sydney

Clue: It is the sound that counts, not necessarily the spelling. eg Wind instruments; stinging insect = Hornsby

1. Flag; steeply rising ground under 2 000 ft
2. Get on horse with a Pepsi
3. I was on my way when I met a polygamist
4. Northern holiday home of the Royal family
5. Large bird; aircraft
6. Male; adverbially
7. Abbreviation of paragraph; substance
8. Ideal rustic paradise
9. Dove's call; telephone; bloke
10. 25 of 26; Scarlett O'Hara's house in *Gone with the Wind*
11. The topography of Rome
12. Gossips in the trees
13. A famous James; myself; station where railway lines meet
14. Maker of condensed soup; a large settlement
15. Something that brings good luck
16. Red fruit; stream
17. Prospero's daughter
18. Say 'What are we' very quickly and not very correctly
19. One of the highlanders (or maybe the gin)

-
1. Pennant Hills 2. Mount Colah
3. St Ives 4. Balmoral 5. Emu Plains
6. Manly 7. Parramatta 8. Arcadia
9. Ku-ring-gai 10. Watara 11. Seven
Hills 12. Chatswood 13. Bondi
Junction 14. Campbelltown
15. Mascot 16. Cherrybrook 17.
Miranda 18. Warrawe 19. Gordon

On the Web

<http://www.auslig.gov.au/mapping/names/natgaz.htm> is the website at which you can find *The Gazetteer of Australia*. (One reader alerted us to the fact that we had not given the correct URL in an article in the last issue of *Placenames Australia* - apologies for that). The latest version of *The Gazetteer of Australia* has been produced by the Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia with the assistance of the National

Mapping Division of Geoscience Australia (formerly AUSLIG). From the homepage address, click on 'Place Names Search' and submit a query to the compilation of over 274, 000 geographic names in Australia.

Do you have a favourite placenames website you'd like to recommend to fellow readers? Send details of the URL and a summary of its contents to Susan at spoetsch@hmn.mq.edu.au for inclusion in a future issue.

Placenames Mailing List and ANPS Volunteer Research

If you'd like to receive the ANPS *Placenames Australia* newsletter and/or information about how to become a Research Friend of the ANPS, please complete the form below and send it by post or fax, or email the details to:

Susan Poetsch
ANPS, Division of Humanities
Macquarie University
North Ryde,
Sydney NSW 2109
Fax: (02) 9850 8240
email: spoetsch@hmn.mq.edu.au

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- Please note my change of address
- Please remove me from the mailing list