



## The Three Faces of Everard

When sailing along the coast of what is today southern Victoria, Cook recorded in his journal in April 1770 that he had named 'The Southernmost Point of land we had in sight' as Point Hicks, 'because Leuit Hicks, was the first who discover'd this land'. This was the first European name recorded during that *Endeavour* voyage to be applied to a feature on the east coast of Australia. Ever since that time there has been considerable discussion over what it was that Hicks and Cook actually saw when land first came into view. Apart from the feature currently named Point Hicks, other candidates put forward include a cloudbank, Mount Raymond near Orbost, and several other mountains/hills that supposedly project above the horizon before the coastline appears.

Hicks referred in his journal to the 'land making high'. This phrase can also be found in other journals kept by people on the *Endeavour*. While clouds or a mountain-top may have been seen first, some (including Ernest Scott) have argued that this does not undermine the historic accuracy of the existing Point Hicks name. Cook said that his Point Hicks was the most southern part of the land they had in view, and the existing point, projecting into the ocean, fits that description.

But who exactly was Hicks, apart from being Cook's second-in-command and the first European to sight the eastern coast of mainland Australia? We know a lot about Cook and the scientists aboard the *Endeavour*, but very little about the person whose name appears on the geographic feature.

Beaglehole's classic biography of Cook says that Hicks was 'a Londoner, born at Stepney in 1739', and that he 'carried on board the seeds of tuberculosis'. Hicks finally succumbed to the disease in 1771 in the Atlantic Ocean, on the return journey to England.

There is a belief amongst some members of the Cornish community in Melbourne that Zachary Hicks may have a Cornish ancestry. If documentary evidence could be found to support this proposition, then Cook's first and second Australian placenames would have a link to Cornwall (see article on Ram/e Head in *Placenames Australia*, June 2002).

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*Point Hicks (Vic) from the Point Hicks Lighthouse, July 29 2002. Photo: Chris Richards*

# Feedback

We love getting letters from readers, so drop a line to *Placenames Australia* care of Susan Poetsch, ANPS, Division of Humanities, Macquarie University, North Ryde, NSW 2109.

## Beware unnecessary tinkering!

Thank you for the June 2002 newsletter, *Placenames Australia*.

Chris Richards's article on Ram Head highlighted an interesting grey area as regards tinkering with place names. I would have called the change from Ram to Rame a clear case of unnecessary and unwarranted tinkering, were it not for the fact that naval charts had used the Rame spelling since 1814.

If there were no safety issues at stake (but there might well have been here), Ram could have been preserved on survey maps and Rame maintained on marine charts.

My feeling is that, if a place-name is named after a person, it should - as a matter of simple courtesy - follow the spelling used by that person as long as it did not vary (I know: Shakespeare used several spellings for his surname). I therefore have no problem with the adding of a

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z to Mount Kosciuszko, as happened a few years ago. (You can even add an acute accent to the first s!)

*This convention has not always been observed: the O'Shannassy River and Catchment, in the Yarra Ranges National Park (Vic.), do not follow the spelling of the surname of Sir John O'Shanassy (1818-83), premier of Victoria (1857, 1858-59, 1861-63) (Irish: Ó Seachnasaigh).*

*Otherwise, the wishes of the namer should be respected. If Captain Cook, R.N., chose to call a headland in Gippsland Ram Head, this is what it should remain, irrespective of whether Ram or Rame is used in England, unless Cook later regarded the spelling as an error.*

*Naturally, there are reasonable cases for changing established names to avoid ambiguity and confusion: Victoria has two Cumberland Creeks within five kilometres of each other, and as one creek is in a skiing resort the dangers of the duplication (during alpine rescue operations) are obvious.*

*However, a lot of tinkering with names is downright misguided.*

- N. Sinnott (Vic)

## The forgotten Mr Everard

Regarding Chris Richards' article on Ram/e Head (*Placenames Australia*, June 2002):

*I read the article with interest and it recalled some memories for me, going back quite a few years.*

*I used to be at sea, and spent a lot of time on the Australian coast. Point Hicks, on marine charts, used to be called Cape Everard. Unless my memory is playing me very false, I seem to remember that it was renamed by the Victorian government to celebrate the bicentenary.*

*This leaves us with the question of "Who was Mr. Everard?" I do hope that his shade was not too miffed at being superseded by Lt. Hicks!*

*Thanks for an interesting and informative magazine.*

- B. Turvey (Tas)

See our cover article in this issue - Ed.

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George Bass subsequently sailed into Bass Strait in 1797/8, but did not see Point Hicks due to bad weather.

Furthermore, Matthew Flinders did not include this name in his charts of the area. As these charts served as a starting point for future surveys, the name of Hicks seems to have disappeared from the cartographic record for many decades.

The Hicks 'face' of the 'Southernmost Point of land' then changed to that of Everard. However, the circumstances surrounding this renaming are far from clear. Writing in the *Victorian Historical Magazine* in 1912, Ernest Scott said, 'I understand that Stokes, in making his Admiralty survey in the Beagle in 1843, substituted the name Cape Everard, presumably after Captain Sir Everard Home, Bart., then an officer on the Australian station'. When the name was changed back to Point Hicks as part of the Cook Bicentenary celebrations in 1970, the Victorian Premier, Sir Henry Bolte, made a similar assertion.

Documentary evidence from primary sources linking John Lort Stokes with the naming of Cape Everard has not been found to date. There is no mention of Cape Everard in Stokes journal, or the associated survey map of Bass Strait prepared by the Royal Navy Hydrographic Office. Nor is the cape mentioned in Marsden Hordern's award-winning book on the Beagle voyage. Enquiries are currently being made with the Royal Navy to ascertain whether Stokes, or any other naval surveyor, named Cape Everard or not.

In 1853, John Arrowsmith of London, published his *Map of the Province of Victoria, principally derived from the surveys of Surveyor General Hoddle*. This map includes Cape Everard in the location since renamed as Point Hicks. The coastal surveys of Gippsland were undertaken by the surveyor George Douglas Smythe (who worked for Hoddle's Department). Two of the early coastal survey maps of

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## ALI 2002

Between 8 and 19 July Macquarie University hosted the Australian Linguistic Institute, a biennial event offering teaching in specialised areas of linguistics to students from all over Australia. The ANPS was strongly represented in the Institute's activities.

ANPS Research Fellow Flavia Hodges made a presentation to participants in the International Program on Indigenous Language and Culture Maintenance. She spoke of various current issues in Australian placenaming of particular relevance to indigenous people: the role of the geographic names authorities, the process of assigning new official placenames, the changing of offensive or inappropriate names, and the role of dual naming in acknowledging the claims of both indigenous and non-indigenous Australians to recognition of their heritage.

Several members of the Survey also contributed to a six-hour introduction to the study of placenames in the more general section of the Institute. Flavia gave an overview of placenames and placenaming around the world, and discussed some of the issues involved in researching cultural aspects of Australian



*The two plenary speakers at the Australian Linguistics Institute 2002 were Timoti Kāretu (pictured left) Chairman of Te Kōhanga Reo Trust NZ, which has a programme for Māori language and culture maintenance and Jeanie Bell (centre) from the Department of Linguistics and Applied Linguistics, University of Melbourne, currently working on the revival of the Butchalla language of Fraser Island, her grandmother's country. Also pictured is Rob Amery (right) who taught a course in the Indigenous Language and Culture Maintenance Programme of the ALI. Rob works at the Unaipon School at the University of Adelaide and has been working on the revival of the Kaurua language of the Adelaide area. Photo: Effy Alexakis, CFL.*

placenames. Jane Simpson of Sydney University, a specialist in Australian languages and member of the ANPS National Executive Committee, discussed the essential differences, tensions and interplay between Australia's two sets of placenames — the long-standing indigenous network and the system

introduced by Europeans. ANPS Director David Blair focussed squarely on the work of the Survey itself, covering its history, current activities and future objectives. All these topics were received with interest and enthusiasm, and the Survey has gained several more potential Research Friends.

this area (which seem to be the source of Arrowsmith's information) include the name Cape Everard. Unfortunately, both these maps are unsigned and undated. These maps are probably derived from Smythe's surveys, or even prepared by him. Unfortunately, Smythe's field notebook for far east Gippsland does not mention Cape Everard (or many placenames at all for that matter).

Arrowsmith's map entitled *The South Eastern Portion of Australia*, published in 1848, does not include Cape Everard. This reinforces the view that the Victorian Surveyor General's Department is the source of the Everard name (rather than Stokes), with Smythe being a prime candidate, or Hoddle as Department head.

But who then was Everard? It is difficult to answer this question with any certainty, as documentation linking a particular person bearing this name to the name on the cape has not yet been located. However, a number of possibilities have been suggested in the literature. Most of these can be dismissed, as they would need to have been reasonably prominent persons in Britain or Australia by 1853 at the latest. Apart from James Everard Home, the only other possibilities that I have been able to uncover to date are the English army officer Mathias Everard and the English comedian Edward Cape Everard (an intriguing option).

The third 'face' of the cape is the Indigenous name. In the *Database of Aboriginal Placenames of Victoria*, authors

Ian Clark and Toby Heydon record the name as being Tolywiarar in the Maar language, with alternative spellings of *Tollywiarar* and *Tolliniorer*. This name was collected by George Augustus Robinson, the Chief Protector of Aborigines, in 1844. Its meaning is uncertain.

Placenames can serve as 'linguistic microchips' that encapsulate both the history and culture of the times in which the names are applied, and the subsequent history of places while wearing these labels. Our understanding of Cook's 'Southernmost Point of land' is enhanced by looking at all three faces of Everard.

This 'toponymic grail' seems tantalisingly within reach, yet still eludes our grasp.

□ Chris Richards

# The river of several names

Walking around Brooklyn (a settlement, on the Hawkesbury River, north of Sydney NSW) one day I came across a sandstone monument on the corner of McKell Park, commemorating the naming of the Hawkesbury by Governor Phillip in 1789. This had been erected by the Manly, Waringah and Pittwater Historical Society and was unveiled on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> June 1939 by the Commissioner of Railways in the presence of the President of Hornsby Shire Council and guests.

It seemed at first a simple task to establish why a Gloucestershire (UK) placename should now grace a magnificent river. However, further investigation revealed that I was not dealing with one name for a waterway almost 500km in length, but a series of different types of names.

The Hawkesbury River flows into Broken Bay and although Captain Cook, on his voyage in the *Endeavour* in 1770, named Broken Bay on account of

“some broken land that appear'd to form a Bay”, he did not investigate it further but sailed on up the coast. It was not until 1789 that Governor Phillip made several trips to Broken Bay and finally traced the course of the river as far as his boats could proceed. He did not at this time make contact with any of the local Darug people, whose name for at least part of the river was Deerubbun. He named it the Hawkesbury River after Charles Jenkinson, first Baron Hawkesbury, who held the influential position of President of the Council of Trade and Plantations. The Jenkinson family came from the Gloucestershire village of Hawkesbury, shown as *Havochesberie* in Domesday Book.

Further exploration in the area led to the introduction of European names for other watercourses and it was eventually realised that several of these were part of one river system which begins in the Great Dividing Range as the Wollondilly (a name of Aboriginal origin possibly meaning ‘water trickling over rocks’) and is joined south-west of Penrith by Cox’s River which flows out of the Blue Mountains. This river was named by Governor Macquarie as a tribute to William Cox, a military officer, road maker and builder who was commissioned by Macquarie in July 1814 to supervise the making of a road across the Blue Mountains, a feat which Macquarie describes in his journals as “a most difficult and arduous undertaking, and one which most people would have at first view abandoned in despair as being impracticable”.

After a brief stretch as the Warragamba (a name of Aboriginal origin and uncertain meaning) it joins the Nepean River, explored in June 1789 by Captain Watkin Tench and party, and named by Governor Phillip in honour of Evan Nepean, then Under Secretary of State in the Home Department who had been involved in the organisation of the First Fleet.



Hawkesbury River Obelisk, Brooklyn NSW, April 2002. Photo: John Miles.

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# CGNA Spot - The end of an era

In the early 1970s the then Central Mapping Authority undertook the mammoth task of completing a topographic map coverage over New South Wales. This task was the cornerstone of the State's register of geographical names and is responsible for the vast majority of the 80,000 names now recorded.

It was the job of the Trigometrical Surveyor to drive every road and check every signpost for geographic names. These names then had to be validated which generally meant a long discussion with the residents either down at the local watering hole or over the farmhouse gate. Countless hours were also spent talking to various local Council representatives confirming and gathering more information.

Each Trig. Surveyor carried a *Names & Notes* notebook in which they tirelessly scribed information on various names found whilst on the road. These notes were accompanied by various diagrams and the odd pencil rubbing of interesting plaques found whilst on the job.

The Surveyors that pioneered the collection of this information are now starting to think about being on the other end of the discussions at the local pub and are contemplating retiring to tell stories rather than write them.

Ian Robins was one of these Trig Surveyors who have now received their



*Ian Robins handing one of his Names & Notes notebooks to Paul Harcombe, Deputy Surveyor General NSW.*

gold plum bob and is off to tour the world. Before he left, he presented the Geographical Names Board of NSW with several of his *Names & Notes* notebooks. These notebooks provide an interesting source document of the methods used to collect this information.

Whilst Land and Property Information (LPI) NSW has now embarked on the revision of these topographic maps the method and extent of field validation carried out by these Surveyors will not be seen again. Most names have now

been formalised by the Geographical Names Board and, as such the level of field revision is not required. LPI NSW still undertakes a field verification of each map sheet but due to the thoroughness of the initial field completion, this exercise is made that much easier. Therefore the departure of the Trig Surveyors that carried out the field revision on the first edition topographic maps is seen as the end of an era.

□ Greg Windsor, Secretary,  
Geographical Names Board of NSW

Another tributary is the Grose River, rising in the Blue Mountains and named after Lieutenant Governor Francis Grose to whom some of the credit is given for the opening up of the rich Hawkesbury River region to large numbers of settlers.

At the confluence of the Nepean and Grose Rivers near Richmond what Macquarie refers to as "the noble River Hawkesbury" commences, although he describes it as being only an inconsiderable stream at that point, not

navigable at all for three or four miles farther down.

A stretch of the river south of Wisemans Ferry is now recorded as Trollopes Reach. This commemorates a visit in 1872 by the novelist Anthony Trollope who was delighted with the Hawkesbury, comparing it most favourably with the Mississippi and the Rhine. Today the river is alive with boats of all kinds and the whole region, with its 4,000 kilometres of shoreline and 200 kilometres of navigable waterway, is a

major tourist attraction.

This is not the entire story. The Hawkesbury has other named tributaries – for example the Colo, the Macdonald and Cowan Creek – that need further research, but the whole river system is providing a good example of the wide variety of names – commemorative, indigenous, literary, transferred, historical, descriptive – that are revealed when a seemingly simple placename is researched.

□ Joyce Miles

# Mountain Names In The North West Region Of Western Australia

In the late 1870s the government of Western Australia decided that resources needed to be applied towards improving the mapping of the colony, particularly the outer pastoral regions. Survey teams were sent to a number of regions, including the North West and the Kimberley. In 1878 John Forrest led a team to what was referred to as the "Nichol Bay District". The team included Forrest's brother, Alexander, and the following year Alexander was selected to lead a team examining the Kimberley.

The members of these expeditions did not enquire into the placenames in use among indigenous inhabitants of the region, but assigned names reflecting their own preoccupations. An unusual aspect of the results of these surveys led by the Forrests was the number of features named in honour of European scientists, geographers, royalty and statesmen. The connection, as I understand it, was that there was at the time great interest in Europe in exploration of "the unknown", and a number of countries had Societies that encouraged and supported this exploration. In 1876 and 1877 John Forrest received awards from the Italian Geographical Society, the Royal Geographical Society, the Imperial Geographical Society of Vienna and the Imperial Geographical Society of St Petersburg. He was also a member of some of these societies, and the name he chose for mountains reflect this European connection. The names given by John and Alexander Forrest in the late 1870s and early 1880s include:

**Mount Berghaus** – named in honour of Heinrich Berghaus (1797-1884), a German geographer and cartographer.

**Mount Billroth** – Professor A C T Billroth (1829-1894), a German surgeon.

**Mount Candolle** – Alphonse Louis Pierre Pyramus de Candolle (1806-1893), a Swiss botanist and Professor at the Geneva Academy.

**Mount Oscar** – King Oskar (anglicised to Oscar) of Sweden (king 1872-1907).

**Mount Negri** – Baron Negri of Turin.

**Mount Constantine** – Konstantin Nikolaevich Romanov (1827-1892), a Russian Grand Duke, son of Czar Nicholas 1<sup>st</sup> and brother of Czar Nicholas 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Mount Herbert** – H H M Herbert, the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Carnarvon and the British Colonial Secretary from 1874 to 1878.

**Mount Richthofen** – Baron Ferdinand von Richthofen (1833-1882), a German geographer, geologist and traveller.

**Mount Virchow** – Professor Rudolph Virchow (1821-1902), a German pathologist and political leader.

**Mount Wohler** – Friedrich Wohler (1800-1882), a German chemist.

Additional names in this district which also originate from the Forrests, but for which the origin is yet to be determined include Mt Price, Mt Danvers, Mt Clement, Mt Hubert, Mt Elizabeth, Mt Ulric, Mt Wilkie, Mt Marie, Mt Ada, Mt Regal, Mt Langenbeck and Mt Woodhouse. A small range of hills in the goldfields region of WA also arouses interest in who it could have been named after – Alexander Forrest named the Helena and Aurora Ranges in 1876. Queen Victoria had a daughter named Helena, but who was Aurora?

□ Brian Goodchild  
Chair, WA State Committee  
of the ANPS

## Free CD-ROM!

The Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia has recently developed a video presentation 'What's in A Name', on the importance of Australia's geographical names and the work of our nomenclature authorities. Narrated by Ernie Dingo, it combines a clear and entertaining explanation of the processes of placenaming with many stunning views of locations across the continent. Thanks to the generosity of the Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping, we shall enclose a copy of this in CD-ROM format with each mailing of the December issue of *Placenames Australia* as a special Christmas gift to all our readers.

## On the Web

<http://www.anzlic.org.au/icsm/cgna/index.html>

As the website of the Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia states, the CGNA provides a coordinating role in Australian placenaming activities. Its members include representatives from geographical names boards in each state and territory in Australia and New Zealand, as well as from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, The Australian Antarctic Division, Australian Defence Department, Australian Antarctic Division, Geoscience Australia. The ANPS has been a member since 1999.

The CGNA website has a fun quiz. Try it and find out where and when the most recent volcanic eruption on the mainland of Australia took place, the name of Victoria's highest peak, Queensland's longest river, Australia's deepest gorge and the number of localities or towns in Australia named 'Perth'.

*Do you have a favourite placenames website you'd like to recommend to fellow readers? Send details of the address and a summary of its contents to [spoetsch@hmn.mq.edu.au](mailto:spoetsch@hmn.mq.edu.au) for inclusion in a future issue.*

# Placenames in the News

*The Australian* (Monday, July 22, 2002) reported on a plan of the Australian Geography Teachers Association, possibly in 2004, to involve high school students all over Australia in a major data collection project. According to the plan, students would collect specific fieldwork data and then submit it to a central body to be collated and then made available to participants and the wider community.

*The Sydney Morning Herald* (Friday, July 19, 2002) reported on the defining of boundaries and naming of suburbs under the Geographical Names Act of NSW. It described the effect of the names of new suburbs in Sydney on their respective property values. Apparently real estate in Lane Cove North could be worth more than that in Lane Cove West.

*AusGEO News, Issue 66* (June/July 2002, p14-15) reported on the interesting geology of Mordor Pound and the uncanny similarity of the geological features of the Mordor near Alice Springs, NT, and those of the map of Mordor in Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*.

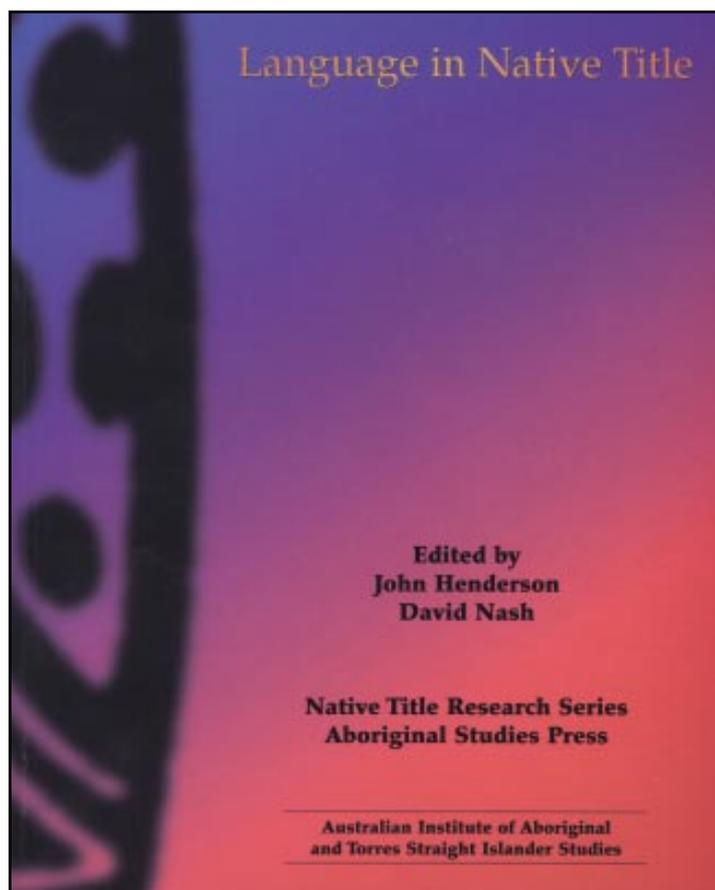
*Have you seen an article about placenames in the media which you'd like to share with our subscribers? Send a photocopy of the article and/or email details of the publication, date and a brief summary of the article to [spoetsch@hmn.mq.edu.au](mailto:spoetsch@hmn.mq.edu.au) for inclusion in a future issue of Placenames Australia.*

## Travel broadens our scope

As this issue of *Placenames Australia* goes to press, two members of the ANPS team are travelling overseas to extend our contacts internationally.

David Blair is attending the triennial meeting of the International Council of Onomastic Sciences in Uppsala, Sweden, where he will deliver a paper on the work of the ANPS and the APIT. From there he will travel to Berlin for the 8th United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names and the 21st Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names. Australia will also be represented at these sessions by Brian Goodchild, Chair of the Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia and of the Asia South-East, Pacific South-West division of UNGEGN; and by William Watt, Secretary of the South Australian Geographical Names Advisory Committee, who played a leading role in the development of the CGNA's 'Guidelines for the recording and use of Aboriginal and

## New Publications



Many Native Title claims are currently being evaluated within the Australian legal system. Indigenous claimants asserting recognition of Native Title must establish a continuous connection with the land — if they have left the land, whether voluntarily or not, and lost connection with the land as defined by their law and customs then the title is lost.

One of the most significant types of evidence of continuity of culture and attachment to land is linguistic, including the knowledge of traditional placenames and understanding of the mythology they embody.

While the 14 chapters in this collection of essays are largely concerned with issues other than toponymy, it will be of considerable interest to anyone with an interest in Australian languages and Aboriginal culture.

Torres Strait Islander placenames'.

Susan Poetsch is taking part in a two-week international toponymic training course organised by the German Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy. We hope to be able to use many practical lessons from her experiences in a similar international training course to be held in Australia in spring 2004.

Full reports on the activities of both David and Susan will appear in the December issue of *Placenames Australia*.

# The Placenames Puzzle No.3

Our thanks to Joyce Miles for creating another quiz for us. Clue: It is the sound that counts, not necessarily the spelling e.g. Large bird; aircraft = Emu Plains.

**WA**

1. Scandinavian raider of Britain 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> centuries

2. Sweeping implement

**SA**

3. Wife of William IV

4. Harbour; famous 16<sup>th</sup> USA president

**Qld**

5. (Locally) tin containers (nationally) heap of stones as a landmark

6. Once Shanghai's financial centre, indefinite article, composer of *Wozzeck*

**NT**

7. One of Henry VIII's wives

**Vic**

8. Big London clock, excavate with spade, exclamation

9. French for ball, first vowel, rodent

10. First season, valley

**Tas**

11. Fanny was a late 18<sup>th</sup> century diarist and novelist

**NSW**

12. Shattered; steeply rising land under 2000 ft

13. Scottish cap, its value

14. Entice, one

15. Sewing cotton, Little Miss Peep

16. Encourage; 20cwt, spicy meat dish

17. Mass of fish; type of window

18. Royal castle near London

19. Fruit

20. Made of a sheep's fleece, slang for medal

- Answers:** 1. Norseman 2. Broome  
3. Adelaide 4. Port Lincoln 5. Cairns  
6. Bundaberg 7. Katherine 8. Bendigo  
9. Ballarat 10. Springvale 11. Burnie  
12. Broken Hill 13. Tamworth  
14. Leura 15. Thredbo 16. Foster-  
Tuncurry 17. Shaol Bay 18. Windsor  
19. Orange 20. Wollongong

# I Quote...

*"Erroneous meanings are given from time to time by those who know nothing whatever about the subject."*

A. Meston 'Sydney Aboriginal Names'. In *Sydney Morning Herald* September 5, 1921

*The study of place-names, comprising several disciplines, is all too conducive to a genial prolixity and the amiable pursuit of hobbies. The linguist, the geographer, the historian, the folk-lorist – each may write upon the subject. The linguist tends to pursue etymology to its depths; the geographer is in danger of producing a gazetteer; the historian devotes a page as to whether a certain pond was named for Joe Smith or his cousin Hank; the folk-lorist endlessly records stories about names. The toponymist, if such a chimera may exist, attempts to co-ordinate the qualities of all four.*

Stewart, George R. (1970) *A Concise Dictionary of American Place-names* New York, Oxford: Oxford University Press pxi

## 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:

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