



AIATSIS
Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Finding aid

COWLISHAW_G03

**Sound recordings collected by
Gillian Keir Cowlishaw, 1985**

Prepared July, 2016 by TQ
Last updated 3 November 2016

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ACCESS

Availability of copies

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SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1985

Extent: 9 audiocassettes (approximately 43 min each) : analogue, stereo.

Production history

These recordings were collected in 1985 by Kevin Knight and Leatta Ballangarry on behalf of Gillian Cowlshaw during fieldwork at Bourke, N.S.W. The purpose of the field trip was to document the histories and concerns of the Aboriginal people of that region. Speakers include Hopey Knight, Cliff Hartnett, Mervyn Vincent, Trevor Dutton, Kevin Knight, Robert Gray, Alf Edwards, Eric Dixon, Ron Johnson, Dudley Orcher, Myrna Orcher, Shirley Gillon, Lorraine Thorne, Hazel Clark, Jean Mackay, Douglas Dennis, Allan Leonard, Phil Sullivan and Caroline Demmery. The collection was deposited with the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies (now AIATSIS) on 18 August 1986.

RELATED MATERIAL

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Please note a listing exists for this collection. For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult our [online catalogue](#), Mura®. To conduct a search of available audio finding aids, please [click here](#).

ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information provided by Gillian Keir Cowlshaw and audition

sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff. Timing points may be slightly out depending on the technologies and procedures in place at the time the recordings were auditioned.

ITEM LIST

Archive number	Field recording number	Description
009837	Knight & Hartnett	Recording of oral history and cultural discussion interviews with Hopey Knight and Cliff Hartnett
009838	Vincent & Dixon	Recording of oral history and cultural discussion interviews with Mervyn Vincent and Eric Dickson
009839	Dutton & MacKay	Recording of oral history and cultural discussion interviews with Trevor Dutton and Jean Mackay
009840	Johnson & Knight	Recording of oral history and cultural discussion interviews with Ronald Johnson and Kevin Knight
009841	Thorn, Leonard & Sullivan	Recording of oral history and cultural discussion interviews with Lorraine Thorne, Allan Leonard and Phil Sullivan
009842	Demmery	Recording of oral history and cultural discussion interviews with Caroline Demmery
009843	Orcher & Clark	Recording of oral history and cultural discussion interviews with Dudley Orcher, Myrna Orcher and Hazel Clark
009844	Edwards & Grey	Recording of oral history and cultural discussion interviews with Alfred Edwards and Robert Gray
009845	Gillon & Dennis	Recording of oral history and cultural discussion interviews with Shirley Gillon and Douglas Dennis

ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

009837/ Knight & Hartnett

Performer/speaker(s):	Hopey Knight and Cliff Hartnett
Personal subject(s):	Knight family, Webster family, Clarke family, Leigh Everton, Mr Black, Charlie Perkins and Eunice Ebsworth
Subject keywords:	History - Oral history, History - Cultural
Language/people:	Ngiyampaa / Ngemba people (D22) (NSW SH55-10)
Places:	Cunnamulla (SW Qld SH55-02), Murdi Paaki / Bourke (N NSW SH55-10), Sydney (NSW SI56-05), Lismore (NSW N Coast SH56-03), White Cliffs (NW NSW SH54-12) and Coffs Harbour (NSW N Coast SH56-11)
Recording quality:	Fair to good / Fair

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
COWLISHAW_ G03-009837	00:00:00	Interview with Hopey Knight. Discussion about growing up and his family.	1985	Bourke, NSW
	00:04:24	Conversation about work, police and crime.		
	00:09:12	Discussion about the Aboriginal School Grant, education, housing and Bourke Shire.		
	00:11:39	Conversation about race relations, crime, discrimination, alcohol issues and the police.		
	00:18:10	Discussion about Land Rights.		
	00:21:16	Interview with Cliff Hartnett. Discussion about growing up and his family.		
	00:24:22	Conversation about employment issues in Bourke.		
	00:28:06	Discussion about the police, crime and alcohol, the Aboriginal School Grant and memorial hall.		
	00:34:59	End of field recording Knight & Hartnett and end of 009837.		

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009838/Archive Tape 9838

Performer/speaker(s):	Mervyn Vincent, Eric Dickson
Personal subject(s):	Vincent family, Albert Knight, Mr McLennan, Danny, Cassie Bartley and the Dickson family
Subject keywords:	History - Oral history, History - Cultural
Language/people:	Ngiyampaa / Ngemba people (D22) (NSW SH55-10)
Places:	Murdi Paaki / Bourke (N NSW SH55-10), Victoria (Vic), Sydney (NSW SI56-05), Dubbo (N NSW SI55-04), Walgett (N NSW SH55-11), Warangesda / Darlington Point (SW NSW SI55-10)
Recording quality:	Fair to good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
COWLISHAW_ G03-009838	00:00:00	Interview with Mervyn Vincent. Discussion about growing up, his family, employment, the pension.	1985	Bourke, NSW
	00:08:42	Conversation about the Aboriginal School Grant, education, Bourke Reserve and Bourke residents.		
	00:12:27	Discussion about Aboriginal Health Service and Health Commission.		
	00:14:11	Discussion about Bourke's community hall, police force, Land Rights and alcohol problems in Bourke.		
	00:18:39	Interview with Eric Dickson. Discussion about his school, work, family and exposure to Indigenous culture.		
	00:21:02	Discussion about colleagues and working life, bush medicine and hunting.		
	00:30:10	Conversation about raising a family and working in Bourke, Land Rights and education opportunities.		
	00:35:57	Discussion about the Aboriginal Health Service, the community hall and alcohol issues in Bourke.		
	00:39:43	End of Archive Tape 9838 and end of field recording Vincent & Dixon.		

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009839/ Dutton & MacKay

Performer/speaker(s):	Trevor Dutton and Jean Mackay
Personal subject(s):	Dutton family, Mackay family, Mr Vaughn, Betty Ebsworth and Barbara Morris
Subject keywords:	History - Oral history, History - Cultural
Language/people:	Ngiyampaa / Ngemba people (D22) (NSW SH55-10)
Places:	Murdi Paaki / Bourke (N NSW SH55-10), Wanaaring (NW NSW SH55-05), Tangalun / Kingston SE / Lacepede Bay (SE SA SJ54-06), Melbourne (Vic SJ55-05)
Recording quality:	Fair to good / Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
COWLISHAW_ G03-009839	00:00:00	Interview with Trevor Dutton. Discussion about family, school and employment.	1985	Bourke, NSW
	00:05:48	Conversation about Aboriginal culture and language, bush tucker and hunting.		
	00:11:24	Discussion about race relations.		
	00:18:52	Conversation about parents, the Aboriginal Studies Grant and the bingo school.		
	00:25:00	Discussion about working relationships and problems facing Indigenous people in Bourke.		
	00:27:23	Conversation about Indigenous youth education, the Aboriginal Health Service and Land Rights.		
	00:30:38	Interview with Jean Mackay. Discussion about her childhood and family.		
	00:34:14	Conversation about work colleagues, getting married and raising a family.		
	00:37:51	Discussion about work, race relations, Indigenous employment and education.		
	00:50:41	Conversation about Indigenous assistance, housing and the Aboriginal Health Service.		
	00:53:35	Discussion about Land Rights, the		

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
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police, alcohol and drug problems in Bourke.

00:56:24

End of field recording Dutton & MacKay and end of 009839

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009840/Johnson & Knight

Performer/speaker(s):	Ronald Johnson and Kevin Knight
Subject keywords:	History - Oral history, History - Cultural
Language/people:	Ngiyampaa / Ngemba people (D22)
Places:	Milparinka (NW NSW SH54-07), New South Wales (NSW), Tibooburra (NW NSW SH54-07), Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06), Mildura (NW Vic SI54-11), Murdi Paaki / Bourke (N NSW SH55-10), Cunnamulla (SW Qld SH55-02), Wanaaring (NW NSW SH55-05)
Recording quality:	Good / Fair to good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
COWLISHAW_ G03-009840	00:00:00	Interview with Ronald Johnson. Discussion about his family, school and work.	1985	Bourke, NSW
	00:06:57	Conversation about bosses, wages, Aboriginal language and bush medicine.		
	00:11:11	Discussion about employment, race relations in Bourke, Indigenous parents and children.		
	00:16:27	Conversation about teaching Indigenous culture, jobs and the Aboriginal Secondary School grant.		
	00:19:22	Discussion about Land Rights, the memorial hall, the police and societal issues in Bourke.		
	00:23:05	Interview with Kevin Knight. Discussion about his parents and childhood, work, colleagues, issues affecting Indigenous people and race relations.		
	00:31:49	Discussion about Indigenous education and the Aboriginal Health Service.		
	00:34:15	Conversation about the community hall, Land Rights, the police and alcohol issues in Bourke.		
	00:37:12	End of field recording Johnson & Knight and end of 009840.		

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009841/ Thorn, Leonard & Sullivan

Performer/speaker(s):	Lorraine Thorne, Allan Leonard and Phil Sullivan
Personal subject(s):	Thorne family, Skye-Anne, Trevor Amble and Gerald
Subject keywords:	History - Oral history, History - Cultural
Language/people:	Ngiyampaa / Ngemba people (D22) (NSW SH55-10)
Places:	Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06) and Murdi Paaki / Bourke (N NSW SH55-10)
Recording quality:	Fair to good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
COWLISHAW_ G03-009841	00:00:00	Interview with Lorraine Thorne. Discussion about school, family and work.	1985	Bourke, NSW
	00:02:26	Conversation about race relations, the Widjeri Co-operative, crime, police and alcohol.		
	00:07:00	Discussion about elderly and young residents of Bourke.		
	00:09:34	Interview with Allan Leonard. Discussion about school and work.		
	00:11:53	Conversation about the Widjeri Co-operative and views on race relations.		
	00:16:59	Discussion about Land Rights, Indigenous community leaders, the inclusion of Indigenous culture within schools, attitudes towards money.		
	00:24:08	Interview with Phil Sullivan. Discussion about school and work.		
	00:27:14	Conversation about the Widjeri Co-operative and Aboriginal leaders.		
	00:31:25	Discussion about racism, Land Rights, being a community leader and the Medical Centre.		
	00:41:01	End of field recording Thorn, Leonard & Sullivan and end of 009841.		

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009842/ Demmery

Performer/speaker(s):	Caroline Demmery
Personal subject(s):	Demmery family
Subject keywords:	History - Oral history, History - Cultural
Language/people:	Ngiyampaa / Ngemba people (D22) (NSW SH55-10)
Places:	Sydney (NSW SI56-05), Murdi Paaki / Bourke (N NSW SH55-10), Dubbo (N NSW SI55-04)
Recording quality:	Fair to good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
COWLISHAW_ G03-009842	00:00:00	Interview with Caroline Demmery. Discussion about parents, race relations, employment and school.	1985	Bourke, NSW
	00:16:28	Discussion about the alcohol problem in Bourke and the Reserve.		
	00:19:58	Conversation about Aboriginal organisations, the family property and living with family.		
	00:31:33	End of field recording Demmery and end of 009842.		

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009843/ Orcher & Clark

Performer/speaker(s):	Dudley Orcher, Myrna Orcher and Hazel Clark
Personal subject(s):	Orcher family, Mr Webb, Clark family and David Freyland
Subject keywords:	History - Oral history, History - Cultural
Language/people:	Ngiyampaa / Ngemba people (D22) (NSW SH55-10)
Places:	Weilmoringle (N NSW SH55-06), Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06), Goodooga (N NSW SH55-07), Murdi Paaki / Bourke (N NSW SH55-10), Cobar (N NSW SH55-14), Gunnedah (N NSW SH56-09), Walgett (N NSW SH55-11)
Recording quality:	Fair to good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
COWLISHAW_ G03-009843	00:00:00	Interview with Dudley Orcher. Discussion about growing up and work, family, the Reserve and race relations.	1985	Bourke, NSW
	00:10:09	Interview with Myrna Orcher. Discussion about Brewarrina Mission and her grandmother.		
	00:16:14	Conversation about work and Brewarrina town, Weilmoringle, thoughts about Bourke, Aboriginal School Grants.		
	00:20:10	Interview with Hazel Clark. Discussion about her childhood and life on Brewarrina Mission.		
	00:23:16	Conversation about grandchildren, race relations, the Aboriginal School Grant and Widjeri Co-operative.		
	00:26:30	Discussion about the Indian nuns, Brewarrina Mission, her parents and Indigenous youngsters.		
	00:36:04	Discussion about teenage mothers and Aboriginal language and culture.		
	00:39:52	Conversation about Brewarrina Mission, her husband and children, her friends and 65 th Birthday party.		
	00:46:46	End of field recording Orcher & Clark and end of 009843.		

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009844/Edwards & Grey

Performer/speaker(s):	Alfred Edwards and Robert Gray
Personal subject(s):	Edwards family, Gray family and Bill Bullor
Subject keywords:	History - Oral history, History - Cultural
Language/people:	Ngiyampaa / Ngemba people (D22) (NSW SH55-10)
Places:	Queensland (Qld), Cunnamulla (SW Qld SH55-02), Bulloo River (SW Qld SG55, SG54, SH54), Murdi Paaki / Bourke (N NSW SH55-10), Quilpie (SW Qld SG55-09), White Cliffs (NW NSW SH54-12), Woorabinda (SW Qld SG55-04), Tibooburra (NW NSW SH54-07), Wanaaring (NW NSW SH55-05)
Recording quality:	Fair to good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
COWLISHAW_ G03-009844	00:00:00	Interview with Alfred Edwards. Conversation about parents, school, work and colleagues.	1985	Bourke, NSW
	00:05:13	Conversation about Aboriginal language, hunting and fishing.		
	00:08:05	Discussion about wages and jobs, race relations and problems facing Indigenous people in Bourke.		
	00:14:30	Conversation about the Secondary School Grant, Health Services and the police, alcohol and interactions.		
	00:18:37	Interview with Robert Gray. Discussion about family and school.		
	00:21:38	Conversation about hunting, fishing, traditional ways and work.		
	00:28:55	Discussion about the pension, race relations, education and the Aboriginal School Grant.		
	00:35:31	Conversation about the Aboriginal Health Service, community hall and police.		
	00:38:49	Discussion about alcohol and the Alcoholics Anonymous program.		
	00:40:59	End of field recording Edwards & Grey and end of 009844.		

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009845/Gillon & Dennis

Performer/speaker(s):	Shirley Gillon and Douglas Dennis
Personal subject(s):	Gillon family, Dennis family and Janelle Edwards
Subject keywords:	History - Oral history, History - Cultural
Language/people:	Ngdiyampaa / Ngemba people (D22) (NSW SH55-10)
Places:	Murdi Paaki / Bourke (N NSW SH55-10), Enngonia (N NSW SH55-06), Randwick (NSW SI56-05), Walgett (N NSW SH55-11)
Recording quality:	Fair to good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
COWLISHAW_003-009845	00:00:00	Interview with Shirley Gillon. Discussion about growing up and her brother's work.	1985	Bourke, NSW
	00:02:01	Conversation about the Aboriginal School Grant, raising her children and about being a young adult.		
	00:04:51	Discussion about discrimination, employment, education, Indigenous culture and language.		
	00:08:25	Conversation about drug and alcohol problems as well as Indigenous membership of local clubs.		
	00:13:51	Discussion about the Widjeri Co-operative and the Reserve.		
	00:17:00	Conversation about relations between Indigenous people from Enngonia and Bourke, crime, alcohol, values, her husband.		
	00:28:16	Discussion about the Widjeri Co-operative and problems facing Indigenous people at school.		
	00:31:09	Interview with Douglas Dennis. Discussion about parents and Walgett Mission.		
	00:33:46	Conversation about work and family, learning about culture, seasonal work, unemployment, football, alcohol and education.		
	00:49:17	Discussion about the Medical		

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
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Centre, community hall, Indigenous participation in sport and police harassment.

00:54:33

End of field recording Gillon & Dennis and end of 009845.

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