



AIATSIS
Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Finding aid

BARKER_J07

**Sound recordings collected by
Jimmie Barker, 1969**

Prepared January, 2021 by BS
Last updated 22 December 2023

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ACCESS

Availability of copies

Listening copies are available. Contact the AIATSIS Audiovisual Access Unit by completing an [online enquiry form](#) or phone (02) 6261 4212 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

Conditions of use relating to copying, quotation and publication are currently under review and will be updated on this page soon.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1969

Extent: 2 sound tape reels (2 hrs. 9 min.) : analogue, mono ; 5 in. + field tape report sheets

Production history

These recordings were made in April and May 1969 by Jimmie Barker. They feature elicitation and discussion of Muruwari language as well as pronunciation, correction and discussion of R. H. Mathews' Muruwari word lists.

The recording project was initiated by Janet Mathews, who obtained funding from the AIAS to provide recording equipment and consumables.

RELATED MATERIAL

Important: before you click on any links in this section, please read our [sensitivity message](#).

Transcripts of these field tapes are held in the AIATSIS Library, see PMS 2592. AIATSIS holds print material directly related to this audio collection.

Manuscript: *The Muruwari and Other Australian Languages* by Mathews, R. H. (Robert Hamilton), 1841-1918 (call number B M429.78/P3)

For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult our [online catalogue](#), Mura®. To conduct a search of available audio finding aids, please [click here](#).

ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information provided by Jimmie Barker, Roy Barker, 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

Archive number	Field recording number	Description
A1581A	Field tape 18B	Muruwari word lists, sentences and discussion with Jimmie Barker
A1581B	Field tape 19B	Pronunciation, correction and discussion of the R.H. Mathews Muruwari word lists with Jimmie Barker.
A1582A	Field tape 20B	Pronunciation, correction and discussion of the R.H. Mathews Muruwari word lists with Jimmie Barker.

ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

001581A/Field tape 18 Sides 1 and 2

Performer/speaker(s):	Jimmie Barker
Personal subject(s):	Rosie Davis
Subject keywords:	Indigenous knowledge - World view - Numeracy, Religion - Spirituality, Hunting - Kangaroo / Wallaby, Law enforcement - Offences – Murder, Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation,
Language/people:	English, D32: MURUWARI
Places:	Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07), Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06)
Recording quality:	Poor

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
BARKER_J07-A1581A	00:00:16	Jimmie Barker talks about numeracy in Muruwari knowledge systems.	1969	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	00:05:31	Jimmie Barker speaks broadly about the nature of Muruwari language.		
	00:10:27	Jimmie Barker elicits Muruwari words and sentences with discussion of meaning and application.		
	01:05:14	End of field tape 18 and end of BARKER_J07-A1581A.		

Timing point	Description
	<u>Jimmie Barker provides words and sentences with discussion of particular listed items in relation to cultural practice and Muruwari language structure and conventions.</u>
00:00:05	Archive announcement.
00:00:16	Jimmie Barker records a tape ID in Muruwari and English stating his name, the date - April 9, 1969 and the location in which he is recording - Lightning Ridge.
00:01:16	Jimmie Barker recites a word list of the Muruwari words for numerical values. Jimmie points out that the Muruwari only had language assignments from one to ten.
00:02:16	Jimmie Barker explains the numbers were counted on the fingers and also marked on trees.
00:02:56	Jimmie Barker recalls in 1914 elders playing a game which involved symbols of numbers from 1 to 100 being marked on the ground with a pocket knife.
00:03:56	Jimmie Barker states that he has “forgotten how to mark these numbers down.”
00:04:15	Jimmie Barker speaks about the use of numbers in relation to daily life using Kangaroo hunting as an example. He explains that numbers 1 to 10 were used but for quantities greater than 10 a specific Muruwari word meaning “a lot of,” was used.
00:05:31	Jimmie Barker speaks about the nature of Muruwari language explaining that many (or even most) words are long and have a multiplicity of meanings. Jimmie speaks

	about word endings and explains how in Muruwari this element is the key to understanding - particularly for speakers of neighbouring dialects. Mention also of hand gestures as an aspect of communication.
00:10:27	Jimmie Barker speaks about the Muruwari word for “one who speaks,” which also means thunder. Jimmie lists the derivations of this word and goes on to explain that it also means “the word of God.”
00:14:53	Jimmie Barker speaks about the Muruwari word for “Whirlwind thunder,” and its spiritual significance.
00:15:30	Jimmie Barker explains the connection between the word and the sound created from the natural phenomenon of the whirlwind. Jimmie speaks in detail about the physics of how the sound is produced.
00:17:32	Jimmie Barker speaks about the Muruwari word for “He speaks in the sky.”
00:18:44	Jimmie Barker speaks about the Muruwari word for “you,” and “to beat” or “to kill.” Jimmie gives an example of the use of this word in relation to hunting a kangaroo or beating or killing a man.
00:21:37	Jimmie Barker speaks about another Muruwari word that also means “you.” Jimmie explains how this word can also be used to refer to beating and striking and gives examples of its application.
00:27:34	Jimmie Barker speaks about a Muruwari word that means variously “don’t think so” and “I am not sure.”
00:29:26	Jimmie Barker speaks about a Muruwari word that in its singular form means variously – “he went, he go, it went, it go.” Jimmie gives examples of the uses for this word – mention of Brewarrina.
00:32:07	Jimmie Barker speaks about the Muruwari word for “a cross.”
00:32:16	Archive end announcement (Side 2).
00:32:20	Tape rolls on – no content.
00:33:38	Archive announcement.
00:33:45	Jimmie Barker picks up on the discussion about the cross from the end of side one.
00:35:24	Jimmie Barker speaks about the Muruwari vocabulary for “man went, woman went, child went and girl went.”
00:35:51	Jimmie Barker by way of clarification provides the Muruwari for “woman” and “man.”
00:36:22	Jimmie Barker provides further elucidation of the Muruwari for “he went,” “he go,” “it went,” “it go,”
00:37:22	Jimmie Barker provides the Muruwari vocabulary for “I went.”
00:40:04	Jimmie Barker speaks about Muruwari words terminating with “li” – meaning “we or us.”
00:40:48	Jimmie Barker speaks about the Muruwari vocabulary for “we went.”
00:42:09	Jimmie Barker speaks about the Muruwari word for “to be fighting amongst people,” and “we’re all fighting.”
00:43:08	Jimmie Barker speaks about the Muruwari vocabulary for “where to,” “where is it?” and “there.”
00:45:38	Jimmie Barker discusses the Muruwari word used usually in exclamation to express pain, surprise or fright.
00:46:22	Jimmie Barker provides the Muruwari vocabulary for “you did it,” and “you are doing it.”
00:47:28	Jimmie Barker provides the Muruwari vocabulary for “you didn’t do it,” and “you are not doing it.”

00:48:38	Jimmie Barker provides the Muruwari vocabulary for “what is he doing?” “what did he do?” and “what did he (or she) say?”
00:50:00	Jimmie Barker provides the Muruwari vocabulary that applies to “he: and the male gender more broadly.
00:50:20	Jimmie Barker provides the Muruwari vocabulary that applies to “she” and the female gender more broadly.
00:50:35	Jimmie Barker provides additional Muruwari vocabulary for man and woman, male and female.
00:51:59	Jimmie Barker explains how the Muruwari say “Who told you?”
00:52:40	Jimmie Barker speaks about possible responses to the above question in Muruwari and how the answer often involves a gender assignment.
00:57:15	Jimmie Barker speaks about Muruwari language practices around abbreviation.
01:00:24	Jimmie Barker speaks about how “he” and “she” are used relatively infrequently in Muruwari compared to English, because Muruwari is a grammatically gendered language.
01:01:02	Jimmie Barker explains Muruwari grammatical gender in relation to the question “Where did Rosie Davis go?” and the answer “She went to Sydney.”
01:05:14	Archive end announcement.

[RETURN TO ITEM LIST](#)

001581B/Field tape 19 Sides 1 and 2

Performer/speaker(s):	Jimmie Barker
Personal subject(s):	R. H. Mathews
Subject keywords:	Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation, Body - Decoration - Body hair - Beards, Art - Body art, Art - Production - Materials / techniques - Ochre, Animals - Mammals - Marsupials, Animals - Birds, Animals – Fish, Animals – Reptiles, Animals - Invertebrates – Insects, Animals - Invertebrates - Crustacea and molluscs, Plants – Trees, Weapons
Language/people:	English, D32: MURUWARI
Places:	Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07), Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06)
Recording quality:	Poor

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
BARKER_J07-A1581B	00:00:00	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation, corrections and discussion of the R.H. Mathews Muruwari word lists pertaining to:	1969	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	00:00:34	Terms relating to people and family		
	00:07:12	Human body parts		
	00:11:27	Natural objects and environmental phenomena		
	00:28:15	Animals (mammals)		

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
	00:35:36	Animals (birds)		
	00:38:56	Animals (fish)		
	00:41:43	Animals (reptiles)		
	00:44:54	Animals (invertebrates)		
	00:48:27	Trees and plants		
	00:51:07	Material culture		
	00:55:34	Adjectives		
	01:05:13	End of field tape 19 and end of BARKER_J07-A1581B.		

Timing point	Description
	<u>Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation, corrections and discussion of the R.H. Mathews Muruwari word lists.</u>
00:00:02	Archive announcement.
00:00:12	Jimmie Barker records a tape ID stating his name, the date – May 15, 1969 and the location in which he is recording - Lightning Ridge.
00:00:34	Jimmie Barker references the page number (65) from the R H Mathews text <i>The Murawari and Other Australian Languages</i> . Jimmie offers corrections and discussion of the wordlists on this page organised under the headings “The Family,” “The Human Body” and “Natural Objects.”
00:01:02	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “a man” – <i>Main</i> .
	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews’ translation of the Muruwari word <i>Girrinbirra</i> as “husband.” Jimmie explains that <i>Girrin</i> means “husband” and <i>Girrinbirra</i> is “with husband.”
00:01:39	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Clever man” – <i>Kubi</i> .
00:01:44	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews’ translation of the Muruwari word <i>Dharda</i> as “Small boy.” Jimmie explains that <i>Dharda</i> means “big” and provides the correct Muruwari word for “small boy.”
00:02:15	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translations of “Elder brother” – <i>Mudyabauin</i> and “Younger brother” – <i>Gidyumo-an</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Mudyabauin</i> refers specifically to the “eldest of three brothers” and similarly <i>Gidyumo-an</i> refers to the “youngest of three brothers.” Jimmie explains the principle behind the naming and description of siblings and how it is applied to large family structures.
00:04:51	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Father” – <i>Buddhun</i> , “Mother” – <i>Kaia</i> and “Woman” - <i>Mogin</i> .
00:05:00	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews’ translation of the Muruwari word <i>Nubabuga</i> as “wife”. Jimmie explains that <i>Nuba</i> means “wife” and <i>Nubabuga</i> means “your wife.”
00:05:41	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Old woman” – <i>Burraka</i> .
00:05:48	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Girl” – <i>Gutheraguni</i> .

00:05:57	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Elder sister” – <i>Mudyabubbur</i> .
00:06:08	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Younger sister” – <i>Gidyuguira</i> .
00:06:15	Jimmie Barker explains R. H. Mathews’ interpretation of the word <i>Gutberaira</i> as meaning both “Father of family” and “Mother of family.” Jimmie offers a simpler explanation explaining that the word <i>Gutberaira</i> means “with children.”
00:06:58	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Family” – <i>Gutheragulgera</i> and explains that it also means “all children.”
00:07:12	Jimmie Barker moves on to R. H. Mathews next Muruwari word list category “The Human Body.”
00:07:15	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Head” – <i>Bumbo</i> .
00:07:20	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Forehead” – <i>Ngulu</i> .
00:07:27	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Hair of Head” – <i>Bumbo</i> and points out that this is also the word for “head” (see 00:07:15).
00:07:41	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Beard” – <i>Yerran</i> and mentions that there are many other Muruwari words for “beard” but <i>Yerran</i> is the most commonly used.
00:07:57	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Eye” – <i>Mil</i> and points out that this is a universal word common to all dialects of the region.
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:08:09	Nose – <i>Nguru</i>
00:08:28	Neck – <i>Ngundul</i>
00:08:33	Ear – <i>Binna</i>
00:08:36	Mouth – <i>Dha</i>
00:08:38	Lips – <i>Dha</i>
00:08:43	Teeth – <i>Tirra</i>
00:08:59	Belly – <i>Dbugu</i>
00:09:07	Tongue – <i>Thallun</i>
00:09:12	Fat – <i>Thunde</i>
00:09:19	Ankle – <i>Burrunggal</i>
00:09:25	Skin – <i>Dhundbu</i>
00:09:32	Jimmie Barker considers R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for Back – <i>Billa</i> . Jimmie discusses the pronunciation of this word suggesting it should also contain the letter “r.”
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:10:00	Cheek – <i>Ngumunn</i>
00:10:06	Shoulder – <i>Bunggul</i>
00:10:25	Arm – <i>Murngu</i>
00:10:31	Hand – <i>Murra</i>
00:10:36	Thigh – <i>Thurra</i>
00:10:43	Knee – <i>Thin-gal</i>
00:10:48	Foot – <i>Dbinna</i>
00:11:06	Blood – <i>Goan</i>
00:11:27	Jimmie Barker introduces the next of R. H. Mathews’ word list categories - “Natural Objects.”
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:11:33	Sun – <i>Dhuri</i>

00:11:38	Moon – <i>Gian</i>
00:11:42	Stars – <i>Mirrin</i>
00:11:50	Pleiades – <i>Kumbul-Kumbul</i>
00:11:58	Jimmie Barker considers R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Venus” – <i>Tharda</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Tharda</i> means “big” and the Muruwari word for “star” should be added to describe the planet Venus correctly.
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:13:01	Hill – <i>Bulguru</i>
00:13:08	Small hill – <i>Gumbugun</i>
00:13:13	Open plain – <i>Bulla</i>
00:13:20	Scrubby place – <i>Mirdi</i>
00:13:29	Live Coal – <i>Gurnun</i>
00:13:35	Thunder – <i>Yandibu</i>
00:13:54	Lightning – <i>Wung-in</i>
00:13:59	Recording buttons off and on - possibly corresponding to a page turn in the R. H. Mathews text.
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:14:08	Rain – <i>Burdu</i>
00:14:13	Rainbow – <i>Gurierrina</i>
00:14:20	Dew – <i>Dbulle</i>
00:14:28	Fog – <i>Guguma</i>
00:14:32	Frost – <i>Murnda</i>
00:14:36	Hale – <i>Mugari</i>
00:14:43	Water – <i>Ngubba</i>
00:14:47	Still water – <i>Burdulngubba</i>
00:14:53	Running water – <i>Ngurururra</i>
00:15:06	Ground – <i>Me</i>
00:15:13	Mud – <i>Millin</i>
00:15:18	A stone – <i>Buggul</i>
00:15:22	Sand – <i>Kurrawir or dhirri</i>
00:15:31	Jimmie Barker discusses R. H. Mathews’ translation of the Muruwari word for “Darkness” – <i>Yuriñ</i> . Jimmie provides a correction but offers the qualification that <i>Yuriñ</i> is also used for “Darkness.”
00:16:04	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Heat” – <i>Burriu</i> . Jimmie discusses a number of related Muruwari words meaning, “like fire” and “I’m hot.”
00:17:01	Jimmie Barker discusses the R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Cold” – <i>Murndaminu</i> . Jimmie offers a correction explaining that the Muruwari word for “cold” is <i>Murnda</i> . Furthermore Jimmie explains that <i>Murndaminu</i> means “I’m cold.”
00:17:57	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Tears” – <i>Ngulguñ</i> .
00:18:11	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Perspiration” – <i>Nundur</i> .
00:18:20	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Fire – <i>Wi</i> . Jimmie points out that this word also means “hot.”
00:18:31	Jimmie Barker discusses the R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Hut” – <i>Gurli</i> . Jimmie explains that this translation is not strictly correct and that the word <i>Gurli</i> refers to the shade provided, for example, by a tree or a small bark humpy.

00:19:27	Jimmie Barker discusses the R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Camp” – <i>Ngura</i> . Jimmie explains that the word <i>Ngura</i> also has the broader meaning of “an Aboriginal dwelling place.”
00:19:50	Jimmie Barker discusses the R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Smoke” – <i>Thuran</i> .
00:20:11	Jimmie Barker discusses the R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Food (in the form of meat) animal” – <i>Widyil</i> .
00:20:34	Jimmie Barker discusses the R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Food (in the form of fruit and vegetables)” – <i>Munnu</i> .
00:21:03	Jimmie Barker discusses the R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Day” – <i>Gunda-gunda</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Gunda-gunda</i> also means “afternoon” or “in the evening.”
00:21:42	Jimmie Barker discusses the R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Night” – <i>Yuriñ</i> and explains that this is also the word for “Darkness.”
00:22:16	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Morning” – <i>Burrulla</i> and explains that it is also the word for “the next day.”
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:22:43	Grass – <i>Yau</i>
00:22:50	Leaves of trees – <i>Yirral</i>
00:22:59	Eggs – <i>Kubön</i>
00:23:03	Honey – <i>Wëan</i>
00:23:11	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Pathway” – <i>Kai</i> . Jimmie provides another Muruwari word that also means “pathway” or “roadway.”
00:23:35	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Shadow of Tree” – <i>Kuliguli</i> .
00:24:10	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Shadow of Man” – <i>Kummunggurra</i> . Jimmie explains the concept of “shadowing” and how it was of particular repugnance to old people who regarded it as a spiritual assault.
00:25:25	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Red ochre” – <i>Gudbi</i> . Jimmie discusses the techniques for processing red ochre into paint for ceremonial body paint and cave painting. Jimmie speaks about the properties of other ochres and pigments.
00:27:14	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Pipe clay” – <i>Muggjindhurra</i> . Jimmie discusses where “pipe clay” can be found and its use as a ceremonial body paint for corroborees.
00:28:15	Jimmie Barker introduces the next category in the R. H. Mathews word lists – “Animals (mammals).”
00:28:20	Jimmie Barker discusses R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Wild Dog” – <i>Yugi</i> . Jimmie explains that this term is used specifically for dingoes and does not apply to wild domesticated dogs. <i>Yugi</i> is also the term used for the mythical “supernatural” dogs that guarded the caves. Jimmie suggests that this mythology was used to discourage people from entering caves containing sacred drawings.
00:30:32	Jimmie Barker speaks about the contemporary (at the time of recording) laws protecting cave and rock art.
00:31:44	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Dog” – <i>Gundul</i> . Jimmie explains that this is the word for domestic dogs.
00:31:50	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Opossum” – <i>Kugai</i> .

00:31:54	Jimmie Barker discusses R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Kangaroo rat.” Recording marred by distortion at this point.
00:32:01	Archive end announcement.
00:32:07	Tape rolls on – no content.
00:33:56	Archive announcement (Side2).
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:34:10	Kangaroo rat – <i>Boi</i> or <i>Bilba</i>
00:34:18	Native cat – <i>Burbur</i>
00:34:25	Padamelon – <i>Dugguñ</i>
00:34:31	Bandicoot – <i>Gäala</i>
00:34:38	Kangaroo – <i>Gula</i>
00:34:45	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Porcupine” – <i>Kuggadab</i> .
00:35:09	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Water-rat” – <i>Ngubba-widdyi</i> and explains this also means “water meat.”
00:35:36	Jimmie Barker introduces the next category in the R. H. Mathews word lists – “Birds.”
00:35:39	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Crow” – <i>Wagun</i> .
00:35:47	Jimmie Barker discusses R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Laughing jackass” – <i>Kuguburra</i> . Jimmie suggests that this is actually a word of English derivation. Jimmie provides the correct Muruwari word for Kookaburra.
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:36:21	Native companion – <i>Gururu</i>
00:36:31	Black duck – <i>Gundungal</i>
00:36:38	Swan – <i>Burrema</i>
00:36:43	Emu – <i>Nguruñ</i>
00:36:49	Pelican – <i>Thulaida</i>
00:36:53	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Eaglehawk” – <i>Kurra</i> . Jimmie provides another word by which the “Eaglehawk” is universally known by Aboriginal people.
00:37:06	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Large fish-hawk” – <i>Kwiadbuna</i> .
00:37:30	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Peewee” – <i>Bûrandalla</i> .
00:37:40	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Common magpie” – <i>Gulbu</i> .
00:37:48	Jimmie Barker discusses R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Curlew” – <i>Wilu</i> . Jimmie provides a spelling correction, explaining that the word should contain an r – <i>Wirlu</i> .
00:38:03	Jimmie Barker discusses R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Crane” – <i>Gurraga</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Gurraga</i> refers specifically to the “large blue crane.”
00:38:15	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Small crane” – <i>Budbul</i> .
00:38:27	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Galah” – <i>Gilla</i> . Jimmie explains that the word for “Galah” is <i>Gidda</i> (spelling???) – help me out Roy).
00:38:56	Jimmie Barker introduces the next category in the R. H. Mathews word lists – “Fishes.”

00:39:05	Jimmie Barker discusses R. H. Mathews' translation of the word "Cod" - <i>Gudu</i> . Jimmie explains that this is in fact the Ngemba word for Cod fish and he then provides the correct Muruwari word.
00:39:41	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for "Black bream" – <i>Bunngulla</i> .
00:40:20	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for "Yellow-belly" – <i>Kavira</i> .
00:40:36	Jimmie Barker discusses R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for "Bony bream" – <i>Pirngi</i> . Jimmie explains that generally in Aboriginal spoken languages the consonant P is sounded much like a B.
00:41:03	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews Muruwari translation of the word for "Cat-fish" – <i>Thunggur</i> . Jimmie provides the correct Muruwari word.
00:41:25	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for "All small fish" – <i>Kidyeraguya</i> .
00:41:43	Jimmie Barker introduces the next category in the R. H. Mathews word lists – "Reptiles."
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:41:52	Death-adder – <i>Kundage</i>
00:41:58	Black snake – <i>Bumburra</i>
00:42:06	Water-snake – <i>Baiara</i>
00:42:12	Turtle – <i>Waiamba</i>
00:42:20	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for "Tree Iguana (Goanna)" – <i>Wurru</i> . Jimmie provides another ("universal") word for this animal.
00:43:11	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for "Ground Iguana (Goanna)" – <i>Burna</i> . Jimmie explains that this sand-dwelling iguana was "highly prized" by Aboriginal people.
00:43:37	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for "Shingle-back" – <i>Birrira</i> .
00:43:51	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for "Carpet snake" – <i>Kummul</i> .
00:44:00	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for "Brown snake" – <i>Kan</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Kan</i> is in fact the word for all snakes.
00:44:54	Jimmie Barker introduces the next category in the R. H. Mathews word lists – "Invertebrates."
00:44:59	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for "Blow-fly" – <i>Muguñ</i> . Jimmie provides the correct Muruwari word and explains that <i>Muguñ</i> refers to the ordinary house fly.
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:46:00	Louse – <i>Muni</i>
00:46:07	Nit of Louse – <i>Thinnil</i>
00:46:14	Jumper-ant – <i>Burbi-burbi</i>
00:46:26	Bulldog-ant – <i>Burrungga</i>
00:46:37	Centipede – <i>Dbuliri</i>
00:46:53	Grasshopper – <i>Bunda-bunda</i>
00:47:04	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for "Shrimp" – <i>Thunul</i> and provides an alternative Muruwari word.
00:47:20	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for "Common ant" – <i>Burra</i> .
00:47:23	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for "Scorpion" – <i>Guna</i> .

00:47:33	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Mosquito” – <i>Börn</i> . Jimmie refers to another Muruwari word for “Mosquito” which has escaped his memory at this point.
00:47:47	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Mussel” – <i>Thungunna</i> .
00:47:55	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Crayfish” – <i>Mamura</i> .
00:48:27	Jimmie Barker introduces the next category in the R. H. Mathews word lists – “Trees and Plants.”
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:48:34	Any leaning tree – <i>Bundbirri</i>
00:48:47	Any dead tree – <i>Bungiñ</i>
00:48:55	Any large tree – <i>Bungil</i>
00:49:06	Sandalwood – <i>Buddbar</i>
00:49:14	Whitewood (tree) – <i>Burbul</i>
00:49:37	Myall (tree) – <i>Maial</i>
00:49:55	Beefwood (tree) – <i>Mumbo</i>
00:50:04	Coolaba (tree) – <i>Buggura</i>
00:50:21	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Gum tree” – <i>Guraua</i> .
00:50:41	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Pine (tree)” – <i>Bailiñ</i> .
00:50:48	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Brigalow (tree)” – <i>Kulbai</i> .
00:51:02	Jimmie Barker introduces the next category in the R. H. Mathews word lists – “Weapons.”
00:51:07	Jimmie Barker discusses R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Tomahawk” – <i>Wugganburra</i> . Jimmie explains that Dojuin is the correct term and Wugganara (or wogenurra) has over time come to be used in its place. Jimmie provides a detailed physical description of the “true” Wugganara which features three blades in the head of the club.
00:52:41	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Koolamin” – <i>Gulgo</i> and describes it as a bark container.
00:52:54	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Spear shield” – <i>Burgu</i>
00:53:01	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Boomerang” – <i>Murli</i> .
00:53:12	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Net bag” – <i>Munda</i> . Jimmie explains that the Munda resembles a shopping bag made of bark.
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:53:45	Yam stick – <i>Gunnai</i>
00:53:55	Hunting club – <i>Muru</i>
00:54:07	Fish net – <i>Kule</i>
00:54:12	Spear – <i>Gulia</i>
00:54:24	Fighting club – <i>Maimuru</i>
00:54:35	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Fighting boomerang” – <i>Widdyanurra</i> . Jimmie explains how the <i>Widdyanurra</i> was a heavy “non-returning” boomerang with a cutting edge similar to the <i>Wugganburra</i> . Jimmie Barker

	speaks about how the <i>Wugganburra</i> might be used to penetrate the human head in combat.
00:55:34	Jimmie Barker introduces the next category in the R. H. Mathews word lists – “Adjectives.”
00:55:41	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Alive” – <i>Kurriin</i> .
00:55:49	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews’ translation of the Muruwari word for Dead – <i>Bullibu</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Bullibu</i> means “he’s dying.” Jimmie provides the correct Muruwari word for dead.
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
00:56:18	Large – <i>Tbarda</i>
00:56:31	Small – <i>Kittyu</i>
00:56:36	Tall or Long – <i>Burndurra</i>
00:56:50	Low or short – <i>Urdagamba</i>
00:56:58	Good – <i>Murriñ</i>
00:57:03	Bad – <i>Yuralmurra</i>
00:57:09	Jimmie Barker discusses R. H. Mathews’ translation of the Muruwari word for “Thirsty” – <i>Burria-ngubba</i> . Jimmie explains that this sequence is incorrect and <i>Ngubba-burria</i> is the correct Muruwari translation for thirsty. Jimmie by way of illustration provides the Muruwari translation for the phrase “I’m thirsty for water.”
00:58:19	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Hungry” – <i>Kundulmiu</i> .
00:59:04	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for Jealous – <i>Burdbegulindu</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Burdbegulindu</i> means “You’re jealous.” Jimmie provides the correct Muruwari word for jealous.
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
01:00:03	Full – <i>Murriñ</i>
01:00:09	Quick – <i>Kurdugurdu</i>
01:00:17	Slow – <i>Iba</i>
01:00:22	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Blind” – <i>Nunduñ</i> . Jimmie provides an alternative word for blind.
01:00:38	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Deaf” – <i>Mugu - binna</i> .
01:00:48	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Strong” – <i>Murriñ</i> . Jimmie points out that <i>Murriñ</i> has multiple meanings including “Good.”
01:00:58	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Afraid” – <i>Kurraiin</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Kurraiin</i> means “I’m afraid.” Jimmie provides the correct Muruwari word.
01:01:25	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Right” – <i>Kaila</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Kaila</i> also means “enough” and “top.”
	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for:
01:01:51	Wrong – <i>Yural</i>
01:01:54	Tired – <i>Mullu</i>
01:01:56	Blunt as an edge – <i>Mugu</i>
01:02:00	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Sharp as an edge” – <i>Tirraira</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Tirraira</i> in addition to sharp also means “having teeth.”
01:02:07	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Fat” – <i>Thunde</i> .
01:02:14	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Lean” – <i>Munggabulgan</i> .

01:02:22	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Cold” – <i>Mundamiu</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Mundamiu</i> means “I’m cold.” The Muruwari word for “cold” is <i>Munda</i> .
01:02:34	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Warm” – <i>Burri-burriu</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Burri-burriu</i> also means “I’m warm.”
01:03:07	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for Angry – <i>Kuridyurriu</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Mundamiu</i> means “I’m angry.” The Muruwari word for “angry” is <i>Kuri</i> .
01:03:28	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Sleepy” – <i>Yumburu</i> .
01:03:33	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for Glad – <i>Murrinyindaiu</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Murrinyindaiu</i> means “I’m well” or “I’m glad.”
01:03:50	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Sorry” – <i>Millanyurungi</i> .
01:04:10	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for “Greedy” – <i>Wallungundibungunna</i> and remarks on the length of the word.
01:04:23	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Sick” – <i>Marruu</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Marruu</i> means “I’m sick.”
01:04:33	Jimmie Barker discusses R. H. Mathews translation of the Muruwari word for “Stinking” – <i>Bugabuddibu</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Buga</i> means “dead” and <i>Bugabuddibu</i> means “he’s stinking” or “it stinks.”
01:04:52	Archive end announcement.
01:04:56	Tape rolls on – no content.
01:05:13	End of A1581b.

[RETURN TO ITEM LIST](#)

A1582A/Field tape 20 Sides 1 and 2

Performer/speaker(s):	Jimmie Barker
Personal subject(s):	R. H. Mathews
Subject keywords:	Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation, Reproduction – Pregnancy, Death, Food - Preparation - Cooking – Meat, Dance – Ceremonial, Death - Mourning
Language/people:	English, D32: MURUWARI, D22: NGIYAMPAA / NGEMPA
Places:	Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07), Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06)
Recording quality:	Poor

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
BARKER_J07-A1582A	00:00:00	Continuation of Jimmie Barker providing pronunciation, corrections and discussion of the R.H. Mathews Muruwari word lists pertaining to:	1969	Lightning Ridge, NSW
	00:00:20	Pregnancy and death		
	00:02:38	verbs		

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
	00:35:07	End of field tape 19 and end of BARKER_J07-A1581B.		

Timing point	Description
	<u>Continuation of a recording in which Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation, corrections and discussion of the R.H. Mathews Muruwari word lists.</u>
00:00:03	Archive announcement.
00:00:20	Jimmie Barker discusses R. H. Mathews' translation of the word Pregnant - <i>Tuguira</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Tuguira</i> literally means "big belly." Jimmie provides the true Muruwari word for pregnant which translates as "with child."
00:01:05	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Die – <i>Bullindyira</i> . Jimmie also provides the words for "to die," "he died," "she died" and "I'm to die." Jimmie points out that <i>Bullindyira</i> also means "it died," and giving examples of grammatical constructions where this word might be used with proper nouns.
00:02:38	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Eat – <i>Thaddhira</i> . Jimmie refers to the current page number of R. H. Mathews' <i>The Muruwari and Other Australian Languages</i>
00:03:00	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews' translation of the Muruwari word for Drink – <i>Ngubba-thaddhira</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Thaddhira</i> means "drink" and <i>Ngubba-thaddhira</i> means "to drink water."
00:03:48	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Sleep – <i>Ngunandhira</i> .
00:03:56	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Stand – <i>Thinnandhira</i> . Jimmie also provides the Muruwari word for "he stands."
00:04:22	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Sit – <i>Nia</i> .
00:04:30	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Talk – <i>Yān</i> . Jimmie gives an example of how this word might be used in the phrase "to talk together."
00:04:45	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Tell – <i>Thurgurra</i> . Jimmie provides contextual examples relating to this word - "he told," "he told me."
00:05:20	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Walk – <i>Yandhira</i> . Jimmie also provides derivations of this word used for "he walked" and "she walked."
00:05:39	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Run – <i>Thunggira</i> . Jimmie also provides derivations of this word used for "he ran" and "she ran."
00:06:12	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Bring – <i>Thanganga</i> .
00:06:31	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Take – <i>Mara</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Mara</i> also means "to get."
00:07:01	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Point at – <i>Thumburra</i> .
00:07:16	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Fill – <i>Kaimburra</i> . Jimmie explains that that <i>Kaimburra</i> means to fill (as in water) but also "to put in." Jimmie gives the example of putting cotton through a needle.
00:08:11	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Stamp on – <i>Nurrungunya</i> .
00:08:35	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews' translation of the Muruwari word for Make – <i>Thunnulgu</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Thunnulgu</i> means "to make," and <i>Thunnul</i> means "make."
00:09:31	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Break – <i>Dbudhia</i> .
00:09:44	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Strike or beat –

	<i>Bundhira.</i>
00:10:00	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Arise – <i>Dhurria</i> . Jimmie provides additional vocabulary for “to move away,” “I’m moving” and “I’m getting up.”
00:10:21	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Falling down – <i>Wurra</i> .
00:10:27	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Observe – <i>Naga</i> .
00:10:33	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Sing – <i>Yünggi</i> . Jimmie provides additional Muruwari vocabulary related to singing and song.
00:11:00	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews’ translation of the Muruwari word for Weep – <i>Wun-gebu</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Wunge</i> means “weep,” and <i>Wun-gebu</i> means “he cries” or “she cries.” Jimmie provides examples of how this word might be used in context.
00:11:58	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Cook (as food) – <i>Mulguya</i> . By way of illustration Jimmie demonstrates the use of this word in the phrase “I’m gonna cook a Kangaroo.”
00:12:18	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Steal – <i>Ngurba</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Ngurba</i> also means to grab.
00:12:53	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Request – <i>Ngua</i> . Jimmie gives examples of how this word might be used.
00:13:24	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Blow with the breath – <i>Bumbira</i> . Jimmie also explains that <i>Bumbira</i> is also the word for smoke.
00:13:39	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Climb – <i>Gulä</i> . Jimmie points out that <i>Gula</i> is also the word for Kangaroo. Jimmie gives examples of how this word is used in conversation. Jimmie explains how differences in stress and the substitution of different vowel sound effects has an effect on meaning.
00:16:15	Archive end announcement.
00:16:19	Tape rolls on – no content.
00:18:10	Archive announcement (Side2).
00:18:16	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Scratch – <i>Wirrungurra</i> .
00:18:24	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Forget – <i>Binnayualgui</i> . Jimmie also provides the Muruwari for “I forget” and “to forget”
00:18:48	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Send – <i>Dinnamara</i> . Jimmie gives examples of how <i>Dinnamara</i> might be used to describe sending a letter, a wire or a telegram.
00:19:27	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Shine – <i>Bullanbi</i> .
00:19:34	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Suck, as a child – <i>Ngummadba-dbira</i> .
00:19:45	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Suck, a wound – <i>Bindyani</i> .
00:19:59	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Swim – <i>Banggi</i> .
00:20:07	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Search for – <i>Wurrawa</i> . Jimmie offers an alternative pronunciation of this word.
00:20:23	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Spit – <i>Kanggul</i> . Jimmie also provides a variation of this word meaning “to spit.”
00:20:35	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Smell – <i>Buddbe</i> .
00:20:43	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the word for Throw – <i>Kurrawirra</i> . Jimmie explains that there are several words for throw but <i>Kurrawirra</i> is “true Ngemba.”
00:21:03	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Hit by throwing – <i>Bungirra</i> .
00:21:11	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Whistle – <i>Kui</i> .

00:21:27	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Pretend – <i>Middyin</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Middyin</i> also means “lie.”
00:21:57	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Kiss – <i>Mudbil</i> .
00:22:05	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Vomit – <i>Muralli</i> .
00:22:15	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews’ translation of the Muruwari word for Dance (literally to jump about) – <i>Burbiddyera - Kirrira</i> . Jimmie explains that there is a range of vocabulary for describing different dances and dancing. Jimmie provides a word for dancing that he believes to be universal across Aboriginal languages. Interestingly Jimmie asserts his view that corroboree is not an Aboriginal word. Jimmie provides a specific correction to <i>Burbiddyera – Kirrira</i> but explains that the term describes a form of movement (jumping about) that is regarded as distinctly different from dancing.
00:25:03	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews’ translation of the Muruwari word for Dive – <i>Kaindyera</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Kaindyera</i> actually means “to disappear” or “to get out of sight.”
00:26:08	Jimmie Barker provides pronunciation of the Muruwari word for Chop (with axe) – <i>Burira</i> . Jimmie qualifies R. H. Mathews’ translation explaining that <i>Burira</i> means to chop “with anything.”
00:26:33	Jimmie Barker corrects R. H. Mathews’ translation of the Muruwari word for Sting – <i>Bingga</i> . Jimmie explains that <i>Bingga</i> actually means “to stab.” Jimmie explains the misconception in R. H. Mathews’ translation by the fact that bees in Muruwari culture are thought to stab rather than “sting.” Jimmie gives examples of how this word might be used in context.
00:28:15	Jimmie Barker notes an omission in this recording from R. H. Mathews’ word list (Hear, <i>Binnambi</i>) page 68. Jimmie explains how this word is used in Muruwari, specifically to compel others to “shut up and listen.”
00:29:36	Jimmie Barker from here until the end of the recording discusses additional Muruwari words (i.e. not drawn from the R. H. Mathews word lists).
00:29:41	Jimmie Barker provides the Muruwari word for “nothing,” and gives examples of how this word might be used in context. Jimmie discusses at some length how this word is used in relation to bereavement.
00:31:37	Jimmie Barker provides the Muruwari vocabulary for “die”, “to die”, “he died long ago.” Jimmie explains the relationship between this word and the word for nothing.
00:33:44	Archive end announcement.
00:33:48	Tape rolls on – no content.
00:35:07	End of A1582a.