



Finding aid

MATHEWS_J16

**Sound recordings collected by
Janet Mathews, 1972**

ACCESS

Availability of copies

Listening copies are available. Contact [AIATSIS](#) to arrange an appointment to listen to the recordings or to order copies.

Restrictions on listening

This collection is open for listening.

Restrictions on use

This collection is open for copying to the people recorded on the tapes, their relatives, Aboriginal communities in and around the places where the tapes were recorded, speakers of the languages recorded on the tapes, and Aboriginal cultural centres in and around the places where the tapes were recorded. All other clients may only copy this collection with the permission of Susan Upton. Permission must be sought from Susan Upton and the relevant Indigenous individual, family or community. Any publication or quotation must be consistent with the *Copyright Act* (1968).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1972

Extent: 18 sound tape reels (ca. 1 hr. each) : analogue, 3 ¾ ips, mono + field tape report sheets

Production history

These recordings were collected by Janet Mathews between the 10th and 16th of April 1972 in Coonamble, Lightning Ridge, Weilmoringle and Brewarrina. They document various languages spoken in western New South Wales, including Wailwan, Yuwaalaraay, Guwamu and Muruwari, as spoken by Bill Davis, Fred Reece, Robin Campbell and Daisy Brown. The recordings also feature an oral history interview in English with Jimmie Barker.

RELATED MATERIAL

John Giacon has prepared partial transcripts of field tapes 104 - 112, copies of which are held by the AIATSIS Audiovisual Archive. For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult the Institute's Mura® online catalogue at <http://mura.aiatsis.gov.au>.

ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information provided by Janet Mathews and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff.

ITEM LIST

Archive number	Field recording number	Description
002433A	Field tape 98	Wailwan sentence elicitation with Bill Davis
002433B	Field tape 99	Wailwan sentence elicitation with Bill Davis
002434A	Field tape 100	Wailwan sentence elicitation with Bill Davis
002434B	Field tape 101	Wailwan sentence elicitation with Bill Davis
002435A	Field tape 102	Wailwan sentence elicitation with Bill Davis
002435B	Field tape 103	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece
002436A	Field tape 104	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece
002436B	Field tape 105	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece
002437A	Field tape 106	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece
002437B	Field tape 107	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece
002438A	Field tape 108	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece
002438B	Field tape 109	Two songs and Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece
002439A	Field tape 110	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece
002439B	Field tape 111	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece
002440A	Field tape 112	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece, followed by Muruwari language elicitation with Robin Campbell and Guwamu sentence elicitation with Daisy Brown
002440B	Field tape 113	Oral history interview with Jimmie Barker
002441A	Field tape 114	Oral history interview with Jimmie Barker
002441B	Field tape 115	Oral history interview with Jimmie Barker

ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

002433A/Field tape 98

Performer/speaker(s): Bill Davis
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences
Language/people: Wailwan / Weilwan, Ngiyampaa / Ngemba
Places: Coonamble (N NSW SH55-11)
Recording quality: Fair – good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002433A	00:00:00	Janet Mathews introduces Bill Davis, who grew up on Wingadee Station near Coonamble and learnt Wailwan from his parents.	10 April 1972	Coonamble, NSW
	00:01:02	Wailwan sentence elicitation. Janet Mathews says a sentence in English and Bill Davis translates it into Wailwan, restating it in English when the meaning is slightly different.		
	01:05:45	End of MATHEWS_J16-002433A and end of field tape 98.		

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002433B/Field tape 99

Performer/speaker(s): Bill Davis
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences
Language/people: Wailwan / Weilwan, Ngiyampaa / Ngemba
Places: Coonamble (N NSW SH55-11)
Recording quality: Fair – good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002433B	00:00:00	Wailwan sentence elicitation with Bill Davis. Janet Mathews says a sentence in English and Mr Davis translates it into Wailwan, restating it in English when the meaning is slightly different. Mr Davis mentions that <i>Muruwari</i> is the Wailwan word for 'thunder'.	10 April 1972	Coonamble, NSW
	00:32:22	Mr Davis talks about the languages he knows. He can speak Gamilaraay and Ngiyambaa (which he says is almost identical to Wailwan) and he can understand Muruwari. Janet Mathews asks Mr Davis to sing some songs, but he declines.		
	00:38:05	Continuation of Wailwan sentence elicitation with Bill Davis.		
	01:05:15	End of field tape 99 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002433B.		

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002434A/Field tape 100

Performer/speaker(s): Bill Davis
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences
Language/people: Wailwan / Weilwan, Ngiyampaa / Ngemba
Places: Coonamble (N NSW SH55-11)
Recording quality: Fair – good
Notes: The speed of the recording slows slightly from 00:28:00 – 00:32:32 – the voices are faster but still intelligible

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002434A	00:00:00	Wailwan sentence elicitation with Bill Davis. Janet Mathews says a sentence in English and Mr Davis translates it into Wailwan, restating it in English when the meaning is slightly different.	10 April 1972	Coonamble, NSW
	01:01:40	Mr Davis talks briefly about a boy he and his wife adopted, who has done very well for himself and looks after his family. Further sentence elicitation follows.		
	01:05:23	End of field tape 100 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002434A.		

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002434B/Field tape 101

Performer/speaker(s): Bill Davis
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences
Language/people: Wailwan / Weilwan, Ngiyampaa / Ngemba
Places: Coonamble (N NSW SH55-11)
Recording quality: Fair – good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002434B	00:00:00	Wailwan sentence elicitation with Bill Davis.	11 April 1972	Coonamble, NSW
	01:05:40	End of field tape 101 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002434B.		

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002435A/Field tape 102

Performer/speaker(s): Bill Davis
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences
Language/people: Wailwan / Weilwan, Ngiyampaa / Ngemba
Places: Coonamble (N NSW SH55-11)
Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002435A	00:00:00	Wailwan sentence elicitation with Bill Davis.	11 April 1972	Coonamble, NSW
	00:20:50	Bill Davis discusses a song that makes men fight.		
	00:22:17	Continuation of sentence elicitation with Bill Davis.		
	01:05:10	End of MATHEWS_J16-002435A and end of field tape 102.		

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002435B/Field tape 103

Performer/speaker(s): Fred Reece
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences, Social organisation
Language/people: Yuwaalaraay / Euahlayi / Yuwaaliyaay
Places: Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07)
Recording quality: Fair – good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002435B	00:00:00	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece.	12 April 1972	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	00:04:54	Fred Reece discusses the proper pronunciation of Yuwaalaraay, and says that he learnt the language at Bangate Station.		
	00:05:47	Continuation of Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece.		
	00:57:28	Fred Reece discusses 'meat' groups, marriage rules and the naming of children.		
	01:00:00	Continuation of Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece.		
	01:05:05	End of field tape 103 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002435B.		

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002436A/Field tape 104

Performer/speaker(s): Fred Reece
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences
Language/people: Yuwaalaraay / Euahlayi / Yuwaaliyaay
Places: Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07)
Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002436A	00:00:00	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece.	12 April 1972	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	01:05:08	End of field tape 104 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002436A.		

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002436B/Field tape 105

Performer/speaker(s): Fred Reece

Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences, Language elicitation – Narratives, Oral history, Yam gathering & digging

Language/people: Yuwaalaraay / Euahlayi / Yuwaaliyaay

Places: Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07)

Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002436B	00:00:00	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece.	12 April 1972	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	00:01:35	Fred Reece briefly describes some differences between speaking Yuwaalaraay and English.		
	00:02:55	Continuation of Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece.		
	00:14:24	Fred Reece talks about yams, and recalls the time his mother stabbed him in the leg with a stick whilst searching for yams. The story is repeated in Yuwaalaraay.		
	00:21:52	Continuation of Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece.		
	01:04:52	End of field tape 105 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002436B.		

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002437A/Field tape 106

Performer/speaker(s): Fred Reece
Subject keywords: Emu cooking & eating, Language elicitation – Sentences
Language/people: Yuwaalaraay / Euahlayi / Yuwaaliyaay
Places: Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07)
Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002437A	00:00:00	Fred Reece describes how to cook an emu, in English.	12 April 1972	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	00:09:55	Elicitation of Yuwaalaraay sentences with Fred Reece, based on a list of sentences provided by Barry Blake.		
	00:58:47	End of field tape 106 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002437A.		

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002437B/Field tape 107

Performer/speaker(s): Fred Reece
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences
Language/people: Yuwaalaraay / Euahlayi / Yuwaaliyaay
Places: Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07)
Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002437B	00:00:00	Elicitation of Yuwaalaraay sentences with Fred Reece.	13 April 1972	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	01:04:35	End of field tape 107 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002437B.		

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002438A/Field tape 108

Performer/speaker(s): Fred Reece

Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences, Technology – Bags, Indigenous knowledge – Health & medicine, Mortuary customs

Language/people: Yuwaalaraay / Euahlayi / Yuwaaliyaay

Places: Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07)

Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002438A	00:00:00	Fred Reece describes how to make a possum skin bag to hold water, in English.	13 April 1972	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	00:02:10	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece. Mr Reece suggests that they should change the topic of the sentences to something else, such as hunting and camping. He also comments occasionally about the appropriateness of the sentences posed by Mrs Mathews. For example, he says that the word <i>manduwii</i> ('boots') is not Aboriginal and they should only talk about Aboriginal things, and that one would never say 'full coolamon' in Yuwaalaraay because filling a coolamon is not sensible, as the contents would spill out.		
	01:01:26	Discussion about using echidna fat on sores, making ointment, and 'goanna salve' that is sold in shops. A brief conversation about burial customs follows.		
	01:03:59	End of field tape 108 and MATHEWS_J16-002438A.		

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002438B/Field tape 109

Performer/speaker(s): Fred Reece

Subject keywords: Music – Vocal – Solo – Male, Language elicitation – Sentences, Language elicitation – Narratives

Language/people: Yuwaalaraay / Euahlayi / Yuwaaliyaay

Places: Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07)

Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002438B	00:00:00	Fred Reece sings two Yuwaaliyaay songs (repeated) from the Narran River area, that he learnt from his mother.	13 April 1972	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	00:13:16	Fred Reece talks about a burial in both Yuwaalaraay and English, interspersed with sentence and vocabulary elicitation.		
	00:26:47	Elicitation of Yuwaalaraay sentences with Fred Reece.		
	01:03:59	End of field tape 109 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002438B.		

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002439A/Field tape 110

Performer/speaker(s): Fred Reece
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences, Oral history
Language/people: Yuwaalaraay / Euahlayi / Yuwaaliyaay
Places: Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07)
Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002439A	00:00:00	Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece.	14 April 2006	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	00:32:02	Fred Reece reminisces in English about Bangate Station and the owner of the bank, Mrs Parker.		
	00:42:44	Continuation of Yuwaalaraay sentence elicitation with Fred Reece.		
	01:04:34	End of field tape 110 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002439A.		

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002439B/Field tape 111

Performer/speaker(s): Fred Reece

Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences, Language elicitation – Narratives, Story telling

Language/people: Yuwaalaraay / Euahlayi / Yuwaaliyaay

Places: Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07)

Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002439B	00:00:00	Fred Reece makes up a story, and says each sentence in Yuwaalaraay and English.	14 April 2006	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	00:07:14	End of field tape 111 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002439B.		

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002440A/Field tape 112

Performer/speaker(s): Fred Reece, Robin Campbell, Daisy Brown

Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences, Language elicitation – Narratives, Story telling, Oral history, Relationship to land, Vocabulary – Word lists, Vocabulary – Place names

Language/people: Yuwaalaraay / Euahlayi / Yuwaaliyaay, Muruwari / Murrawarri, Guwamu / Kooma

Places: Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07), Weilmoringle (N NSW SH55-06)

Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002440A	00:00:00	Fred Reece continues the story he started on field tape 111, in Yuwaalaraay and English.	14 April 1972	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	00:32:29	Oral history interview with Robin Campbell. Mr Campbell talks about growing up at Weilmoringle, his parents, Muruwari corroborees, collecting yams, making bags, and the boundaries of Muruwari country. Includes some vocabulary elicitation.	15 April 1972	Weilmoringle, NSW
	00:46:13	Elicitation of Guwamu sentences with Daisy Brown.		
	00:53:58	Muruwari language elicitation with Robin Campbell. Includes names of plants, place names, and some sentences.		

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002440B/Field tape 113

Performer/speaker(s): Jimmie Barker
Subject keywords: Autobiographies, Oral history, Racial discrimination, Race relations
Language/people: English, Muruwari / Murrawarri
Places: Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06)
Recording quality: Fair – good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002440B	00:00:00	Jimmie Barker discusses and clarifies sections of his autobiography. He talks about his early interest in things mechanical, his experiences of racial discrimination, Milroy Station, and race relations in Brewarrina.	16 April 1972	Brewarrina, NSW
	01:03:59	End of field tape 113 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002440B.		

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002441A/Field tape 114

Performer/speaker(s): Jimmie Barker

Subject keywords: Autobiographies, Oral history, Racial discrimination, Race relations, Indigenous perspectives, Living conditions

Language/people: English, Muruwari / Murrawarri

Places: Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06)

Recording quality: Fair – good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002441A	00:00:00	Oral history interview with Jimmie Barker in English. Topics include racial discrimination, Mr Barker's parents, and living conditions at Mundawah, Milroy Station and the mission at Brewarrina	16 April 1972	Brewarrina, NSW
	01:04:41	End of field tape 114 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002441A.		

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002441B/Field tape 115

Performer/speaker(s): Jimmie Barker
Subject keywords: Autobiographies, Oral history, Indigenous perspectives, Education, Employment
Language/people: English, Muruwari / Murrawarri
Places: Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06)
Recording quality: Fair – good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J16-002441B	00:00:00	Oral history interview in English with Jimmie Barker. Topics include education, his children's various jobs, cruel teachers at school when he was a child, families getting into fights, and young Aboriginal people having trouble leaving their families for work or training. Mr Barker also mentions that most of the old people on the mission at Brewarrina were Ngiyampaa, there were very few Muruwari people there, only Billy Kerrigan and Clyde Marshall (King Clyde).	16 April 1972	Brewarrina, NSW
	01:03:10	End of field tape 115 and end of MATHEWS_J16-002441B.		

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