

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



Contested borders -

Is Cook's Cape Howe really Telegraph Point?

Lieutenant James Cook's voyage along the coast of New South Wales resulted in the naming of two land features which later became the coastal endpoints of that State's boundaries. To the north, the Queensland / NSW boundary meets the sea at today's Point Danger, and to the south the NSW/Victoria boundary does the same at Cape Howe. But the current locations of Point Danger and Cape Howe have both come under challenge. If they are in the wrong place on today's maps then, if these errors were corrected, State boundaries would change and the present land areas of the States concerned would increase or diminish.

The approaching 250th anniversary of the 1770 voyage offers a splendid opportunity to correct any errors and restore Cook's legacy on these coasts. Given the errors made by the Government in Victoria at the time of the bicentenary of Endeavour's voyage in 1970, it is surely time for some payback. Cook deserves better than having both of the two land features he named on the coast of Victoria, Point Hicks and Ram Head, in the wrong place on today's maps, and the latter spelled incorrectly. The erroneous renaming of Cape Everard as *Point Hicks* in 1970 and the 'correction' of the spelling of *Ram* to *Rame* in 1972 compounded Cook's toponymic muddle.

New South Wales fares little better. If we count the boundary features of Point Danger and Cape Howe as

being in New South Wales, on that State's coast there are 26 toponyms bestowed by Cook. Four of these, Cape St George (actually part of Jervis Bay Territory), Long Nose at Jervis Bay (see *Placenames Australia*, June 2017), Black Head near Port Stephens, and Point Danger, are in the wrong places on today's maps.



Gabo Island with Telegraph Point, the nearest point on the mainland, and Cape Howe beyond (photo: courtesy of Parks Victoria)

A further two, Cape Dromedary and Cape Howe, are shown where Cook meant them to be, but are widely believed to be elsewhere.

Returning to the New South Wales boundary issues, the late Rupert Gerritsen's article in *Placenames Australia*

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In this issue: Contested borders – 1 • A bridge too far? – 3 • Making a mountain out of a... – 6 • Milton and Gordon – 7 • On *rivulets* and *macaronic duplexes* – 8 • Which suffix: *-y* or *-ey*? – 9

From the Editor



in a later issue as we approach the 250th anniversary of

Our lead article on Cook's placenames is one of a series by Trevor Lipscombe on James Cook's 'misplaced places', and part of his work on the *Restoring Cook's Legacy 2020 Project*. We hope to tell you more about this

the navigator's voyage. And I think we haven't heard the last from Trevor in this series!

Have you ever heard of a *macaronic duplex toponym*? If not, go to page 8 for enlightenment—and for proof that we toponymists can dish out the heavy stuff from time to time!

David Blair
<editor@anps.org.au>

The GNB is digging up dirt

Several States are conducting memorial projects related to World War I. For instance, Victoria's *Anzac Commemorative Naming Project* is well advanced—Google that term to see what's happening.

In NSW, the Geographical Names Board is a co-sponsor of the *Anzac Memorial Centenary Project* which commemorates the 62000 soldiers who did not make it back to home soil: soil samples are being collected from around 1700 NSW towns, suburbs and localities that WWI enlistees called home. The soil collected

from each location will be displayed in an artwork at the enhanced Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park, Sydney, opening in late 2018.

Fewer than 150 samples are still to be collected before the end of April. The GNB is inviting people who live near one of the missing sites to help complete the task. Check this site to see if your locality is one of them:

<https://goo.gl/dFBaF3>

If so, you can register to help:

<https://goo.gl/aAcDLj>

The Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia

Readers with long memories may remember Brian Fox's article on **Dunns Leap** in our September 2006 issue. Brian and co-authors Mike Keats and John Fox have researched the origins of some 2700 names of features in the Blue Mountains area of NSW. The volume, now at the printers, will include maps, photos and other images. The book will be produced in full colour, with hard cover and dust jacket, and will be about 550 pages at a cost of \$50.

If you'd like to be kept informed of progress and notified of the publication date, email Brian at

[<brianandelaine@aapt.net.au>](mailto:brianandelaine@aapt.net.au)

Notes and queries and updates

Howqua

Our March 2009 issue included an article by Jan Tent on the name of **Howqua** (Vic). Since then, Judy Macdonald has been working on the connection with John 'Howqua' Hunter, and has filled out many of the details. The results of her excellent research can be found in a recent edition of *La Trobeana*:

<http://www.latrobesociety.org.au/LaTrobeana/LaTrobeanaV15n3.pdf#page=24>

Karinya

Many moons ago (December 2007!) we were asked about **Karinya/Carinya**, a common house name believed to be of Aboriginal origin. Chris Woods (who obviously never gives up) has tracked it down to the 1950 edition of McCarthy's *NSW Aboriginal Place Names*, which listed it as meaning 'peaceful home'. We don't know why McCarthy dropped the entry from his later editions.

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A bridge too (bloody) far?

If you want to research the names of bridges, it's difficult to know where to start. You'll find, for instance, that a Web search brings little reward. Although bridge names are quite important in the name inventory of any place—*Sydney Harbour Bridge*, *Golden Gate Bridge*, *Brooklyn Bridge*—we toponymists have largely neglected to bring them into our line of vision. So perhaps presenting and analysing a list of names of bridges on Norfolk Island

Apart from *Cross ar Water*, the wooden bridge which crosses the creek at the bottom of the valley that separates New Cascade and Cascade Roads, all Norfolk bridge names are pejorative. Does this, we wonder, indicate a disdain the Norfolk Islanders may have had for parts of their new island home and its associated history? Or is it somehow related to the taunting and jeering nature of the language itself?



Bloody Bridge, Norfolk Island
(RAHS - Frank Walker Collection: 11181804015.jpg)

might be a good start. After all, the island is reputed to be home to the second oldest bridge in Australia and its territories—Pier Street Bridge.

I collected a 12-name list of bridges on Norfolk Island during four field trips between 2007-2009. Table 1 (below, on page 7) is a compilation, including names derived from published sources (primarily Edgecombe 1991: 102 and O'Connor 2007) and from interview research with knowledgeable islanders. It is, however, by no means an exhaustive list. While many of the physical Norfolk Island bridges are gone or defunct, many names are remembered and remain in the larger Norfolk Island toponym corpus.

One particular bridge provides an intriguing example of language use. Dated from the mid 1830s, **Bloody Bridge** is a large convict-built stone bridge, the purported site of the murder of an overseer by convicts who walled the overseer's body into the bridge. The murder was discovered, it is said, when the blood of the slain man seeped through the stonework. Because the bridge's colonial heritage dates back to before the Pitcairn arrival, it might be expected that this name would remain untouched from linguistic re-interpretation by Norfolk speakers. However, Bloody Bridge was considered a dangerous place due to its name and was unofficially changed to *Dar Naughty Bridge* by the Islanders.

Joshua Nash
Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies

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Contested borders...

...from page 1

(June 2013) addressed the placement of Point Danger. This has long been a matter of debate but, as Gerritsen showed, there is no doubt that today's Point Danger is not where Cook intended it to be. It lies further south at today's Fingal Head in New South Wales. So if the State border was moved to its correct position, New South Wales would lose land to Queensland. This is not going to happen, of course, and Fingal Head is not going to be renamed as *Point Danger*. The issue will remain in the 'too hard' basket.

But what of the boundary at Cape Howe, Australia's south eastern corner and the New South Wales boundary with Victoria? In 1971 Brigadier Lawrence FitzGerald, in an article in *Victorian Historical Magazine*, claimed that Telegraph Point, just to the north of Gabo Island, Victoria, was the feature that, in April 1770, Lt James Cook named as Cape Howe.¹ A number of reputable sources have since accepted FitzGerald's claim as correct, and nobody (until now) appears to have challenged it.² If FitzGerald is correct, he calculates that about two hundred square miles of Victoria actually belongs in New South Wales.



The far point is Cape Howe. Gabo Island is just off Telegraph Point shown in the foreground (Photo: courtesy Lighthouses of Australia Project)

Cook's Journal on 20 April 1770 records:

At 6 o'clock [p.m.] shortened sail and brought to for the night having 56 fathoms of water a fine sandy bottom, the Northernmost land in sight bore NBE $\frac{1}{2}$ E and a small Island lying close to a point on the Main bore west distant two leagues. This point I have named

Cape Howe, it may be known by the Trending of the Coast which is north on the one side and SW on the other (Latitude 37 28 S, Long 210.3 West [149.57 E]) it may likewise be known by some round hills upon the Main just within it.³

The confusion in this case arises from Cook's statement that the small island, Gabo Island, was 'lying close' to the point that he named as Cape Howe. Today's Cape Howe is four miles from the island, a distance that might reasonably be regarded as not being 'close'.

FitzGerald says:

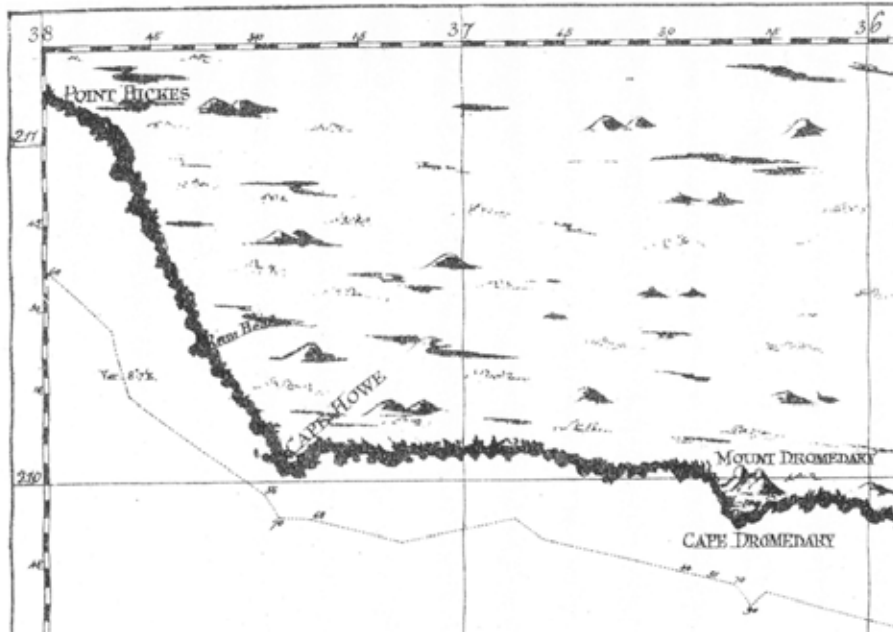
...the nearest point on the main to which the island is 'lying close' is that depicted on modern charts as Telegraph Point. There is another point of land four miles to the north east to which the name of Cape Howe has been attributed and which has been accepted by common usage. Cook's chart does not delineate two separate points of land, and the name Cape Howe which appears thereon, conveys no more than that the feature lies close to the island.

FitzGerald's key premise is that Telegraph Point is the nearest point on the mainland, so it must be the point Cook was referring to as 'lying close' to his Cape Howe. But Cook doesn't say that Cape Howe was the nearest point to the island, only that the island was 'lying close' to it. Gabo Island is not Cook's defining parameter for his Cape; it is the 'Trending of the Coast'.

Cook's chart (opposite page) shows his 56 fathom sounding and thus his 6 p.m. position. Gabo Island is shown to the south west of his Cape Howe, which he clearly states 'may be known by the Trending of the Coast which is north to the one side and SW on the other'.

Cook's purpose in naming land features was to assist later navigators on the coast to determine their position. Accordingly, Cook's named features are distinctive and usually easily recognised from well out to sea, being distinctive mountains or cliffs. In this case Cape Howe (and Telegraph Point) are both low lying sand spits and would not be visible unless navigators were quite close to the coast. But the Cape would, as Cook states, 'be known by the Trending of the Coast'.

...Cook's Cape Howe



Cook's Chart of the East Australian Coast (part), HRNSW Vol 1, Pt 1, Chart No 3. Note that charts at this time did not always follow the convention of north being at the top

Cook gives further guidance to later navigators: 'it may likewise be known by some round hills upon the Main just within it'. The hills were worthy of mention since they would be more visible to navigators than the sand spits. The 'round hills' are sand hills, several of which are shown by 30 or 40m contours on topographical maps of the area behind today's Cape Howe. If Cook had been describing the hills behind Telegraph Point he would have noted Howe Hill, a distinctive 391m high feature just 4 km north-north-west of this Point.

Cook's 6 p.m. position provides him with his first clear view to the north. There is open sea to the east and he gives a bearing for the 'northermost land' he could see, which would have been Green Cape. This is a defining moment for Cook, as he suspects that he is about to head north along the uncharted east coast of the continent which he has come to find. Cape Howe is likely to be not just another cape but the continent's south-east corner, and clearly qualifies as a distinctive feature useful to navigators. Telegraph Point does not.

FitzGerald attempts to enlist Matthew Flinders and John Lort Stokes as supporters of his argument. He quotes Flinders, who 'sought in vain for the small island mentioned by captain Cook', and Stokes, who had concerns about 'Cape Howe, which I discovered to be rather more out in longitude; while the islet, instead of

lying off it, lies four miles to the south west'.

FitzGerald, still fixed on the importance of Cook's words 'lying close', concludes:

The comments of Flinders and Stokes both point to the fact that the more northerly of the two points does not fulfil the description of Cook of 'lying close' to the island. There surely can be no doubt that the more southerly point, now known as Telegraph Point was the one referred to by Cook. It fulfils perfectly the additional qualification of having '...some round hills upon the Main just within it...'

Flinders' and Stokes' actions following their observations demonstrate that they were very clear about the point to which Cook was referring. Both show it on their charts where Cook placed it. Flinders may have been puzzled at the absence of an island near to what he took to be the Cape, but he would have been familiar with Cook's journal entry and the Cape's importance as a navigation feature. His chart shows the Cape at the south east corner of the continent. With similar access to Cook's journal, Stokes seems to have come to the same conclusion as Flinders, and his chart shows Cape Howe where Cook and Flinders show it and where it remains on charts and maps today.⁴

Given Cook's clear description, it seems surprising that

continued next page

...from previous page

FitzGerald's arguments have remained unchallenged for so long. Cape Howe is where Cook placed it and no campaign to shift the State boundary needs to be mounted.

Trevor Lipscombe

Endnotes

¹ FitzGerald, Lawrence. (1971). 'Point Hicks to Cape Howe'. *The Victorian Historical Magazine*, Issue 165, vol. 42 (3), August, pp. 579-96.

² Gregory C Eccleston, Gregory C. (2012). *The Early Charting of Victoria's Coastline*. ANZ Map Society. Also available online: <https://www.anzmaps.org/wp-content/uploads/>

other_publications/The-Early-Charting-of-Victorias-Coastline-27-4-12-pp1-33.pdf, accessed 18 September 2017; Parkin, Ray. (2003). *HM Bark Endeavour*. Carlton, Vic: The Miegunyah Press. p161; Heritage Listing for Gabo Island Lightstation at <http://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/places/2022>, accessed 18 September 2017 (click on 'Additional Place Information', then 'History').

³ Beaglehole, J.C. (1955). *The Journals of Captain James Cook: The Voyage of the Endeavour, 1768-1771*. London: Cambridge University Press for the Hakluyt Society. pp 299-300.

⁴ Flinders, M. (1814). *Chart of Terra Australis, Sheet V, South Coast*. London. NLA Map RM T575.

Also available online: <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-232589319>, accessed 18 September 2017; Stokes, John Lort. (1852). *Chart of Australia East Coast, Sheet 1, Cape Howe to Barriga Point*. London: Great Britain Hydrographic Department. NLA Map British Admiralty Special Map Col./41. Also available online: <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-233813485>.

Making a mountain out of a molehill channel



The sign at the summit of Victoria's Mt Terrible (photo: Wikipedia)

One of the things that fascinates me with studying placenames is the endless intriguing aetiologies of many of them. This is especially the case with ones that are the result of form confusion due to a misunderstanding or bad transmission of the original form. Such is the case with **Terrible Billy**, a mountain in the Chichester State Forest in eastern NSW, close to the towns of Gloucester, Dungog and Stroud. How did this name come about? Major Thomas Mitchell supplies the answer. The entry for December 9, 1831 in his journal states:

[...] We at length entered upon an open and grassy plain, and found in the skirts of the wood beyond it, a channel containing water in abundance, and

which was known to the natives as Carrabobbila.*

*Even before my men had seen this spot, the native name, in their mouths, was corrupted into Terrible Billy!

So how did the designated feature for this name change from a CHANNEL to a MOUNTAIN? My initial theory was that the 'condemnatory' name does not really suit a channel. Mountains (and other such looming features) are much more likely to receive such names. For instance there are six Mount Terribles (2 in SA, 3 in NSW and 1 in VIC), and a number of Mount Hopelesses and Mount Despairs and a Mount Horrible, and so on.

However, there are some creeks and hollows and a vale with the moniker *Terrible* as well. So my theory has hit several counterexamples and looks very shaky—we'll have to admit that the shift in designation remains an enigma.

Jan Tent

Reference

Mitchell, T.L. (1839) *Three Expeditions into the Interior of Eastern Australia; With Descriptions of The Recently Explored Region of Australia Felix, and of the Present Colony of New South Wales*. Second Edition. Vols 1 & 2. Vol. 1. London: T. & W. Boone. <<http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks/e00036.html>>

English name	Norfolk language equivalent and other information
1. Bay Street Bridge	
2. Bloody Bridge	Dar Naughty Bridge. Bloody Bridge is normally dated mid-1830s. (O'Connor 2007: 23)
3. Boat Keg Bridge	
4. Bounty Street Bridge	
5. Broken Bridge	Stink Bridge. Broken Bridge was 'a low wooden bridge' on J.E. Road. (quoting Hoare (1999: 43)) (O'Connor 2007: 37)
6. Cockpit Bridge	
7. Cross the Water	Cross ar water
8. Gudda Bridge	Fuck Bridge
9. Harpers Road Bridge (Harpers Road Stone Bridge)	
10. Pier Street Bridge (Old Pier Street Bridge, Present Pier Street Bridge)	South of present bridge – possibly from 1789; known to exist in 1793 (O'Connor 2007: 38); Existing, 1835 (Arch. Survey: 44, F8B) (O'Connor 2007: 38)
11. Prince Philip Drive Bridge	
12. Selwyn Bridge	

Table 1: Bridge names on Norfolk Island

(compiled by the author from interview research, from Edgecombe 1999: 102, and from O'Connor 2007)

References

- Edgecombe, J. (1999). *Norfolk Island - South Pacific: Island of history and many delights*. 2nd ed. Thornleigh: The author.
- Hoare, M. (1999). *Norfolk Island: a revised and enlarged history 1774-1998*. Rockhampton: Central Queensland Press.
- O'Connor, C. (2007). 'Historic bridges and roads of Norfolk Island'. *Australian Journal of Civil Engineering*, vol. 2 no. 1, pp. 75-81.

Milton and Gordon

Our Queensland correspondent, historian Professor John Pearn, is a sterling contributor to our knowledge-base of Australian toponymy. Two recent articles have provided important material for the ANPS Database.

Milton

Milton is an inner suburb of Brisbane—it's a name well-known to many Australians because of its sporting connections: it was the location (until the 1990s) of Brisbane's major tennis courts, and it's also the location for the football ground now known as *Suncorp Stadium* (formerly *Lang Park*).

In a recent paper given to the Royal Historical Society of Queensland, John Pearn notes that the name is owed to Brisbane's third pharmacist, Ambrose Eldridge. He built *Milton House* in 1854, a homestead on 16 acres of farmlands, named after his birthplace, the Oxfordshire village of Great Milton.

Gordon

In another recent paper, John notes the many toponyms in Australia honouring the legendary figure *Major General Charles George Gordon* who was killed at the Siege of Khartoum in 1885. An outpouring of grief and mourning led to memorials in many countries, including Australia. **Gordon Square** in Spring Street, Melbourne, is one such.

Brisbane's **Gordon Park** (with its main streets of *Gordon Street* and *Khartoum Street*) and the Tasmanian village of **Gordon** similarly perpetuate his name. (**Gordonvale** in Queensland and the Sydney suburb of **Gordon** owe their names to other notable Gordons!)

On *rivulets* and *macaronic duplex* placenames

In our September 2017 issue David Blair solved the enigma of *River Lett vs Lett River*. This reminded me of my various trips to Tasmania and being struck by the prolific use of the generic *rivulet* for so many streams there. (The OED defines a *rivulet* as being 'a small river; a stream.')

Tasmania seems to be the place in the world where this generic is used most often: there are 255 streams there that are called *rivulets*. In contrast, NSW only has 30, New Zealand 11, South Australia four, and Victoria three. The other States don't seem to have any *rivulets* at all. I have only been able to find one *rivulet* in Great Britain: the Bourne Rivulet in Hampshire. The USA has no recorded examples, although in Massachusetts the Rivulet Brook has *rivulet* as the specific element preceding its different generic.

These two non-Australian examples are particularly interesting because both have names that are termed in the literature as 'tautonyms' or 'tautologous toponyms'. David and I prefer to call such toponyms 'macaronic duplex toponyms'.¹ These are names where the specific and the generic come from different languages and have the same meaning—both *bourne* (< Old English *burna* < Old Germanic **brunnon-*)² and *brook* (< Old English Old English *bróc* < West Germanic **brōka-*) mean 'small stream', as does *rivulet* (< classical Latin *rīvulus* + *-et* suffix). It's conceivable that the following toponyms belong to this set too:

- *Burn Creek* (TAS) (*burn* an alternative form of *bourne*)
- *River Creek* (VIC) and *Brook Creek* (QLD) (where *creek* < Middle English *creke* < French *crique* < Latin *creca*)

Macaronic duplexes are quite common in river names. They occur all over the world—especially where languages have come into contact, because the phenomenon is a by-product of language contact:

- *River Avon* (Wales) lit. 'River River' < Brythonic; spelled *Afon* in modern Welsh
- *Mississippi River* (USA) lit. 'Big River River' < Algonquian

- *Sahara Desert* (Africa) lit. 'Great Desert Desert' from Arabic 'aṣ-Ṣaḥrā' al-Kubrā' 'the Great Desert'
- *Mount Fujiyama* (Japan) lit. 'Mount Mount Fuji' from Japanese *yama* 'mountain'
- *Saaremaa Island* (Estonia) lit. 'Isle's land Island'
- *Mount Maunganui* (NZ) literally 'Mount Big Mount' derived from the Māori *maunga* 'mountain' and *nui* 'large, big, important'
- *Dreketi River* (Fiji) lit. 'River River' from obsolete *dreketi* 'river'
- *Cowal Swamp* from Wiradjuri *cowal* 'swampy hollow'; Gamilaraay, Yuwaalaraay and Yuwaalayaay *gawal* 'watercourse, swamp, billabong' (also used a generic for the features SWAMP, STREAM, LAGOON, LAKE and WATERHOLE) (Nash 2008)
- *Gilgai Waterhole* from Gamilaraay and Wiradjuri *gilgai* 'water hole'



Strickland Falls on Hobart Rivulet (photo: J.J. Harrison, Wikimedia Commons)

Endnotes

¹ David Blair and I have a forthcoming publication on this phenomenon and term. *Macaronic* refers to a text using a mixture of languages (usually two). It can also be used to refer to hybrid words (i.e. internally macaronic); a good example is TELEVISION from Greek *τῆλε* (*tēle*) 'far' + Latin *visio* 'seeing' (from *videre* 'to see').

² The symbol < means 'derived from'; and the superscript asterisk (*) before a lexical item in historical linguistics means that a certain root or word has been reconstructed (based on linguistic principles) to what we think it must have been.

References

Nash, David. (2008). 'Examining the Name Element/Feature Type Cowal.' Unpublished paper presented to ANPS/CGNA workshop, Rydges Hotel, Wollongong, Australia, 11 October.

Jan Tent

Which suffix: *-y* or *-ey*?

At times I wonder about the lack of creativity in the names of many of our geographic features. How often have you come across a *Sandy Creek*, or a *One Mile ...*, *Two Mile ...* etc. Creek? On my regular trips from Khancoban to Sydney, I cross three *Stony Creeks*. But there is one such named creek along the Corryong-Benambra Road in the Alpine National Park (VIC) which is intriguing. One of this road's many hairpin bends has a culvert at its apex through which runs a named creek. On one side of the hairpin is a sign that declares the creek's name is *Stoney Creek*; on the other side it tells us the name is *Stony Creek*! Could the two forms be registered variants? Well, VicNames only registers *Stony Creek* for that particular creek and does not record 'Stoney' as either a variant or historical name. So, it seems to be an error in signage.



Neither the *Oxford English Dictionary* (OED) nor the *Macquarie Dictionary* list 'stoney' as an adjectival form of 'stone', although *Collins English Dictionary* and *Merriam-Webster* both acknowledge 'stoney' as a less common variant. (The OED notes that 'stoney' was a 17th century form, presumably now archaic.)

So how many places in Australia and New Zealand bear the forms *Stoney* and *Stony*? First, New Zealand. According to the Gazetteer of New Zealand, there are 100 features that bear this 'pebbly' adjective. They include creeks, rivers, hills, bays, beaches and points. The majority are creeks. Only eleven of the 100 features bear the *Stoney* label.

The National Gazetteer of Australia lists 654 features (mostly creeks and gullies) with the more common spelling *Stony*, 52 of which have the alternative spelling as a variant. It lists 138 features (again mostly creeks and gullies) with the moniker *Stoney*, nine of which have the alternative spelling of *Stony*. So, a total of 792 geographic features have the 'rocky' moniker, of which 17% have

the form *Stoney*. SA has the highest percentage of the archaic *Stoney* toponyms, followed by NSW and VIC.

Why would the archaic form have been chosen? Were those names from an earlier date than the more common *Stony* toponyms? It's theoretically possible to find out, but practically difficult.

This did however get me wondering about other English words that had variable spellings. 'Smoky' vs 'smokey' came immediately to mind. The OED prefers the 'smoky' form, declaring 'smokey' to be a 19th century form common in the US. The *Macquarie* does not acknowledge the 'smokey' form, although both the Collins and (naturally) Merriam-Webster do.



I found 52 matching geographical features registered in the National Gazetteer of Australia, eight of which have the 'smokey' form. Once again the names cover a wide range of designated features: mostly creeks, but also bays, points, capes, and hills. (James Cook's naming practices demonstrate 18th century spelling variability: *Smoakey Cape* on his chart appears as *Smokey* in his journal.)

In the Gazetteer of New Zealand, eight features bear this 'opaque' adjective. They include beaches, streams, a hill, a rock and a reserve. Six are spelled 'smoky' and the other two 'smokey'. However, it was very interesting to note that Smoky Hill and its adjacent scenic reserve have the conflicting spellings (i.e. *Smoky Hill* and *Smokey Hill Scenic Reserve*). The gazetteer tells us that the hill's name is not official, but the reserve's name is. This seems odd, because reserves are normally named after a nearby feature. To add to the confusion, at least one official publication spells the reserve's name as *Smoky Hill Scenic Reserve*. More on this mystery, including information from our NZ colleagues, in our next issue!

Jan Tent

What are we working on this month?

Many of our readers will have discovered a new link on our webpage: 'What we're working on now...' Those who have followed the link will have discovered that, at least for this month, the answer is **Canowindra** and **Kangaroooby**.

Canowindra

Our attention was drawn to **Canowindra** by some responses to our recent 'pronunciations' Puzzle (December 2017). We decided it was time to fill out our Database entry on this NSW town, so set to work.

We know that the name goes back to the 1830s when James Collits (or his successor Thomas Iceley) named his 640 acre property 'Canoundra'. The name appears to be based on a Wiradjuri word which is commonly said to mean 'home, camping place'. See

<http://www.anps.org.au/Canowindra.html>

for a fuller account.

Thanks to Dorothy Balcombe at the Canowindra Historical Society, we now know much more than we did! There is a reference to *Cunnounder* in 1830, and other early spellings included *Canounder*, *Canounda*, *Canowindra* and even *Ngawindra* before it became normalised as *Canowindra* in the 1840s. Dorothy has supplied references to various pieces of documentation which are important for building an authoritative record of Canowindra's name and history.



Kangaroooby

Jan Tent has, for some time, been digging into the intriguing issue of how the various places named *Kangaroooby* (or *Kangarooobie*) got their name. There are four features near Cowra in NSW named *Kangaroooby*; not far away, near Orange, there's a rural property and a village; near Goulburn there is a property named 'Kangarooobie'; and in Victoria there's a homestay property also with that name.

Are these names based on 'kangaroo'? For a summary of what we think is likely and for our 'request list' of further information, go to

<http://www.anps.org.au/Kangaroooby.html>

Jan is standing by for clues!

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by David Blair

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Placenames Puzzle Number 65

Film star toponyms

The clues in this puzzle reveal places that have the names of stars from the entertainment world as their specific elements. e.g. (NT) David ... [town]. Answer:

Tennant Creek

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. (NSW) Frankie ... Beach [Sydney] | 12. (NSW) Gale ... [Sydney suburb] |
| 2. (NSW) Andy ... [town in western NSW] | 13. (NSW) Glenda ... [Sydney's harbour] |
| 3. (NT) Lew ... Rock | 14. (NSW) Carmen ... [Sydney suburb] |
| 4. (NSW) Jason ... Bay | 15. (ACT) Kathleen ... [Canberra suburb] |
| 5. (VIC) Emma ... [racetrack and suburb] | 16. (NT) Richard ... River |
| 6. (NSW) Clint ... [Sydney suburb] | 17. (NSW) Donald ... Shire [Sydney LGA] |
| 7. (NT) Katherine ... Springs | 18. (VIC) Owen ... Promontory |
| 8. (QLD) Nigel ... [inner suburb of Brisbane] | 19. (VIC) Brad ... Town |
| 9. (VIC) Jayne ... [town] | 20. (NSW) Merle ... [town] |
| 10. (NSW) Ozzie ... Bay | |
| 11. (VIC) Jane ... [town] | |

[Compiled by: **Jan Tent**]

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|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 18. Wilsons Promontory | 12. Gordon | 7. Hepburn Springs | 1. Avalon Beach |
| 19. Pitt Town | 13. [Port] Jackson | 8. Hawthorne | 2. Griffith |
| 20. Oberon | 14. Miranda | 9. Mansfield | 3. Ayers Rock |
| | 15. Turner | 10. Nelson Bay | 4. Batemans Bay |
| | 16. Todd River | 11. Seymour | 5. Caulfield |
| | 17. Sutherland Shire | | 6. Eastwood |

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Closing dates for submissions are:

March Issue: 15 January September Issue: 15 July
June Issue: 15 April December Issue: 15 October



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