

Wallaga Lake, Bega
Bateman's Bay, NSW 1966

Dhurga
Birdawal
Ngarigo

TRACK A

Wallaga Lake. 28/07/1966. F.T. 18, Side 1. Mrs Arthur Thomas. Mostly Dhurga, a little Birdawal Ngarigo, which is not always indicated.

00:00

Dhurga vocabulary

- White, dark woman
- White man (D & BN); dark man
- Children (D & BN); boy
- Sea; rain; thunder and lightning
- Honey
- Father, mother, woman and women; grandfather and grandmother
- Oyster; cockle turtle
- Money (D & BN); policeman

12:20

- Meat; animals

17:00

- Body parts (include a few words for private parts some in Vict. Language)

23:20

- Weapons

36:20

- Bark cup; damper or bread

26:00

- Wood; log; for shame you dirty child
- Look at the Italian people; Chinaman

End of Side 1 of F.T. 18; beginning of Side 2.

31:00

- Possum; some fish; bird; crow

35:00

- Hello; goodbye
- Ant; grub (of bogong moth)
- Sick and sore

40:00

- Silly child; house; head lice
- Blanket; cheeky
- Look out; come here; dream tea

49:00

- Gum from wattle, mixed with water and sweetened with honey
- Cup from bark; disappear
- Meanings for places – Cobargo, Wallaga, Moruya
- Monkey; wild mountain women; hairy men that live on the mountain

55:00

End of Track A; end of F.T. 18

TRACK B

Bega. 28/07/1966. F.T. 19, Side 1. Mrs Celia Bond. Birdawal also some coast vocabulary.

00:00

Birdawal vocabulary

- Monkey; human classification

04:00

- Body parts
- Animals
- Look out; go away

08:30

- Night owl
- Dirty; rain; wind; thunder

12:30

- Tea; honey; eggs

15:00

- I'm going to my camp
- Bogey man; spirit
- Liar; kidney; fat

20:20

- Bread

Bega. F.T. 19, Side 1. Sister Bernie Smith, Secretary of the Bega Historical Society, who has lived at Bega for 64 years, gives information about the tribal boundaries of Aborigines in that area, various sites of importance, including battle grounds and burial grounds; possibly 700 lived around Bega River area. Broulee battle described before in Archive Tapes A3 and A103, dated possibly 1828 and 1832.

30:00

Sister Smith continues historical account of Bega area. Describes areas where relics were found; burial grounds at Wapingo and Tilba Tilba. Many middens occur in the area and in the early days of building the shells were crushed and used in great quantities for lime for building.

End of Side 1 of F.T. 19, beginning of Side 2.

34:00

Sister Smith continues. Trading was done between coastal and inland natives – salt was exchanged for hides and other things; seeds were carried along the trading routes and it was thought that this was responsible for the distribution of the great variety of coastal species along these routes and particularly in the camping areas. Fish were caught by herding and spearing. Friendly disposition of the Bega natives; brass plate originally presented to King Mumbulla (Biamanga) now in Museum in Eden.

40:30

Story of King Mumbulla being brought from Delegate to the coast carried in a basket. These baskets were copied by the coast natives and sold to Europeans; King Mumbulla still alive during World War I. Big Bunaam (Corroboree) rings on the headland at Bega River still won't support any plant growth to this day; middens described at Kainini headland. Superstitious or spiritual side of the Aboriginal character discussed.

47:30

Marked trees in the Bega Golf Course area are mentioned. These very old trees had had canoes and shields cut from their bark. Many had been ringbarked but some remain.

49:30

Stone given by King Mumbulla to the Jagger family recalled; this stone had all the tribal boundaries carved on it and was unfortunately destroyed.

Bateman's Bay. 29/07/1966. F.T. 19, Side 2. Percy Davis sings a song and gives a little more Dhurga vocabulary.

51:20

Song about a little bird that makes the west wind blow. (T by John Gordon, Lib 5379)

57:00

Repeat of song

59:30

Dhurga vocabulary

- Bad smell; runny nose; nose
- Tobacco; blind (eyes no good)
- Where are you going; stomach
- Blanket; hat; cut; yam

66:00

End of Track B; end of F.T. 19