

Notebook 17

Monnop's Information,
of the Victoria Plains district
(Nyeerrgoo)

Yabararoo people Meenung to east of them.

Ballarruk, Jirdajuk, Tondarup, Didarruk.

Weenkurt, m. Tondarup of Bajjee-bajjee, married
Nookootuyin, f. Ballarruk, of Beverley, and had issue
Dikkijan, f., Ballarruk
Monop, m. "

(Weenkurt was a dwerda borungur and the children follow the
father's borungur.)

(Mēn borungur belonging to Beverley are all dead.

Yongar borungur Williams River way, some still living.)

Monop, m. Ballarruk, married
Ngungilyan, f. A Tondarup. No issue.

Winijguttuk = to give a daughter if you had one, the mother of the
daughter is so called. She must not speak to her son-in-law or
go in his shadow. Thoca is the Nor'West name.

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Weerdendee toordāroo = travelling dance, that is passing from
men to men.

Woordoo, single man coming out from the rest of the corroboree crowd,
and dancing by himself to music supplied by one person.

Monop saw a woman with four breasts, on the way between Wyndham
and Cooyapooya, about 100 miles inland from Wyndham. A white man
was with him but Monop cannot recall the name.

Beerdawong is dennagur in the Southwest.

Monop was beerdawong, he was sent to Northampton where he stayed
with the eldest man (babbin) there. Darrgoomurr - ngooljarmat
(babbin) took him to Wilbin and then he was taken to Wilgan mya
(Berkshire Valley) then on and on by easy stages. He stayed at
Northampton for some months and then returned by the same stages and
had two scars made and his nose pierced on the way. "Stranger"
babbih must pierce his nose. When he returned he was carried on
the shoulders of babbingur, 4 boys are carried in advance of him,
each carried on the babbin's shoulder, but they are not beerdawong;

they are merely an advance guard. When he reaches his mother's camp, if he had brothers, they knelt down leap frog style, and the boy rolled over their backs, then rolled off them on to his father's lap and then on to his mother's, and then he jumped up and ran away some distance, but shortly came back and an evening corroboree finished it. He didn't get married until his whiskers grew, which was some time after being made beerdawong.

(For complete account of beerdawong ceremony,
see Section on Initiation.)

When Yabaroo men paint themselves green (a kind of clay) they are on a mission of vengeance after a murderer, and they travel with their shields held before them about 30 or 40.

brothers cannot play with brothers nor with sisters, but with their sisters-in-law.

Goona burt = expression used for brothers in mourning.

Real cousins - brothers and sisters children - cannot marry, because the brother and sister are blood relations = demmangur. Close blood relations can never marry.

Jirdajuk is Victoria Plains name for Nagarnook.

Banaka and Kymera are ngunning to each other.

Paljeri and Boorong " " " " "

Kymera and Boorong are noyyung.

Paljeri and Banaka " "

Sign Language

Man - hold beard and fingers or hands opened and shut for number.

Woman - breasts

(See section on Sign Language.)