

“Mr Cecil Taylor was born at The Risk, north of Kyogle where his family worked for the pioneer Wilson family. He was one of the first pupils enrolled at Woodenbong Public School and he was a guest of honour at their recent Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Cecil Taylor believed in his people’s culture and compiled a dictionary of their tribal dialect—Gidabal—with the English translation.



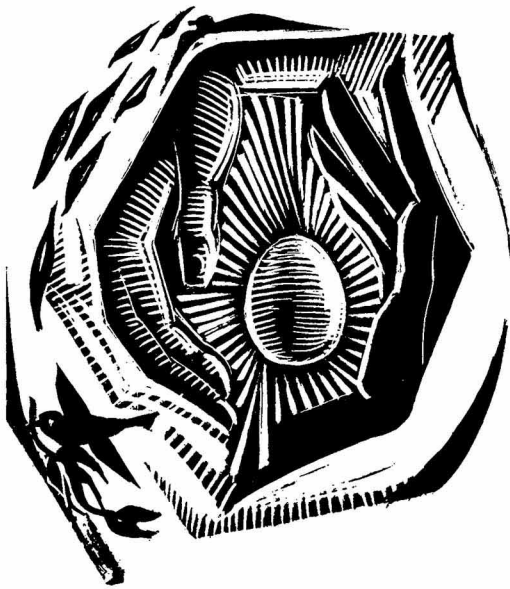
Mr Taylor was a member of the Casino Advancement League and always wanted to do the best for his people and the settlement of Woodenbong which was his home. He fostered the songs and corroboree dances of his own people and performed with a group from Woodenbong at a recent Aboriginal National Day function.

He was also a guest at the Casino Historical Society where a film and tape recording was made of his performance with his group of dancers.

Mr Taylor was 68 years of age when he died. He was one of the few full blood Aboriginals in the North Coast area and the district is the poorer for his passing as it has lost a true son.”

Mr R. Manyweathers, M.L.C.

In Memory of Cecil Taylor



—WHO DIED IN LISMORE ON 12th AUGUST, 1970

When a tribal man is going to die, he gets several warnings—intuitions—if you like. Then he begins to collect the thoughts of a lifetime together . . . like strings being pulled in from all around him.

He calls his family to him and gives each one a personal talk; each individually. As he talks, he pours his life into them and asks them to fulfil themselves as human beings.

His thoughts also turn to his people. He wants to leave *them* something, too. And Cecil Taylor—tribal man and fullblood Aboriginal—did just this. About six weeks before he died, he gave Mr B. V. Craig, the Resident District officer at Murwillumbah, an article to send on to NEW DAWN. It is a genuine Aboriginal legend as remembered and told by Cecil Taylor. It is printed here in his memory.