



Finding aid

MATHEWS_J30

**Sound recordings collected by
Jimmie Barker, 1970**

ACCESS

Availability of copies

Listening copies are available. For further information, an enquiry form is available on the AIATSIS Audiovisual Access Unit [web page](#). Alternatively, contact the Access Unit by email at audiovisual@aiatsis.gov.au 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

Clients may only copy this collection with the permission of Susan Upton, Roy Barker or their closest living relatives. Permission must be sought from the above as well as the relevant Indigenous individual, family or community for any publication or quotation of this material. Any publication or quotation must be consistent with the *Copyright Act* (1968).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1970

Extent: 3 sound tape reels (ca. 60 min. each) : analogue, 3 ¾ ips, mono; 5 in. + field tape report sheets.

Production history

These recordings were made during 1970 as part of an AIAS grant awarded to Janet Mathews to study languages in the Bourke region of northern New South Wales. Janet Mathews supplied Jimmy Barker with a tape recorder and tapes to record himself at Brewarrina. The recordings document vocabulary, grammar, discussion and stories by Jimmy Barker in Muruwari and English. This collection was deposited with the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies on 1 June 1970.

RELATED MATERIAL

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ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information contained in documentation provided by Janet Mathews 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

Field recording number	AIATSIS Item Number	Description
Field Tape 30B	001846A	Murawari sentences and vocabulary, with discussion in English by Jimmie Barker, including discussion and stories about marriage, relationships, animal habits and childhood
Field Tape 31B	001846B	Murawari sentences and vocabulary, with discussion in English by Jimmie Barker, including a story about Billie McCamm (?) and murder
Field Tape 32B	001847A	Murawari sentences and vocabulary, with discussion in English, by Jimmie Barker, including stories about a man called 'Straight Leg', bee-hive hunting and various birds and snakes

ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

001846A/Field Tape 30B

Performer/speaker(s): Jimmy Barker
 Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences, Vocabulary & grammar, Kinship & marriage, Hunting, Oral history
 Language/people: Muruwari / Murrawarri
 Places: Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06), Bourke map area(N NSW SH55-10)
 Recording quality: Fair

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J30-001846A (track A)	00:00:00	Muruwari sentences and vocabulary, including the interrogatives 'what', 'how many' and 'why', and discussion in English, with Jimmie Barker. The discussion and narratives are not transcribed.	6 April 1970	Brewarrina, NSW
	00:10:50	Discussion about marriage, relationships and family with Jimmie Barker.		
	00:33:05	Jimmie Barker discusses corroborees, ceremonial dances, and the habits, appearance and hunting of animals. Narrative about local customs including stories from Jimmy Barker's childhood.		
	01:04:35	End of field tape 30B and end of MATHEWS_J30-001846A.		

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001846B/Field Tape 31B

Performer/speaker(s): Jimmy Barker
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences, Vocabulary & grammar, Oral history
Language/people: Muruwari / Murrawarri
Places: Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06), Bourke map area(N NSW SH55-10)
Recording quality: Fair

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J30-001846B	00:00:00	Jimmie Barker continues his narrative and tells the story of the murder of a white man by Billie McCamm (?), also known as Billie Tyerigan (jerry-can?).	6 April 1970	Brewarrina, NSW
	00:12:30	The story of Billie McCamm (?) and his brother Jimmy, tracking the bushranger, Midnight.		
	00:17:00	Jimmie Barker discusses 'kings' and their 'plates', in reference to Billie McCamm and Clyde Marsh.		
	00:20:40	Muruwari language material, including interrogatives, temporals, adverbs, adjectives and seasons, with some discussion, with Jimmie Barker.		
	01:04:35	End of MATHEWS_J30-001846B and end of field tape 31B.		

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001847A/Field Tape 32B

Performer/speaker(s): Jimmy Barker

Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Sentences, Vocabulary, Oral history, Story telling, Birds - Stories & motifs

Language/people: Muruwari / Murrawarri

Places: Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06), Bourke map area(N NSW SH55-10)

Recording quality: Fair

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MATHEWS_J30-001847A	00:00:00	Jimmie Barker continues the Muruwari language material, with some discussion.	15 April 1970	Brewarrina, NSW
	00:32:45	The story of a man called 'Straight Leg' (bindel dundu) and how he got his name with Jimmie Barker. This narrative is not transcribed in English.		
	00:38:00	Jimmie Barker tells the story of a man who went out bee-hive hunting and a jealous witch doctor.		
	00:43:05	Jimmie Barker describes a game played with stones and water. He describes various bird calls including that of the robin red breast, the inland bellbird and the night owl (or night hawk).		
	00:55:10	General bird stories including the willy wagtail and the scissors grinder, with Jimmie Barker.		
	00:58:45	Jimmie Barker speaks of enormous water snakes which live in the local rivers, and one about bower birds, followed by general discussion.		
	01:04:30	End of field tape 32B and end of MATHEWS_J30-001847A.		

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