

## AN ABORIGINAL VOCABULARY OF THE FAUNA OF GIPPSLAND

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**Abstract**

The words which four aboriginal tribes from Gippsland used for some species of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians are presented and discussed. Sources of information used were the records of early European explorers, settlers and persons interested in Aboriginal culture. Where possible, tentative phonetic renderings in practical orthography are provided. The use of such information to augment our knowledge of the original distribution of native fauna is discussed.

**Introduction**

In this paper we have compiled, from the records of 19th century European colonists, a vocabulary of names given to animals by the Aborigines of Gippsland. These records represent, however sparsely, the first lists of fauna for this area. Only names for birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians are included, but most of the literature consulted contains references to similar information for fish and vegetation.

The words listed are those of four tribes which were distinguishable by differences in language: the Krauatungalung, the Brabiralung, the Braiakaulung and the Tatungalung (Tindale, 1974). The approximate tribal boundaries are shown on Fig. 1 (Howitt, 1904; Tindale, 1940, 1974) but these became derelict when traditional Aboriginal society collapsed soon after European settlement. The Gippsland Lakes Catchment (G.L.C.) is also shown (Fig. 1) as a vertebrate survey of this area is discussed (Norris *et al.*, 1980).

Before the drastic reduction in population caused by European settlement (Rowley, 1972; Christie, 1979) the Aboriginal population of Gippsland has been estimated as between 1000 and 1500 people (Fison and Howitt, 1880). In a demographic study Barwick (1971) states that (i) the tribes of western Gippsland were 'remnant' by 1852; (ii) that the Gippsland population was apparently stable from 1863 to 1877 although there was some immigration from the Monaro area to Lake Tyers; and (iii) that a fairly high proportion of the Gippsland people were still camping away from the stations and a substantial number of old people continued to wander until the late 1890s. Aboriginal stations were started at Lake Tyers and at Ramahyuck in 1862 (Christie, 1979; Barwick, 1971).

**Sources**

The vocabulary has been compiled from published and unpublished data collected by various Europeans during the latter half of the 19th century. The histories and the motives of the European recorders (Table 1) are varied. Edward M. Curr (1820-1879) was an author and squatter, whose work on Aboriginal culture (Curr, 1857) was, according to Pike (1969), "only as reliable as the observations made by his helpers". In Gippsland these were Bulmer, Hagenauer and Howitt. John Bulmer (1833-1913) and Friedrich A. Hagenauer (1829-1909) were respectively Church of England and Moravian missionaries who had had extensive experience on Aboriginal stations in northwestern Victoria and Gippsland (Pike, 1969, 1972; Walker, 1971; Christie, 1979). Bulmer had some knowledge of natural history (Christie, 1979). Alfred W. Howitt (1930-1908), who lived in Gippsland as police superintendent, magistrate and scholar, provided many contributions to exploration, natural history and anthropology. His interpretations of Aboriginal culture have been criticized (Walker, 1971, p. 310) but not his skill as an observer.

Robert H. Mathews (1841-1918) was a surveyor and anthropologist who ". . . prided himself on ascertaining his facts from the Aborigines themselves" (Pike, 1974). Most of his work was with tribes in New South Wales, Northern Territory and Central Australia (Greenway, 1963).

John Mathew (1849-1929) was an anthropologist interested in the Aborigines of several areas of Australia. It is not known when either of the last two observers visited Gippsland.

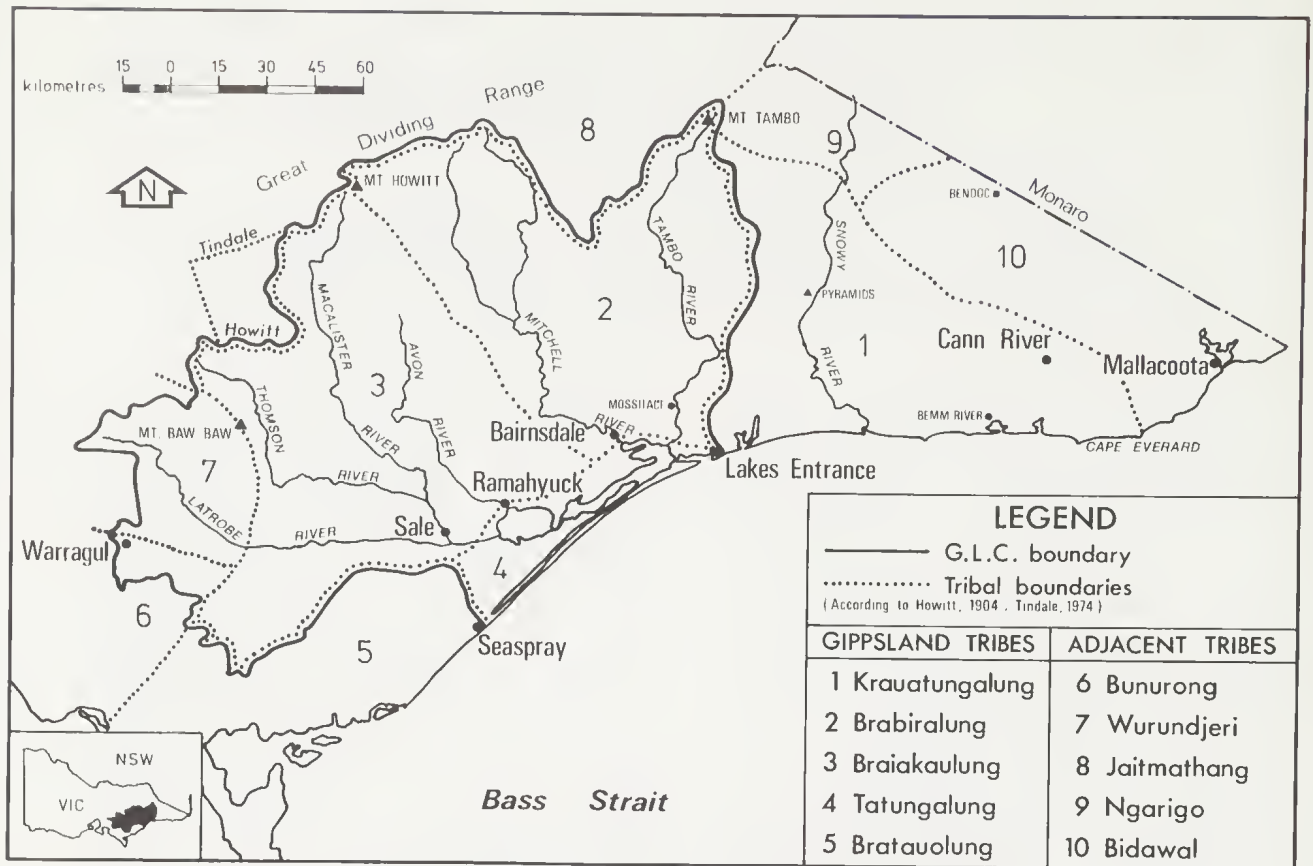


Fig. 1. Tribal boundaries of the Aboriginals of Gippsland, Victoria.

William Thomas (1793-1867) was appointed a Guardian of Aborigines and contributed much information to Smyth's *Aborigines of Victoria* (Smyth, 1878). William Dawson (?-1901) and J. Petitt (?-?) were the first Chief Surveyor of Gippsland and assistant respectively. Their list (Dawson and Petitt 1850s) also includes Aboriginal place names, some of which have been adopted in Gippsland.

Curr (undated) provides a list of words of the Krauatungalung tribe ('Lake Tyers'). These correspond to those provided to Curr (1887) by Bulmer and given in the vocabulary. Bulmer (undated, 1904) and Howitt (1895) also provide words that appear in the vocabulary under their respective names but have been derived from other sources. Howitt (undated) gives Aboriginal names to twenty vertebrates but the tribe or area where they were collected is not given. All words except that given for Quail

(Tchure-wuk) correspond to Gippsland words recorded by Howitt or Bulmer. To avoid repetition these have not been included in the vocabulary. The Intercolonial Exhibition Commissioners (1867) have recorded words from Lake Tyer [sic]. However, as noted by Schmidt (1919) the language content demonstrates the list is derived from Thaguwurra (Upper Goulburn).

#### Explanation of Table and Layout of Vocabulary

In Table 1 each source of information is assigned a symbol by means of which the recorder of every word given in the vocabulary can be identified. The originally stated area inhabited by the tribe using each word and the name of the tribe are also given in Table 1 (columns 3 and 4).

TABLE I  
Sources

Source	Symbol	Area	Tribe (following Tindale 1974)
Anon (1847)	(A)	West Gippsland and Lakes area	Braiakaulung and Tatungalung
Curr (1887)	(C)	*Gippsland	
In Curr (1887)			
(i) Bulmer	(Bu)	Snowy River and *Gippsland	Krauatungalung and others see below
(ii) Howitt	(Ho)	*Gippsland	
(iii) Hagenauer	(Ha)	*Gippsland	
Dawson and Petitt (1850s)	(D)	Snowy River, Lakes Mitchell River, McMillan's Blacks	Krauatungalung, Brabiralung, Tatungalung, Braiakaulung
Howitt (1880)	(H)	Lake Tyers district	Krauatungalung
	(Hi)	Nulert	Nulit = Braiakaulung
	(Hii)	Mukthang	= Brabiralung
Mathew (1899)	(Ma)	Gippsland	?
Mathews (1902)	(M)	Gippsland (central)	Brabiralung ["Brabirrawulung"]
In Smyth (1878)			
(I) Bulmer	(Bs)	Lake Tyers	Krauatungalung ["Karnathun"]
	(Br)	Swan Reach	Brabiralung ["Bundah Wark Kani"]
(ii) Hagenauer	(Hs)	Lake Wellington	Tatungalung ["Tarrawarrackel"]
(iii) Thomas	(T)	Sale and Bushy Park	Braiakaulung
(iv) Howitt	(Ht)	Gippsland	"Brabralong [sic] and neighbouring tribes"

\* This area as defined by Curr (1887) encompasses three tribes the Braiakaulung, Tatungalung and Brabiralung.

The first column in the vocabulary is ordered following Norris *et al.* (1980) and gives the species name and modern vernacular name to which we think the 19th century English vernacular names in column 2 refer. The corresponding Aboriginal words and the code for the European who recorded them are listed in column 3. *The spelling of words in columns 2 and 3 is that of the original recorder.* Phonetic symbols have been omitted but were used to help compile the tentative rendering in practical orthography in column 4 (see appendix 1 for notes on pronunciation). These appear in italics if they were recorded by one of us (L.A.H.) at the Lake Tyers settlement in 1964. Ambiguous words in column 3 have not been given a modern orthography. Words from other areas have appropriate footnotes.

### Discussion

Interpretation is affected by four main uncertainties. Firstly, "the extraordinary isolation of this [Gippsland] tribe" (Fison and Howitt, 1880) was destroyed when Aboriginals from other areas, mainly the Monaro, were forced to settle on the two missions in East Gippsland. Some European recorders did not accurately identify, or at least record, the informant's tribe even though most recorders were ethnographers. For example, Hagenauer brought Nathaniel Pepper to Ramahyuck from north-western Victoria (Christie, 1979; Leslie and Cowie, 1977), an event which may explain a word from that area (see *Hirundo neoxena*), being recorded by Dawson and Petitt (1850s) who may have been unaware of Pepper's origins.



Secondly, the recorders were probably not as aware of taxonomic subtleties as were the Aboriginals who would also have had different criteria for classification. The catch-all English word 'snake' in the vocabulary corresponds to many Aboriginal words, one or two of which may be a generic equivalent of 'snake' (see Hercus, 1966), but most of which probably refer to one of at least seven species which occur in Gippsland (Norris *et al.*, 1980).

Thirdly, some Aboriginal names may have had totemic significance and consequently, any animal may have had different names used according to circumstance. Every Gippsland Aboriginal ". . . received the name of some marsupial, bird, reptile or fish from his father when he was about ten years old, or at initiation. A man would say, pointing to the creature in question, that is your *thundung*, do not hurt it" (Howitt, 1904). And finally, in many instances, the Europeans' inconsistency in the use of vernacular names of fauna has prevented an unequivocal interpretation of their meaning. "Iguana" might mean either "Goanna" or what is often called the "Gippsland Iguana", the Eastern Water Dragon.

The list of words reveal a small part of what was a deep involvement of Aboriginals with their environment. The interest of the few early Europeans has incidentally aided our knowledge of early Gippsland fauna by providing the first available faunal lists. *Thylogale billardieri*, *Conilurus albipes*, *Anseranas semipalmata*, *Grus rubicundus* and *Ardeotis australis* are no longer found in the area and *Petrogale penicillata* is rare and restricted to remote parts of the Snowy River Gorge (Norris *et al.*, 1980). From the documented occurrence of species (Norris *et al.*, 1980) it appears that mammals are the best represented Order in the vocabulary. This may be due to the bias of the original recorders. This group also has the highest proportion of words recorded in 1964.

A comprehensive description of the vertebrate fauna of the survey area is provided by Norris *et al.* (1980), but the following species deserve further comment.

#### **Potorous spp.** Potoroos.

Both *Potorous tridactylus* and the recently described *P. longipes* (Seebeck and Johnson,

1980) occur in the survey area. The known range of the latter is almost entirely in the tribal area of the Krauatungalung. 'Bri' and 'win-nenerbree' are recorded for kangaroo rat in this language. Although unusual, the vocabulary evidences that this Aboriginal group appears to have used qualifying adjectives in animal names, see for example *Petrogale penicillata* and *Eudyptula minor*. Further linguistic investigation may show that the Aboriginal name of *P. longipes* was 'winnenerbree' (pron. winina-bri).

#### **Thylogale billardieri** Red-bellied Pademelon

This is a coastal species in Victoria. Five primary references to this species concerning the survey area have been located (Anon, 1894; Bury, 1966, 1967; Lewis, 1931, Le Souef, 1895). Although once plentiful around the Gippsland Lakes (Lewis, 1931; Bury, 1966, 1967) a Tatungalung word for the species was not recorded. This suggests that the lists compiled by the 19th century ethnographers were far from complete. The Krauatungalung tribe had a word for this species but there are no other records for this area although it was reportedly abundant at Mallacoota (Le Souef, 1895).

#### **Conilurus albipes** White-footed Rabbit-Rat

Howitt (1880) recorded the Braiakaulung word for Rabbit Rat. However, he omitted a Krauatungalung word after including the English common name in the species list of this tribe. Rabbit Rat has been applied to several species. However, only *C. albipes* is relevant to Gippsland (Troughton, 1973). Little is known about this species and it was already uncommon in Port Phillip (Victoria) in the 1800s (Gould, 1976). Wakefield (1972) recorded its subfossil remains in a cave at the Pyramids (see map) and commented that although the species was plentiful "probably until about 100 years ago" no live specimen had been recorded within 100 miles of that site. Subfossil bones of this species have been found on the Snowy River (Norris *et al.*, 1980; FWD records).

The National Museum of Victoria (NMV) has two specimens of *C. albipes* originally registered as R 1103 and R 1104 (presently C 7586, C 7585 respectively). These were regis-

tered as "*Hapalotis albipes*—Cooper's Creek, Cent. Aust.—Howitt's Cooper's Ck. Colln." This information was derived from a list written no later than 1862 by John James, secretary and accountant of the Museum (Darragh, pers. comm.).

A search of the published and unpublished writings of Howitt concerning both Gippsland and Central Australia has failed to locate a reference to this species other than those given here from Gippsland. Cooper's Creek, Central Australia, appears an anomalous locality in regard to all other records that define the range of this species (Mahoney, pers. comm.). However during the course of the expedition to Central Australia Howitt did traverse areas that are within the perceived range and habitat of this species. From 1858 Howitt collected skins for the Museum around the eastern periphery of the survey area (Walker, 1971). In 1860-1 he led a party into Central Gippsland for the Prospecting Board (see map in Walker, 1971) which explored in the Braiakaulung tribal area. Howitt recorded the name for Rabbit Rat in this language. This circumstantial evidence suggests that the NMV specimens were probably collected in Gippsland.

#### *Ardeotis australis* Australian Bustard

Wakefield (1942) wrote concerning a record of this species from Mossiface. "The Bustard once used to visit the southern Monaro Plains and probably sometimes used to cross the border into the Bendoc district, but why a single bird should have been found so far from its natural habitat is beyond explanation". He was presumably unaware of earlier records of this species being a food source for Aboriginals and early settlers of Gippsland (Leslie and Cowie, 1977). Two observers have recorded the word (one of which may apply to a different species) which tribes of the Gippsland Plains used for the "Wild Turkey"; consequently the specimen Wakefield reported might have been a remnant of a Gippsland population, rather than a bird from N.S.W., as implied by him. Hunting pressure and habitat modification probably led to its dying out in this area. The same is possibly true of *Anseranas semipalmata*, the original occurrence of which is discussed by Norris *et al.* (1980).

#### *Grus rubicundus* Brolga

Flocks of this species were recorded around the lakes in the 1850s (Leslie and Cowie, 1977), but only once has the species been recorded this century (Garnet, 1944). Seven of the ten original recorders noted words for this species from the Krauatungalung and Brabiralung tribes. Apparently suitable habitat existed in every tribal area, but 36% of this has been eliminated or greatly modified since settlement (Corrick and Norman, 1980). Bulmer (undated) describes the Aboriginal legend that explains why the Brolga usually lays two eggs in contrast to the Emu that can lay many more.

#### *Morelia spilotes* Diamond Python

This species has been recorded at Mallacoota and Bemm River (Le Souef, 1896; Daley, 1917); the latter locality corresponds to the southern limit of range attributed to the species by Cogger (1979). If the interpretation of Wood (Snake) or Constrictor Snake and Carpet Snake as *Morelia spilotes* is accepted then this species was known to the Krauatungalung and Brabiralung tribes.

#### Conclusion

By recording Aboriginal names for native animals, early European colonists have given us the earliest fauna lists of the area. This vocabulary illustrated how such data, especially when used in conjunction with other information can be used to augment our knowledge of the distribution of these animals at about the time of settlement.

The problems and inadequacies in the use of such data have been discussed for this region but hopefully the benefits will encourage workers in other areas to pursue similar investigations where possible.

#### Acknowledgements

Many people provided assistance to the authors—A. Corrick, W. Emison, D. Evans, I. Norman (all of the Fisheries and Wildlife Division) Eva Fesl (Monash University) and J. Mahoney (University of Sydney). The valuable criticism and encouragement of Ken Norris (FWD) is particularly and gratefully acknowledged.

Thanks are also due to the staff of the La Trobe Library (Victoria). The staff of the National Museum of Victoria provided generous access to their collections, particularly the papers of Howitt and Bulmer (Anthropology

Dept.) and mammal specimens and related data, J. Dixon and L. Huxley (Vertebrate Dept.). T. Darragh (NMV) gave useful criticisms of the manuscript. A. McShane provided drafting support.

## FAUNAL VOCABULARY OF GIPPSLAND TRIBES

## Mammals

(Presumed) Scientific Name	Common names used in original	Anglicised Aboriginal word used in original	Tentative phonetic rendering in practical orthography
<i>Tachyglossus aculeatus</i> Echidna	Porcupine (Bs,D,H,M, Ma)	Kowern (Bs) Kaern (H) Kauan (M) Kauon (Ma) Tarrangut (D)	<i>kowang</i>
<i>Ornithorhynchus anatinus</i> Platypus	Platypus (Bs,D,H,M)	Barlijan (H) Barlijan (Bs) Jimmialong (D)	tarangat[?] parlayan <i>djamalang</i> *
<i>Dasyurus maculatus</i> Tiger Cat	Tiger Cat (Bs,H)	Malungany (H) Mallunggang (M) Bindhalang (Bs,H)	malangang <i>bindjulang</i> (see <i>D. viverrinus</i> )
<i>D. viverrinus</i> Eastern Quoll	Native Cat (Bs,H,M,)	Brumbri (deleted in original to) Yuri(H) Brumbin (Bs) Bindyallang (M)	<i>brambinj</i> <i>bindjulang</i> (see <i>D. maculatus</i> )
<i>Phascogale tapoatafa</i> Tuan	Tuan (H) <i>Phascogale penicillata</i> (Hi)	Warnda (H)	wernda (see <i>Petaurus australis</i> and <i>Acrobates pygmaeus</i> )
Peramelidae Bandicoots	Bandicoot (Bs,H,Hi,M)	Bunyl Wathin (Hi) Min nack (Bs) Menak (Bs,H,Hi) Mennuk and Bembung (M)	minak <i>bembang narut</i>
<i>Vombatus ursinus</i> Wombat	Wombat (H,Hii) Woombat (A) Wombat (Bs,S,M)	Naroit (H) Narut (H,Hii) Narutt (A) Narrot (M) Naroot (Bs,S)	
<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	Native Bear (Bs,H,M, Ma,) Native Sloth (A) Native Slothbear (Hii)	Culla (A) Kula (M, Ma) Gorla (H)	goorla

\* *djamalang* belongs to the adjoining languages to the east and north east. It was recorded in Ngarigu (Delegate area) by L.A.H. and is also attested by R. H. Mathews.



(Presumed) Scientific Name	Common names used in original	Anglicised Aboriginal word used in original	Tentative phonetic rendering in practical orthography
Koala		Gula (Hii) Gooleur, Goola (D) Kullah, Koola (Bs)	
<i>Trichosurus caninus</i> Bobuck	Black Possum (Bs,H) Black Opposum (A,Hi) Place of 'plenty black possum' (D,Hs)	Brak (Bs,H) Bruk (Hi) Narburicgall (A) Nambruc (D) Wadthun (H)	brak narburigal nam-brak
<i>T. vulpecula</i> Common Brushtail	Brushtail Opossum (H) Opposum (A) Possum (D) Opposum (Bs,Bu,C,Hi,Hii, Ho,Ha,Ht,M,Ma)	Wadhon (H) Wadhon (A) Wadthan, Wadgin Wadgan (D), Watthan (Hi) Wattham (M) Wadhan (Ma) Wajan, Wa-gin (Bs) Wachan, Wadhan (Bu) Waitun (C) Wattung, wirrwy (Ho) Wattun (Hi,Ht), Karramook (Ha)	wathaan        kuremuk*

\* *kuremuk* belongs to south-western Victoria. It was recorded in Gurdidj (Lake Condah) by L.A.H. and has been attested by R. H. Mathews in Bungandidj (Mt Gambier) and Dauhurtwaru (Portland).

Koongora (C)          *kungara*\*

\* *kungara* belongs to the adjoining coastal languages. Thoorga and Bidawal. It is given for both by R. H. Mathews and was recorded in Thoorga by L.A.H.

<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>  Common Ringtail <i>Petaurus breviceps</i> Sugar Glider	Ringtail Possum (H) Ringtail Opposum (Bs) Ringtail Opposum (M) Ringtail (Hi) Flying Squirrel (Bs,H,M)	Blaang (Bs) blaang Blang (H,Hi,M)  Weran Waran (M) Waran (Bs)	blaang   waarang
<i>P. australis</i> / <i>Schoinobates volans</i> Yellow-bellied Glider Greater Glider	Large Flying Squirrel (H,Bs) Great Flying Squirrel (H) Squirrel (A)	Warnda (Bs) Wernda (H) Warndaa (A) Thathak-gaw (H)	wernda      toowan*
<i>Acrobates pygmaeus</i> [??] Feathertail Glider	Flying Mouse (Bs,H,Hi)	Tuan [with '(?) (H)] Toan (Bs) Wrangun (Hi)	see <i>Phasgocale</i> <i>Tapoatafa</i>

\* This is a widespread word in Victoria languages for *Phascogale tapoatafa*. *Wernda* is given for this species but probably confusion as also recorded as name of one of the large gliders.

<i>Potorous</i> spp. Potoroos	Kangaroo Rat (Bs,D,H,M)	Bri (H,M) Brce (Bs) Winnenerbree (D)	bri  winina-bri
<i>Macropus giganteus</i> Eastern Grey Kangaroo	Kangaroo (A,Br,Bs,Bu,C,D, H,Hii,Ha,Ho,Hs,Ht,M,T)	Dhera (A) Djira (Hii) Jirra, Jirrah (Br,Bu,Bs) Jirra (Ht) Girra (C)	djira

(Presumed) Scientific Name	Common names used in original	Anglicised Aboriginal word used in original	Tentative phonetic rendering in practical orthography
		Jerra, Dirra, Deera, Jirrah (D) Jirah (H) Djeerah (Ho) Dyira (M) Tyirra (Hs) Jir-rah (S) Dhira (Ma) Tir-rer (T) Boulung-deera (Ht) Brangolo jirrah, Booyangan jirrah (Bs) Koorang (Ha)	kurang*
* This word belongs to Dauhurtwurru language of the Portland area of south-western Victoria.			
<i>M. rufogriseus</i> Red-necked Wallaby	Red Wallaby (Bs,H,Hii)	Baoot (Ho) Kniara (H) Kinarra (Bs) Ginnera (Hii)	kinara
<i>Wallabia bicolor</i> Black Wallaby	Black Wallaby (Bs,H,Hii) Bk. Wallaby (Hi)	Therogang, Thakiran (H) Tharogang (Bs) Dakwun (Hi) Takwun (Hii)	tharagang thakwan (see <i>P. penicillata</i> )
<i>Thylogale billardierii</i> Red-bellied Pademelon	Wallaby (D) Paddymelon Wallaby (Bs) Paddymelon (H) Small Scrub Wallaby (Hi)	Bowie (D) Bowey (Bs) Bau (H,Hi)	<i>bowi</i>
<i>Petrogale penicillata</i> Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby	Rock wallaby (H,M) [?] Long-tailed wallaby (D) Kind of wallaby (Ht)	Dhagwan (M) Waiat (H) Talla-bowie, Tu-loo bowie (D) Tullo-bowie (Ht)	thakwan wayat tala-bōwi, <i>tala</i> 'little' i.e. little wallaby
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i> Grey-headed Fruit-Bat	Flying Fox (H,M)	Blam-bang (H) Ngaian (M)	blembang ngayan
<i>Conilurus albipes</i> White-footed Rabbit-Rat	Rabbit Rat (H,Hi)	not given (H) Jaiung (Hi)	
<i>Rattus fuscipes</i> Bush Rat	Common Rat (Bs,H) Bush Rat (Hi)	Biak (Bs) Baiuk (H,Hi)	bayak
<i>Hydromys chrysogaster</i> Australian Water-Rat	Water Rat (Bs,H,M)	Toorablang (Bs) Turblang (H) Durblang (M)	toorblang
<i>Canis familiaris</i> Tame or Feral Dog	Dog (A,Bs,D,H,M.) Tame Dog (Bu,C,Ho,Ha) Natives dog (Hii)	Ban (H,M) Bawn (A) Baan (Bu,Bs,Ha) Barn (Hii,Ho), Bonno (D) Baain (C)	baan
Dingo	Native Dog (Ma) Wild Dog (Bu,C,Mo)	Ngurain (Ma), Ngooran (Bu) Merricun (Ho), Merrigang (Bu) Merigang (C)	ngooran mirigaan
<i>Equus caballus</i> Horse	Horse (A)	Condo condo (A)	
<i>Bos taurus</i> European Cattle	Cattle (A) Bullock (D)	Bullaella (A) Bodagga (D)	bulela, budaka [from English "bullock"]



(Presumed) Scientific Name	Common names used in original	Anglicised Aboriginal word used in original	Tentative phonetic rendering in practical orthography
Pinnipedia	Seal (Bs,H,Hii)	Bithowi (Bs) Bilthai (Bs) Gurnun (Hii)	bilthowi
Cetacea	Whale (Bs,H,Hii)	Ba waiy (H) Baawang (Bs) Gandu (Hii)	baawayi
<b>Birds</b>			
Aves	Bird (Bs,Br,Hs,T)	Tuin (Br,Bs) Ngalloong (Hs) Klart (T)	ngulung (see <i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i> ) <i>miridjon</i> mayoor
<i>Dromaius novaehollandiae</i> Emu	Emu  (A,Bu,Bs,C,D,H,Ha,Ho, M,Ma,)	Tarlo-jaak (Br) Mi-owero, Miowera (Bu,Bs) Myowr, Crewee (Ho) miaor (A) Myour, Mioure (D) Maioor, Grewi (C) Maiaura (H,M) Maiyor (Ma) Myory (Ha)	
<i>Eudyptula minor</i> Fairy Penguin	Penguin (Bs)	Tarlo birndang (Bs)	<i>tala</i> birndang
<i>Puffinus tenuirostris</i> Short-tailed Shearwater	Muttonbird (Bs)	Bralak (Bs)	bralak
<i>Pelicanus conspicillatus</i> Australian Pelican	Pelican (A,Bu,Bs,C, D,H,Hii,Ho,Ht,M,Ma)	Booran (D,Bs,Bu) Boorang (Ha) Poorun, wodjil (Ho) Boorun (C) Bhureau, Kidill (Bs) Buran (H,Hii,M,Ma) Bhuran widill (A) Gwannung-bourn (Ht) Guanumburn, Gwanning-bourn (D)	booran
<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i> Darter	Darter or Serpent- bird (Bs)	Tharwan (Bs)	tharwan
<i>Phalacrocorax</i> spp. Cormorants	Cormorant (Bs) Black diver with white breast (S)	Karney (Bs) Koorowera (Bs)	karni koorawira
<i>Ardea novaehollandiae</i> [?] White-faced Heron	Crane (Bs,H) Grey Crane (M) Blue Crane (Hii) White Crane (Bs)	Karlo (Bs,H) Galu (M) Karl (Hii) Tirtgerawan (Bs)	karlu
<i>Egretta alba</i> [?] Great Egret			
<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i> [?] Rufous Night Heron	Night Swamp bird (D)	Gaw-woo (D)	
<i>Threskiornis</i> spp. Ibises	Ibis (M)	Giwert giwert (M)	djiwert-djiwert
<i>Platalea</i> spp. Spoonbills	Spoonbill (H)	Waunig (H)	wayinik
<i>Anseranas semipalmata</i> [?]	Geese (Bs,H)	Nath (Bs,H)	naath

(Presumed) Scientific Name	Common names used in original	Anglicised Aboriginal word used in original	Tentative phonetic rendering in practical orthography
Magpie Goose <i>Cygnus atratus</i> Black Swan	Swan (Bu,BS,C,D), H,Ho,M,Ma,)	Koondrook (C) Kitai (Ma) Babbine (Bs) Gidi (Bu,Bs) Gidai (H) Giddai (M) Giddi, babbiyung (Ho) Guldi, Giddi (D) Goonigour, Goonure (D)	<i>gidayi</i>       goonigoor
<i>Tadorna tadornoides</i> Australian Shelduck <i>Anas superciliosa</i> Pacific Black Duck	Mountain duck (Bs,H)  Black Duck (Bu,Bs,C, H,Ha,Ho,M) Duck (A)	Kar-quark (H) Kara-gnark (Bs) Wiranga (A) Wreng (Bu,H) Wrang (Bu,Bs,C,M,Ma, in H but deleted as in error) wurrung (C) woorang (Ha) Oowreng, Nurdurt (Ho) natath (H,Bs)	karangark  warang       nardat (see <i>Anas superciliosa</i> )
<i>Anas</i> spp. Ducks	Teal (H) Teal Duck (Bs) Wild Teal (A) Duck (D)	Darauck (A) Boodjan (D)	<i>budjan*</i>

\* Recorded by L.A.H. as general term for bird in Southern Ngarigo (Delegate area).

<i>Anas rhynchotis</i> Australasian Shoveller	Spoonbill duck (D) Spoonbill duck (Bs) Spoonbilled duck (Hs)	Wy-yang (D) Wyung (Bs) Wahyang (Hs)	wayan
<i>Malacorhynchus membranaceus</i> / <i>Aythya australis</i> Pink-eared Duck/Hardhead	Widgeon (Bs,H)	Kurtgan (H), Koortgan (Bs)	kurdgan
<i>Chenonetta jubata</i> Maned Duck	Wood Duck (Bu,Bs,C, H,Ha,Ho,Ma)	Nembalagang (Bu) Jellangoong (Bu) Jeelungeetic (Ho) Naidit (C)  Yellan nandik (Bs,H) Woorangy (Ha)	nardat (See <i>Anas super-</i> <i>ciliosa</i> ) djilanandik warang (see <i>Anas</i> <i>superciliosa</i> ) naak
<i>Bizirra lobata</i> Musk Duck	Musk Duck (Bs,H)	Nark (Ho) Naak (Ma) Tuk (H) Ban (Bs)	tak ban
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i> / <i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i> Osprey/White-bellied Sea-eagle	Fish Hawk (Bs) -? Hawk (Hii)	Be win, Birn (Bs) Biwing (Hii)	biwin
<i>Elanus notatus</i> [?] Black-shouldered Kite	Small Grey Hawk (Bs)	Troon wagga (Bs)	
<i>Accipiter novaehollandiae</i> Grey Goshawk	White Hawk (Bs)	Boon boong (Bs)	bunbung
<i>Aquila audax</i> Wedge-tailed Eagle	Eagle Hawk (Bu,Bs, Hii,Ht,M,Ma)	Quarnamerong (Bu) Quarnamaroo (Hs)	karnamarung

(Presumed) Scientific Name	Common names used in original	Anglicised Aboriginal word used in original	Tentative phonetic rendering in practical orthography
	Eagle (Br,Bs,Hs,T)	Gwannam-o-rook (Ht) Kurnugmuroon (C) Quornamero (Br) Quarnameroo (Bu,Bs) Gwannumurung (a) (Ht,Hii) Quarnamerung (Bs) Kaunamurung (Ma) Thuronack (Br) Poen-rung (T)	
<i>Falco cenchroides</i> [?] Australian Kestrel	Little Yellow Hawk (D) Common hawk (M) Sparrow hawk (Bs)	Dite-yulk (D) Deddyel (M) Tootooth gwan (Bs)	titiyal
<i>Corturnix</i> spp. Quail	Quail (Bs,H)	Tirobigwanning (H) Ooro bi gnanang (Bs)	turabinganang
<i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i> / <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i> Dusky Moorhen or Purple Swamphen	Water Hen (Bs,D,H) "Place of plenty water hens" (Hs)	Neerloong (Bs) Nirlung (H) Nailung (Hs) Nalbung (D)	nirlang
<i>Grus rubicundus</i> Brolga	Native Companion (Bu,Bs,C,H,Ha,Ho,M Ma)	Balwin (Bu) Karloo-turtkurawan (C) Kooragan (Bs,Bu) Kooracan (Ha) Gooreekun (Ho) Kuragau (H) Guragan (M) Kurakan (Ma) Curackan (A)	nalbang kurakan
<i>Ardeotis australis</i> Australian Bustard	Wild Turkey (A,C)	Woorngil (C) Bungil bowrndang (Bs)	kurakan (see <i>Grus rubicundus</i> ) woorngil
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> [?] Grey Plover	Grey Plover (Bs)	Tarlarang (Bs) Birran birran (M) Berin-berin (Bs) Klik (Bs)	biran biran
Charadriidae [?] Charadriidae/ <i>Vanellus</i> spp. <i>Gallinago hardwickii</i> [?] Latham's Snipe Scolopacidae	Snipe (Bs)	Bra (Bs) Kewet-kewet (Bs) Carouar (A) Blithbrung (Bs) Tarook, Tarlo wyak (Bs)	blithbrang taruk tala (little) wayak djabak
<i>Larus novaehollandiae</i> Silver Gull	Curllew (Bs) Sandpiper (Bs) Seagull (A,Bs)	Jubbuk (H) Tappak (Bs) Waukwakan (H) Waakquagan (Bs)	wakwakan
Laridae/ <i>Sterna</i> spp. [?]	Small White seagull Small Seagull (Bs) Bronzewing (Bs,H)	Dhabbak (M) Ngeuuk (H) Nganak (Bs,M) Nenack (A) Ngirnak (Ma) Keren (H) Karan (Bs) Gner-ing (Ht)	djabak (see <i>Phaps</i> spp.) nganak
<i>Phaps</i> spp. Bronzewings <i>Leucosarcia melanoleuca</i> Wonga Pigeon	Wonga (H) Wonga-wonga Pigeons (Bs) Wonga pigeon (M)		
<i>Calyptorhynchus</i> spp. Black Cockatoos	Black Cockatoo (A,Bs,H,M,Ma)		
<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i> Gang-gang Cockatoo	Gang Gang (H,Ht), Grey Cockatoo (Bs)		karan



(Presumed) Scientific Name	Common names used in original	Anglicised Aboriginal word used in original	Tentative phonetic rendering in practical orthography
<i>Cacatua galerita</i> Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	White Cockatoo (A,Bu,Bs,C,H,Ha,Ho, M,Ma)	Brak (Bs) Brayak (Ho) Braak (Ha,Bu,Ma) Braek (C) Braite (A) Break (M) Bre-ck (M) Ngullukgoorung (Ho)	breyak
<i>Platycercus elegans</i> Crimson Rosella	Blue Mountain Parrot (Bs,M)	Wattat (Bs) Wataty (M)	watadj
<i>Neophema</i> spp. Psittacidae	Grass Parrot (Bs) Parrots (A)	Toon (Bs) Purhill (A)	paril (?)
<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae</i> Southern Boobook	Mo Poke (A,Br,Bs,D, Hii,Hs,M,T)	Uu-loch (A) Wookook Wokuk (Br,Bs) Wook-gook, Wookoock (Hs) Woo-cook (D) Woor-quok (T) Wakkung (M) Barndagrín (Hii)	<i>wook-wook</i>
<i>Tyto</i> spp. [?]	Little Brown Owl (HT)	Abin (Br) Ebing (a) (Ht)	ngabin
<i>Apodidae</i> [?] <i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>	Swift (D) Laughing jackass	Cowwungan (D) Wookwook (Ha)	kowangan (see <i>Ninox novaeseelan- diae</i> )
Laughing Kookaburra	(A,Bu,Bs,C,Ha,Ht, M,Ma) Large King fisher (Bs)	Coarg (Ho) Kuak(Ma) Coack (A) Quak (Bs) Gwak (M) Kookokarrak (Bu) Burndigan (C) Kou-ark-mungee (Ht) Wokook (Bu)	kowak
<i>Ceyx azurea</i> [?] Azure Kingfisher	Small Kingfisher (Bs)	Thoormuryung (Bs)	(see <i>Ninox novaeseelan- diae</i> ) thoormaryang
<i>Halcyon sancta</i> Sacred Kingfisher	Kingfisher with white neck (Bs)	Tanyankaragan (Bs)	tanyangaragan
<i>Menura novaehollandiae</i> Superb Lyrebird	Lyrebird (Bs,H) Pheasant (M)	Wurail (H) Wuraial (M) Woorail (Bs)	woorayil
<i>Hirundinidae</i> spp. [?] <i>Hirundo neoxena</i> [?] Welcome Swallow	Martin or Swift (Bs) Swallow (Bs,D)	Koorngan (Bs) Kilugan (Bs) *Gheet-wile (D)	koorngan <i>gert-wile*</i>

\* Not a Gippsland word: from N.W. Victoria (L.A.H.).

<i>Petroica</i> spp.	Robin Redbreast (Bs,H)	Tur-bring (H) Bululwrag (Bs)	tubring
Muscicapidae Maluridae/ Acanthizidae	Flycatcher (D) Wren (H)	Gweed-gun (D) Ngarugal (H)	guwid-gun ngarukal
Acanthizidae	Small bird like tomtit (Bs)	Ya rang (Bs)	[see also <i>Corvus</i> spp.] yarang

(Presumed) Scientific Name	Common names used in original	Anglicised Aboriginal word used in original	Tentative phonetic rendering in practical orthography
<i>Manorina melanophrys</i> Bell Miner	Little Bellbird (D) Bellbird (Hii)	Chu-lurn (D) Gwenet (Hii)	
<i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i> Mistletoebird	Mistletoe bird (Bs)	Chirtgang (Bs)	
<i>Emblema</i> spp. [?] Firetail Finches	Small bird with patch of red over tail (Bs)	Bribatith (Bs)	
<i>Ptilonorhynchus violaceus</i> Satin Bowerbird	Satin-bird (Bs)	Bungil warndowan (Bs)	
<i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i> Australian Magpie-Lark	Pee-wee (M)	Nanawan (M)	nanawang (M)
Cracticidae	Crow-shrike (Bs)	Wooryung (Bs)	woorang/ warang [see <i>Strepera</i> spp.] klard
<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i> Australian Magpie	Magpie (Bs) Common magpie (M) White magpie (A) Crow (C)	Clart (A) Glart (M) Klart (Bs) Klard (C)	
<i>Strepera</i> spp. [?] Currawongs	Black magpie (A)	Wreong (A)	warang
<i>Corvus</i> spp. Ravens	Crow (Br,Bs,Bu,C,H, Hii,Ha,Ho,Hs,M,Ma,T)	Wa-gara (Br) Woggara (Bu)	wokara*

\* This word is widespread in Australia it has been recorded by Mathews for Thoorga on the south coast of NSW.

Waageri (C)  
Wagara (Bu)  
Waygara (Bs)  
Wong (Ha)  
Narrokul (Ho)  
Nar-ru-quon (T)  
Ngarroogall  
Ngarugal (H,Hii)  
Ngarukal (M)  
Ngaroogal,  
Gnar-o-kal (Bs)  
Gnuro-jal (Br)  
Ngarukol (Ma)  
Eumummurut (Ho)  
Bonieyong, Boneyong  
(D)  
Boyang (Bs)  
Boyang (Br)  
Booyang (Hs)  
Tha, Thuja (Br)

ngarukal

buyang

Reptiles

Serpentes	Snake (A,Br,Bu,C, Ho,Ha,Hs,Ma,T)	Toorung (C) Thurrung (Br) Thoorung (Bu) Thurung (Ho) Too-roo (T)	thurung    (see <i>Notechis scutatus</i> )
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(Presumed) Scientific Name	Common names used in original	Anglicised Aboriginal word used in original	Tentative phonetic rendering in practical orthography
		Dharenga (A) Thuroong (D) Toorroong (Hs) Galelung (Ho) Laue-beri (H) Kalang (Br,Bu) Koran (Ha) Coorootmill (Ha)*	lowaberi (see <i>Morelia spilotes</i> )
* A word from western Victoria, see <i>gurnwil</i> , <i>gurnmill</i> Hercus (1969).			
<i>Australaps</i> sp. [?]	Small Snake (Bs) A yellow Snake (Ht) * Leatherhead (Hii)	Koon gwan (Bs) Nigga-the-rook (Ht) Tatau-o-luk (Hii)	
* appears in list of three other snakes, subsequently with birds and frogs, may refer to <i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i> or <i>Philemon corniculatus</i> .			
<i>Pseudochis porphyriacus</i> Red-bellied Black-Snake	Red belly black Snake (H) Black Snake (Bs,H, Hii,M)	Tunyaruk (H) Duinyerrak (M) Toonyarak (Bs)	toonyarak
<i>Notechis scutatus</i> Tiger Snake	Tiger Snake (H,Hii) Red Snake or Brown (Bs)	Thurung (H) Thurung (Bs) Jilung	thurung  (see <i>Pseudonaja textilis</i> )
<i>Pseudonaja textilis</i> Common Brown-Snake	Brown Snake (H,Hii,M)	Naiabun (Hii) Dhurung (M) Thurung (Hii) Ngaz-abun (H)	thurung (see <i>Notechis scutatus</i> )
<i>Morelia spilotes</i> [?] Diamond Python	Wood (Snake) or constrictor snake (Bs) Pretty coloured Snake (Hii)	Loowa birri (Bs) lauaberi (Hii) Lualbirr (M)	lowaberi
Scincidae	Carpet snake (M) Lizard (A,H)	Carar dong (A) Keratung (H) Keratung (Bs)	kiratang
<i>Varanus varius</i> [?] Lace Monitor	Small lizard (Bs,M)	Balmbung (M) Bathaluk (H) Badhalok (Ma) Bathalook (Bs)	budalak
	Tree Iguana (M) Dead Gohanna (D)	Bataluk (Hii) Buddhaluk (M) Dirdide bodullock (D)	derdigan (dead) budalak goongun
<i>Sphemorphus</i> spp. [?] <i>Chelodina longicollis</i> Long-necked Tortoise	Goanna (A) [?] Dew Lizard (H) [?] Sleepy lizard (M) [?] Water lizard (M) Tortoise (D) [?] Turtle (M,Hii)	Goon gwan (A) Gun gun (H) Gungwan (M) Tharawurt (M) Nart (D) Ngeth (M) Ngat (Hii)	ngaath



(Presumed) Scientific Name	Common names used in original	Anglicised Aboriginal word used in original	Tentative phonetic rendering in practical orthography
<b>Amphibians</b>			
Salientia spp. Frogs	Frog (Bs,H,Hii,M)	Jiddeluh (H) Tedalek (Hii) Tirtalack (Bs) Dirdillak (M) Dhe dillock (A) Bluk (H)	thatilak     blook
<i>Litoria aurea</i> / <i>L. raniformis</i> <i>Limnodynastes</i> spp. ( <i>dumerili</i> ?)	Bell Frog (A) Bull Frog (H)		

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## Appendix I

Notes on the tentative phonetic rendering aid in practical orthography (L.A.H.)

Symbol	Approximate pronunciation
<i>Vowels</i>	
a	as in 'father'
aa	as a very long form of the 'a' in father
ow	as in 'cow' (this is the diphthong [au] in phonetic script)
u	as in 'put'
oo	as in 'goose'
e	as in 'bed'
ayi	as 'y' in 'by' (this is the diphthong [ai] in phonetic script)
i	as in 'bid'

*Consonants*

ng	as 'ng' in English 'sing'
dj	as 'j' in jewel'
th	as in 'thorn'
rl	These are retroflex consonants, pronounced with the tip of the tongue curled backwards. They are not found in standard English, but rl, rd and rn are the closest equivalents, something approaching the consonant 'rd' is the pronunciation of 'rt' in American English e.g. in 'Martin'.
rd	
rn	
nj	palatal n, similar but not identical with 'ny' in English 'canyon'.

Voiced and unvoiced plosive consonants are not distinguished from one another, thus there is no distinction of any significance between d and t, b and p, g and k.

However in some positions the plosive consonant may sound more like a 'k', in others more like a 'g'. This has been recognized in formulation in order to give a pronunciation as close as possible to the original.

The accent *always* falls on the first syllable of a word. (There are a few notes on phonetics of Gippsland vocabulary in Hercus (1969).)