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## Place Name SUMMARY (PNS) 4.03.01/03

### 'DARINGA' / TARINGGA

(last edited: 30.8.2016)

including PNS 4.03.01/10 Taringa Railway Station (p.15)

See also PNS 4.03.01/02 Tarangga

#### NOTE AND DISCLAIMER:

*This essay has not been peer-reviewed or culturally endorsed in detail.*

*The spellings and interpretations contained in it (linguistic, historical and geographical) are my own, and do not necessarily represent the views of KWP/KWK or its members or any other group.*

*I have studied history at tertiary level. Though not a linguist, for 30 years I have learned much about the Kurna, Ramindjeri-Ngarrindjeri and Narungga languages while working with KWP, Rob Amery, and other local culture-reclamation groups; and from primary documents I have learned much about the Aboriginal history of the Adelaide-Fleurieu region.*

*My explorations of 'language on the land' through the Southern Kurna Place Names Project are part of an ongoing effort to correct the record about Aboriginal place-names in this region (which has abounded in confusions and errors), and to add reliable new material into the public domain.*

*I hope upcoming generations will continue this work and improve it. My interpretations should be amplified, re-considered and if necessary modified by KWP or other linguists, and by others engaged in cultural mapping: Aboriginal people, archaeologists, geographers, ecologists and historians.*

*Chester Schultz, 21/7/2017.*



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### Abstract

*Taringga* (linguistically the same as *Daringga* in Kurna language) *may have been* the Kurna name for a site at or very near to the old 'Daringa' homestead which still stands off Kangarilla Rd next to Oxenberry Farm Wines and the Rail Trail. But this is so only if *Tarangga* and *Taringga* were separate names applying to separate places – and there is a high probability that both of the earliest records ('Tarranga' and 'Daringa') originated from the same word spoken by Kurna survey guides in 1839.<sup>1</sup> The only linguistic difference is the second vowel, which is unstressed and therefore easy for the Englishmen to mistake.

By 1840 the area which is now McLaren Vale Town was known to the settlers as 'Daringa Valley' (as distinct from the 'McLaren Plains' further east), and here pioneer William Colton gave the name 'Daringa' to his homestead on Lower Oxenberry Farm.

Most likely 'Daringa' was an independent record of the word *Tarangga*, which had been recorded in 1839 as the name of James McLeod's property 'Tarranga' on the northern side of Pedler Creek, and was doubtless obtained similarly from Kurna people via the surveyors. But it is also *conceivable* that the spelling 'Daringa' came from a different original word, *Taringga* – in which case its etymology and location would be different from those of *Tarangga*.

*Tarangga* means 'place of the connector or joiner' (probably implying a place to cross the swampy creek). But the meaning (if any) of *Taringga* (if the word existed) is unknown.

If *Taringga* was actually a misinterpretation of *Tarangga*, the location of their single site would nevertheless be within a kilometre of 'Daringa' homestead (for possible locations see PNS 4.03.01/02).

<sup>1</sup> See PNS 4.03.01/02 Tarangga.



Despite local folklore, 'Daringa'-*Taringga* does not mean 'swamp' or 'swampy surroundings'.<sup>2</sup> It is possible (*if* it was a separate name from *Tarangga*) that it referred to the spring 'Blackfellow's Well' on Oxenberry Farm,<sup>3</sup> and/or the Daringa Billabong immediately downstream;<sup>4</sup> but it cannot mean those things.

Neither can *Taringga* mean 'the middle place' or 'halfway place', despite claims by the standard place-name writers.<sup>5</sup>

<b>Coordinates</b>	Taringga (if separate): Latitude -35.218298°, Longitude 138.549041° [between 'Daringa' homestead and the adjacent dam]
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### Language Information

<b>Meaning</b>	Unknown
<b>Etymology</b>	<i>tari</i> [meaning unknown] + <i>ngga</i> 'at, place of'
<b>Notes</b>	While it is possible that <i>Taringga</i> existed as an independent place-name, it is rather more likely that the spelling 'Daringa' was a mis-hearing of <i>Tarangga</i> , and therefore that it represented the same place as <i>Tarangga</i> (see PNS 4.03.01/02 <i>Tarangga</i> ).
<b>Language Family</b>	Thura-Yura: 'Kaurna'
<b>KWP Former Spelling</b>	Taringga
<b>KWP New Spelling 2010</b>	Taringga
<b>Phonemic Spelling</b>	/thaRingka/
<b>Syllabification</b>	"Ta-ringga":
<b>Pronunciation tips</b>	Stress the first syllable. Every a as in Maori 'haka'.

### Main source evidence

<b>Date</b>	Aug 1840
<b>Original source text</b>	"A BOAT FOUND. Driven on shore near the Onkaparinga. Whoever will prove same to be their property by applying to CT HEWETT, Oxenberry Farm, <b>Daringa Valley</b> , and by paying the necessary expences may have it again. / CHARLES THOMAS HEWETT, August 4, 1840."
<b>Reference</b>	<i>Register</i> 29/8/1840: 1f.
<b>Informants credited</b>	
<b>Informants uncredited</b>	

<sup>2</sup> – as claimed by Adele Pridmore 1949, *The Rich Valley*: 65; Pridmore typescript n.d. [1948], 'The Naming of McLaren Vale', D3208(T), SLSA: 10.

<sup>3</sup> – as claimed by Mike Potter 1978, *Wines and Wineries of SA*, Adelaide, Rigby: 47; Willunga National Trust 1975, *Food, Wine and Facts: History and Guide of Willunga and McLaren Vale*, SA, Henricks Publishers: 33.

<sup>4</sup> GH Manning 2006, *Manning's Place Names of South Australia: From Aaron Creek to Zion Hill*, Modbury, Gould Books: 122.

<sup>5</sup> HM Cooper, *Australian Aboriginal Words*, SA Museum, various editions 1949, 1952, 1962; Manning 2006: 413.



Date	Sep 1840
Original source text	<p>“To the Directors of the South Australian Co, London.  <b>Doringo Valley</b> [error for ‘Doringa’ or ‘Daringa’], Oxenberry Farm, Onkaparingo [error for ‘Onkaparinga’], South Australia, 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1840          ... We landed last 19<sup>th</sup> of December, 1839, and on the 25<sup>th</sup> went and took a view of the land, which was shown us by Mr. Randell, belonging to the South Australian Company. We made choice of four sections in Doringo [error for ‘Doringa’ or ‘Daringa’] Valley, about twenty-two miles from Adelaide, from which we have an excellent road, except about half a mile, which will in a few months be avoided by a bridge over the Horse-shoe, or Onkaparingo [error for ‘Onkaparinga’] River, where the township Nourlunga is begun, about three mile from the sea... We have one spring of excellent water flowing above ground all the year, and at other parts of the valley we have got water at from 4 to 8 feet. We arrived here with our families the second day of January, 1840... have sown about eight acres of wheat... twelve acres of barley... it is, however, quite colonial, what in England we should call rough farming... cows... heifers... 139 ewes... We are getting thickly inhabited in this quarter and begin to have the appearance of an inhabited country... We have no doubt that every experienced and industrious farmer could do much better with his capital here than in England...          Charles Thomas Hewitt / William Colton.”</p>
Reference	Colton/Hewett letter 2/9/1840, in ‘Second Report from the Select Committee on SA: Minutes of Evidence’, <i>BPP: Colonies: Australia</i> 2: 45.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	

Date	1841
Original source text	<p>- “(Onkaparinga and Neighbourhood)... Colton, William, <b>Daringa Valley.</b>”          - “<b>McLeod ---- Tarranga.</b>”</p>
Reference	Bennett 1841, <i>SA Almanac</i> , Country Directory: 127.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	

Date	1841
Original source text	“James Macleod... <b>Tarringa</b> ”
Reference	‘Return Of Sheep’, <i>Southern Australian</i> 24/8/1841: 2e.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	



<i>Date</i>	1842
<i>Original source text</i>	“(McLaren Vale & Neighbourhood) Bell, George, <b>Daringa Valley</b> ... Colton, Wm., Lower Oxenberry... Hewitt, CT, Oxenberry Farm... McLeod, James, <b>Tarranga</b> .”
<i>Reference</i>	Bennett 1842, <i>SA Almanac</i> , Country Directory: 123.
<i>Informants credited</i>	
<i>Informants uncredited</i>	

<i>Date</i>	1848
<i>Original source text</i>	“Bell, Robert, <b>Daringa Valley</b> , McLaren Vale”.
<i>Reference</i>	Murray 1848, <i>SA Almanac</i> : 105.
<i>Informants credited</i>	
<i>Informants uncredited</i>	

<i>Date</i>	1861
<i>Original source text</i>	“TO PARTIES WANTING COLONIAL WINE–The undersigned can supply parties with about 400 gallons of good sound Wine, half Red, the other White, at 3s. per gallon. For any quantity less than the whole, 3s. 6d. per gallon. JAMES SYKES, <b>Taringa Farm, Maclaren Vale</b> .”
<i>Reference</i>	<i>Observer</i> 9/11/1861: 1h, <a href="http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/158183845/18803230">http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/158183845/18803230</a> .
<i>Informants credited</i>	
<i>Informants uncredited</i>	

<i>Date</i>	1935
<i>Original source text</i>	- “ <b>Daringa (Turunga)</b> ” [ <i>marked by printed ‘McLaren Vale’</i> ] - “Wir:a`wir:a” [ <i>arrow to Section 464, i.e. the Wirra Wirra Winery</i> ] - “ <b>Tarank (Taranga)</b> ” [ <i>arrow to Section 227 near Willunga</i> ] - “Paringa (fide R. Dettman)” [ <i>arrow to north part of Section 237</i> ]
<i>Reference</i>	Tindale annotated map, Hundred of Willunga, AA 338/24/97, SA Museum.
<i>Informants credited</i>	Albert Karlowan; R Dettman.
<i>Informants uncredited</i>	<i>Observer</i> 13/4/1844 / names of local wineries in 1930s / ?name of old Daringa Homestead.





Date	n.d. [1948]
Original source text	“Colton... called [his farm] by its native name – <b>Daringa, Doringa, Doringo, meaning swampy surroundings</b> ”.
Reference	Adele Pridmore, n.d. [1948], ‘The Naming of McLaren Vale’, D3208(T), SLSA: 10.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	

Date	1949
Original source text	<p>- “By 1857... it was decided to extend Ellen Street from Mortlock’s Mill on through Sections 126 (Parkin Lumb) and 136 (Thomas Colton, son of William) till it met the road which came up over Brewery Hill from Gloucester.”</p> <p>- “For a great part of the year much of the land was swampy and before long a footbridge was erected at Pavy’s Bog for the convenience of travellers up Brewery Hill”.</p> <p>- “William Colton and his sons built their first home on the edge of the swamp and called it by <b>the Aboriginal name for the area, Daringa.</b>”</p> <p>- “Another native word for a small spot in the valley was <b>Daringa, meaning ‘swamp’</b>”.</p>
Reference	Adele Pridmore 1949, <i>The Rich Valley: An Account of the Early Life of McLaren Vale</i> , McLaren Vale Institute Committee: 19, 22, 64, 65.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	

Date	1975
Original source text	“ <b>Daringa</b> ’ was the first land-holding in the infant township of McLaren Vale... It is the aboriginal name describing the location of the spring of pure water, which the early settlers called ‘The Native Well’”.
Reference	Willunga National Trust 1975, <i>Food, Wine and Facts: History and Guide of Willunga and McLaren Vale</i> , SA, Henricks Publishers: [33].
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	

Date	1978
Original source text	“ <b>Daringa</b> is an aboriginal word meaning <b>‘spring of pure water’</b> .”
Reference	Mike Potter 1978, <i>Wines and Wineries of SA</i> , Adelaide, Rigby: 47.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	

Date	2006
Original source text	- "The name <b>Daringa</b> was given to a home built by William Colton... and <b>taken from the Daringa Billabong</b> ... Its nomenclature was explained in 1893 – one stanza of a poem reads: ' <b>Doo-ronga</b> (place of birds and eggs)...'" - " <b>Taringa</b> – a railway station on the former Willunga line. <b>Aboriginal for 'in the middle'</b> . Willunga and McLaren Vale are, approximately, midway between Adelaide and Encounter Bay. Deposited Plan No. 501/1856 and Memorial 18/7 show the name as <b>Tarranga</b> ."
Reference	GH Manning 2006, <i>Manning's Place Names of SA: From Aaron Creek to Zion Hill</i> , Modbury, Gould Books: 122, 413.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	

### 'DARINGA VALLEY': POSSIBLE SITE NAME? – discussion:

For a fuller story of 'Daringa'-*Taringga* and 'Tarranga'-*Tarangga* – which were probably the same Kurna name originally – see PNS 4.03.01/02 Tarangga.

This short essay will be devoted to the rather doubtful possibility that *Taringga* was a separate name and therefore a separate place.

#### MCLEOD AND 'TARRANGA':

Lieutenant James McLeod arrived in Australia in October 1838 on the same ship as Governor Gawler. Like Gawler, McLeod was an upper-class military man; he and his wife were intimates of the Gawler family. So was his other shipmate James Hawker, also of military background (his father was an admiral), who would soon become Assistant Surveyor during the first survey of McLaren Vale.<sup>6</sup>

McLeod bought seven sections "on the northern side of Maclaren Plains" in June 1839, and had moved there with his wife and employees into imported transportable Manning cottages before November.<sup>7</sup> He called his property "Tarranga", and at this stage they may still have been pronouncing it correctly as "Tarranga" not "Ta-rrangga".

<sup>6</sup> James Hawker 1899, *Early Experiences in South Australia*, Adelaide, Wigg & Son 1:3, 9, 52a.

<sup>7</sup> Hawker 1899: 1:52a, 53a.

They probably heard this name from their friend Hawker, who had already participated in surveying that part of the country and was camped at McLaren Vale for several months in late 1839.<sup>8</sup> It is very likely that 'Tarranga' was a name Hawker had heard from his Kurna guides, and that it referred to the site of his base camp "about a mile" away from McLeod's homestead.

#### COLTON, HEWETT AND 'DARINGA':

William Colton and Charles Hewett arrived at Adelaide in mid-December 1839, bought four sections from the South Australian Company, and moved to 'McLaren's Vale' with their large families in early January 1840, becoming McLeod's neighbours about 2 km away.

By August 1840 Hewett was signing himself as "CT Hewett, Oxenberry Farm, Daringa Valley".<sup>9</sup> A few weeks later he and Colton were giving their address to the Directors of the South Australian Company in London. It was published as "*Doringo* [or '*Doringa*'] Valley, Oxenberry Farm, Onkaparingo, South Australia"; but the correct colonial spelling was "*Daringa*"; for so it appeared in many almanacs and newspapers, and also (later) as the name of Colton's homestead.<sup>10</sup> 'Daringa Valley' is what the earliest settlers called the area which is now McLaren Vale town (as distinct from the 'McLaren Plains' further east).

Where did this name come from?

The Hewett-Colton team, as trained farmers from Devonshire, were not part of McLeod's privileged military set. They probably obtained 'Daringa' independently: either from other surveyors, or directly from their Kurna contacts.<sup>11</sup>

We know that Hewett's teenage daughter Faith was noting and preserving the local place-names during the six years she spent at their Oxenberry Farm.<sup>12</sup> Hewett was open to employing

<sup>8</sup> Hawker 1899 1:39b, 46a, 54a, 58a.

<sup>9</sup> *Register* 29/8/1840: 1f.

<sup>10</sup> We have no manuscript for the Colton-Hewett letter, and spellings of the place-names vary in different publications: "*Onkaparingo*" and "*Doringo*" (2<sup>nd</sup> Report from the Select Committee on SA, *BPP: Australia* 2: 45), or "*Onkaparinga*" and "*Doringa*" (5<sup>th</sup> Report of the Directors of the South Australian Company 1841: 27). Those who transcribe hand-written documents without knowing the language, or at least the word, can very easily mistake an *a* for an *o*, a *u* or even an *e*. Thus in publications 'Onkaparinga' is transcribed by a city clerk or editor as '*Onkaparingo*'; 'Taranga' as '*Teranga*' (Uppill's property in 1847) or even '*Paragara*' (George Webb's property in 1844-6).

Note that their single joint address is 'Oxenberry Farm'. Colton and Hewett had set up "*two Oxenberry Farms*" (*Register* 28/2/1844: 2d). Colton's was sometimes called "*Lower Oxenberry*" in the first years ('Statement of the Extent & Cultivation of land ... for the year 1840', *BPP: Colonies: Australia* 7: 88; *Bennett Almanac* 1842, Country Directory: 123), but was re-named 'Daringa' some time later. The two homesteads were on the same contour line: why was Colton's farm 'Lower'? Probably it meant 'a few yards further down the valley'.

<sup>11</sup> For a fuller account of this see PNS 4.03.01/04 Turrangga.

<sup>12</sup> Faith Hewett lived at McLaren Vale for about six years, from 1840 when she was 16 until about 1846 when she was 22. She looked after her siblings after their mother's death in 1846, until her father's second marriage later that year.





Aboriginal people on his farm. In 1844 when the foundation stone was laid for the Valley's first 'House of the Lord', several of them attended the service in "Mr Colton's brick barn".<sup>13</sup> Faith continued to record place-names as Mrs Lockwood at her second frontier home near Port Lincoln; but in her old age, writing a poem about what she had garnered, she did not mention either 'Daringa' or 'Tarranga' among the McLaren Vale items.<sup>14</sup> Perhaps she thought they were garbled versions of her own "Doo-ronga".<sup>15</sup>

Thus it was probably the Coltons who obtained 'Daringa'. They probably heard it independently, either from other surveyors or directly from their Kaurna contacts. They continued to use it as the name of their homestead, which still stands under that name near the eastern end of the town.

Outside the earliest local circles the pronunciation no doubt soon changed to "Da-ringa" as we know it now, following English habit – thus entrenching and emphasizing what was probably a wrong second vowel.

#### THE WORD 'DARINGA':

When someone heard from Kaurna people the word which they wrote down as 'Daringa', it would have been very easy for them to mistake the unstressed second vowel which they thought was *i*. But in my view the word was probably the same that Hawker had recorded as 'Tarranga'. Their colonial peers, including the surveyors, had 'Onkaparinga' as an adjacent model. Probably it was still being pronounced with the correct stress pattern "Onka-paringa", which would lead them by analogy to imagine an *i* and miss an *a*: *paringa* / 'daringa'.

In Aboriginal languages there is no meaningful distinction between the sounds *d* and *t*. It is obviously Kaurna because it uses the standard Locative suffix *ngga*, 'at'. Most records of Kaurna have preferred to use *t*, so we have a word *taringga*.

There is no known vocabulary for a root *tari*; such a word might have existed, but if so it was not recorded. 'Daringa' does not mean 'Swamp' or 'Swampy surroundings', as claimed by Pridmore;<sup>16</sup> nor can it mean 'spring', an idea found in some of the local guide books.<sup>17</sup> Neither can its linguistic equivalent *Taringga* mean 'the middle place' or 'halfway place', despite claims by the standard

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(Peter L Norman 1986, *Four Hewetts Venture North: A History of Charles Thomas Hewett and Four of His Children 1794-1986*, Adelaide, Hewett Family Reunion Committee: 29, 93).

<sup>13</sup> – and possibly later in his house, if "all" included the Aboriginals too (*Southern Australian* 16/12/1842: 2b; *Register* 28/2/1844: 2d). For the Hewetts see also PNS 4.03.01/04 Turrangga.

<sup>14</sup> 'A Native' [Faith Lockwood nee Hewett] 1893, 'Aboriginal Nomenclature', *Evening Journal* 23/9/1893: 4c = *Register* 11/10/1893: 7e.

<sup>15</sup> See PNS 4.03.01/04 Turangga.

<sup>16</sup> Pridmore 1949: 65; Pridmore typescript n.d. [1948], 'The Naming of McLaren Vale', D3208(T), SLSA: 10.

<sup>17</sup> – as claimed by Mike Potter 1978, *Wines and Wineries of SA*, Adelaide, Rigby: 47; Willunga National Trust 1975, *Food, Wine and Facts: History and Guide of Willunga and McLaren Vale*, SA, Henricks Publishers: 33.



place-name writers.<sup>18</sup> It is possible that *Taringga* was ‘just a name’, with no dictionary meaning, like ‘London’ or ‘Rome’; though the presence of the Locative suffix *ngga* counts a little against that.

But *Taringga* is linguistically very close to *Tarangga*. And McLeod’s ‘Tarranga’ was geographically very close to ‘Daringa Valley’, less than two km north of it. We also know that his homestead was located at a place which was certainly called by a different name, ‘Coweolonga’.<sup>19</sup> It very unlikely that the name ‘Tarranga’ actually belonged at ‘Coweolonga’; much more likely that *Tarangga* was in Colton’s valley rather than McLeod’s hills; and all the more likely that ‘Tarranga’ and ‘Daringa’ originated as the same name.

Yet after all this it remains *conceivable* that ‘Daringa’ did come from a different original word, *Taringga* – in which case its etymology and location would also be different from those of *Tarangga*.<sup>20</sup>

In view of today’s multiple Tarangas and Taringas, with various pretensions to antiquity, we should note that there was no South Australian ‘Taringa’ (spelt with a ‘t’) at first contact.<sup>21</sup> The first public record of a ‘Taringa’ anywhere on Kaurna land was a ‘Taringa Farm’ somewhere at McLaren Vale in 1861 (location unclear), from which a James Sykes was selling wine; but this could well be a misprint for ‘Taranga’.<sup>22</sup> After that, no Taringa until the new railway siding in 1947, which we know was given by Tindale.<sup>23</sup>

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#### THE PLACE: ‘DARINGA VALLEY’:

In the earliest records of the name, it is mostly used to refer to the immediate vicinity of Colton and Hewett’s first land-holdings on Sections 147-8 at the eastern end of today’s town, on the Kangarilla Road south of Chalk Hill. In almanacs from 1843 to 1850, the settlers’ notion of ‘Daringa Valley’

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<sup>18</sup> HM Cooper, *Australian Aboriginal Words*, SA Museum, various editions 1949, 1952, 1962; Manning 2006: 413.

<sup>19</sup> See PNS 4.03.01/01 Coweolonga.

<sup>20</sup> For a fuller consideration of this possibility see PNS 4.03.01/03 ‘Daringa’ / Taringga.

<sup>21</sup> The situation is muddled yet more by the fact that there was a Taranga (place) and a Taringa (person) in New Zealand, which the SA newspapers of the 1840s reported as part of the Maori wars; a SA river steamer called ‘Taringa’ by about 1883; and a railway station and suburb Taringa in Queensland by 1875.

<sup>22</sup> *Observer* 9/11/1861: 1h, <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/158183845/18803230>. However, this ‘Taringa’ is so isolated in date from all the other records of the name that it is very likely a misprint for ‘Taranga’; cp. “*James Macleod... Tarringa*” (error for ‘Tarranga’) in ‘Return Of Sheep’, *Southern Australian* 24/8/1841: 2e.

<sup>23</sup> See the essay on Taringa Railway Station in PNS 4.03.01/03 ‘Daringa / Taringa’.

expands a few kilometres, mainly to the settlement 'Bellevue' in the west of the valley.<sup>24</sup> But this is irrelevant to the original Kaurna location of the name, recorded firmly at the other end which would soon be called 'Gloucester'.

At some time during the 19<sup>th</sup> century a wetland area near Colton's "spring of excellent water flowing above ground all the year"<sup>25</sup> became known as 'Daringa Billabong' or 'Daringa Swamp'.<sup>26</sup> It lay somewhere between Turrangga and the areas of bad flooding (north of Old Mill Court) which Hewett mentioned in 1851. This beautiful place of trees, shrubs, flowers and birds has been extinct now for over a century, a victim of development and drainage schemes such as Hewett's, but it stayed in memory. Local chronicler Adele Pridmore wrote of the Daringa Swamp, "an almost permanent billabong on the site of the present Recreation Ground".<sup>27</sup>

*The Daringa Billabong must have been a magnificent place, for here grew groves of the silky teatree, a fern which grows only near water, scarlet bottlebush, tree honeysuckle and an occasional blackwood tree, with sheoaks on the higher ground. By the turn of the century, a few teatree shrubs and ferns survived rather dejectedly. Wild duck were plentiful on the billabong, but as the swamps dried up, these, too, disappeared. Most of the older residents recall rather wistfully the abundance of robins and wrens before the days of closer settlement brought numbers of cats about and also caused the disappearance either total or partial of tomtits, grass parrots and blue shell parrots by removing their natural cover of low prickly shrubs.*<sup>28</sup>

<sup>24</sup> Several Mr Bells are listed in the almanacs (see the document 'BACKGROUND6\_McLarenVale.pdf'): sometimes at 'Daringa Valley', sometimes at 'McLaren Vale'; sometimes 'Daringa' is misspelled as "Paringa". One of them was Robert Bell of 'Clifton': but according to other sources Clifton was Richard Bell's hotel on Section 135 in the northwest part of today's town, 1.5 km downstream from Colton; Bell had bought the section from Hewett, and in 1854 it became the settlement of 'Bellevue' (see Pridmore 1949: 11, 19). It is not clear whether McLeod's old land also came to be seen as part of 'Daringa Valley' too; for in 1849 "Bell, R." lived at "Paringa [sic] Valley, McLaren Vale" (Allen 1849: 182, Murray 1850: xxxviii), and at the same time a "Mr Bell" was a hop grower "of Tarranga". (Register 25/4/1849: 2c).

<sup>25</sup> 'Statement of the Extent & Cultivation of land ... for the year 1840', BPP: Colonies: Australia 7: 88.

<sup>26</sup> After 1850 'Daringa' fell out of use (except as the name of a racehorse in Warrnambool and a street at Mile End!) until it was used of the billabong; but this usage does not seem to have been recorded until Pridmore in 1948-9.

<sup>27</sup> Pridmore 1949: 65. The Recreation Ground is now the McLaren Vale Oval. Was 'billabong' the correct term here in the 19<sup>th</sup> century? A billabong is a defined loop marking an old course of the river which is now normally cut off from it. If Daringa Swamp was a billabong in the strict sense, this tells us something about the original watercourses which we cannot tell by looking at their courses now: that there was a cut-off loop somewhere near the oval, which for most of the year retained water. From research of old maps, plans and photographs it seems that the original course of Pedler Creek was immediately north of the houses behind Semmens Rd; part of this course is still visible on the western side of Field St behind the carpark. The billabong probably looped north around the caravan park, joining the main watercourse just west of Field St (see e.g. my calculations based on the copy, held in Oxenberry Farm Winery, of an old plan of Pavy's Brewery, showing the position of the creek line as it crosses Field St).

<sup>28</sup> Pridmore 1949: 70. Cp. Manning 1984: "The Daringa Swamp, low lying with two creeks running into it, was a place of scenic beauty. Surrounded by bottlebrush, teatree and ferns it was covered with wild ducks, and nestling in muddy hollows below was a particular delicacy – yabbies. In winter the creeks overflowed, and much of the adjacent land was flooded, thereby attracting ibis, plover and other water birds" (GH Manning 1984, *Hope Farm Chronicle: Pioneering Tales of South Australia 1836-1870*, Adelaide, the author: 112). This quotation purports to be part of a memoir written in 1870 by Manning's ancestor; however, the book, while well researched, is partly fictionalized, including the memoir: cp.



The dense understory and wider swampland at the western end of this billabong probably marked the eastern end of places which were narrow enough for to cross the creek conveniently: places of *tarra*, 'joining or crossing'.

*If* there were two names – if *Taringga* really was a separate name from *Tarangga* – then *Tarangga* might have referred to a crossing a little further west, perhaps near Old Mill Court; and *Taringga*, though it has no known meaning, might have been the actual name of a likely hypothetical campsite (for which I have no direct evidence) near Colton's 'Daringa', the place with a "spring of excellent water flowing above ground all the year".<sup>29</sup>

In this context it is therefore possible that some of the guidebook writers made lucky correct guesses. Perhaps 'Daringa' did refer to the spring 'Blackfellow's Well' on Oxenberry Farm<sup>30</sup> a few hundred metres away from the homestead. Perhaps 'Daringa' did also refer to the wetland immediately downstream from Colton which was later called Daringa Billabong.<sup>31</sup> But the word cannot mean those things.

We cannot be certain about any of it beyond the reference of 'Daringa' to McLaren's Valley. And it remains more likely that 'Daringa' and 'Tarranga' were the same Kaurna crossing place.

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#### Appendix 1: A LONG LINE OF LINGUISTIC RED HERRINGS: TINDALE, COOPER, MANNING, "TARANGK", "TARINGGA" AND 'MIDDLE':

The Kaurna-form noun *taringga* has been mistakenly associated with the Ngarrindjeri suffix *tarangk*, which means 'in the middle of, between'. This gloss has been given as the meaning of *taringga*, notably in HM Cooper's popular word books published by the SA Museum. However, the association is very dubious, and the appropriated meaning is impossible for *taringga*.

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Preface: ix). The tree species around Daringa Billabong can be seen in old photographs of the Recreation Ground (Malone unpublished research notes on McLaren Vale, 2/5/2016).

<sup>29</sup> For campsites within McLaren Vale town, see below.

<sup>30</sup> – as claimed by Mike Potter 1978, *Wines and Wineries of SA*, Adelaide, Rigby: 47; and Willunga National Trust 1975, *Food, Wine and Facts: History and Guide of Willunga and McLaren Vale, SA*, Henricks Publishers: 33. Blackfellow's Well was probably somewhere in today's vineyard between Denniss's Winery on the corner of Park Drive, and the little lake near 'Daringa' alongside the Rail Trail.

<sup>31</sup> GH Manning 2006, *Manning's Place Names of South Australia: From Aaron Creek to Zion Hill*, Modbury, Gould Books: 122.





GH Manning's publications on SA place-names have promoted an explicit understanding of the idea (already implicit in HM Cooper) that the name 'Taringa' and its alleged meaning have something to do with the area being "approximately midway between Adelaide and Encounter Bay".<sup>32</sup> We have Tindale to thank for this.

In about 1935 Tindale annotated some Aboriginal place-names on his map Hundred of Willunga: "Daringa (Turunga)" attached to the printed 'McLaren Vale' township, and "Tarangk (Taranga)" attached to section 227, about 1.3 km northwest of Willunga. These annotations are not individually credited, but the general credits say "Karlowan Dec. 1935. March 1939. 1941".<sup>33</sup> This is his first known record of 'Tarangk', but it is not clear whether it came from Karlowan or was his own idea.

Following up these names at some point later, he came across Taplin's gloss of the root of the Ngarrindjeri word *Tarangk*: "Opening, an – Tari".<sup>34</sup> He cited this reference explicitly on a card "tarangk".<sup>35</sup> But he also wrote a Kaurna vocabulary card "tar:a" (= *tarra*), allegedly meaning "open", and citing only his overused but useless phrase "Tindale ms".<sup>36</sup> His gloss here appears to be a pure invention.<sup>37</sup>

Perhaps he noted either that *tari* would acknowledge the vowel *i* in 'Daringa', or that a Kaurnafication of *Tarangk* would be *Taringga* not *Tarangga*. It seems clear that he was determined to show that Taplin's *tari* and *tarangk* had something to do with these old McLaren Vale names. The 'tar:a' card leads in the direction of *Tarrangga*, but only by ignoring two things: the known and unrelated gloss of *tarra* in Teichelmann and Schürmann 1840 (which Tindale could easily have found); and that *tarra* without an *i* makes no sense as an explanation for either 'Daringa' or 'Taringga'. But this was all armchair speculation. Such a hybrid of Ngarrindjeri and Kaurna languages is not at all likely deep in Kaurna territory in 1839-40 when the names were obtained.

Unusually for him, Tindale did not commit any direct interpretations of Taranga or Daringa onto cards in his place-name files during his Gazetteer project in the 1980s, nor into journals and papers,<sup>38</sup> nor any publications under his own name. Perhaps he was aware that this interpretive package was doubtful, even while he gave it to Cooper to publish – thus aligning himself with the

<sup>32</sup> G Manning 2006, *Manning's Place Names of SA*: 413. He adds some more confusion by citing the irrelevant Deposited Plan for McLeod's 'Tarranga' which preceded Oliver's at McLaren Vale.

<sup>33</sup> Tindale annotated map, Hundred of Willunga, AA 338/24/97. Tindale's phonetic symbol *ŋ* is equivalent to *ng* in normal spelling.

<sup>34</sup> Taplin 1879, *Folklore of the Aborigines*: 126.

<sup>35</sup> 'Jarildekald' vocabulary cards, AA338/7/1/10.

<sup>36</sup> Kaurna vocabulary cards, AA 338/7/1/12.

<sup>37</sup> In Kaurna, 'open' is *kadla*; 'opening' can be *ta* or *tau*; but *tarra* is 'string, girdle, joining thing'.

<sup>38</sup> – though in the light of Cooper's preface crediting Tindale's "research manuscripts", it is possible that something will turn up one day in the journals.



many wordlist publishers of his time (and still now) for whom historical integrity, language accuracy and origins on the land obviously have not mattered.

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## Appendix 2: TODAY'S TARANGAs AND TARINGAs:

A 'Taranga' homestead stands now on Section 105 at Warners Rd near Stump Hill; a 'Taranga Farm' homestead is on Section 97 at Olivers Rd; and a former 'Taranga Winery' on Section 102 at Wheaton Rd is now the Simon Hackett Winery.<sup>39</sup>

If it was not a misprint, there was a "Taringa Farm, McLaren Vale" in 1861 (location unclear), from which a James Sykes was selling wine.<sup>40</sup> A 'Taringa' homestead (presumably the one on Section 116) was the residence of James Manning when he died in 1914.<sup>41</sup> There is or was another 'Taringa' homestead on Section 444, probably named in the 1960s after the railway siding.<sup>42</sup>

.....

Continue for PNS 4.03.01/10 Taringa Railway Station.

<sup>39</sup> For these names and those below, see <http://maps.sa.gov.au/plb/>.

<sup>40</sup> *Observer* 9/11/1861: 1h, <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/158183845/18803230>. However, this 'Taringa' is so isolated in date from all the other records of the name that it is very likely a misprint for 'Taranga'; cp. "James Macleod... *Tarringa*" (error for 'Tarranga') in 'Return Of Sheep' *Southern Australian* 24/8/1841: 2e.

<sup>41</sup> *Register* 20/4/1914: 8.

<sup>42</sup> Its first known record is on Military survey map "Milang 1:100,000. Sheet 6627" (compiled 1966). For the siding see PNS 4.03.01/10 below.

Appendix 3: TARINGA RAILWAY STATION (PNS 4.03.01/10):

Place Name SUMMARY (PNS) 4.03.01/10

'TARINGA' (railway station, Willunga)

(last edited: 16/6/2016)

Abstract

In 1947 the SA government's Nomenclature Committee gave the name 'Taringa' to a small stopping place on the Willunga railway line, 2.5 km north of Willunga.

The name was brought to them by Tindale. They recorded no explanation or translation; but we know that he was in this case interpreting data from his map annotations of a few years before, where he had recorded material from the Ngarrindjeri man Albert Karlowan.

The meaning is unknown, and the name belongs not here but in the valley of Pedler Creek at McLaren Vale (see and PNS 4.03.01/03 'Daringa', above in this document; also 4.03.01/02 Tarangga).

Coordinates	-35.251463° Latitude, 138.55913° Longitude. (estimated from GNU Plan 146/5).
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Language Information

Meaning	Unknown
Etymology	<i>tari</i> (meaning unknown) + <i>ngga</i> 'place, at'
Notes	
Language Family	Thura-Yura: 'Kaurna'.
KWP Former Spelling	Taringga
KWP New Spelling 2010	Taringga
Phonemic Spelling	/thaRingka/
Pronunciation	"Taring-ga":
Pronunciation tips	Stress 1 <sup>st</sup> syllable; 'a' as in Maori 'haka'.

Main source evidence

Date	n.d. [Dec 1935?]
Original source text	" <b>Daringga (Turungga)</b> " [by printed 'McLaren Vale']. ` <b>Tarangk (Tarungga)</b> " [section 227 near Willunga].
Reference	Tindale annotated map, Hundred of Willunga, SA Museum AA 338/24/97.
Informants credited	Albert Karlowan.
Informants uncredited	



Date	November 1947
Original source text	“Railway Stopping places 7/11/47: App <sup>d</sup> SAR 8568/43: Aboriginal names submitted by NB Tindale: NURLUTTA. WOMMA. KUDLA. MUDLAYAKKI. <b>TARINGA</b> . ‘PARA’ was substituted for Mudlayakki’.”
Reference	Nomenclature Committee Minutes Book, GNU: 111.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	

Date	n.d. [?1940s]
Original source text	“ <b>Taringa</b> McLaren Vale Tindale”.
Reference	HM Cooper, typed alphabetical vocabulary list, SA Museum AA 64/5/9.
Informants credited	NB Tindale
Informants uncredited	

Date	1949
Original source text	“ <b>Taringga</b> McLaren Vale district (the middle place).”
Reference	HM Cooper 1949, <i>Australian Aboriginal Words</i> , SA Museum: 23.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	Tindale

Date	1962
Original source text	“ <b>Taringa</b> The middle or halfway place (McLaren Vale district). (Also <b>Taringga</b> ).”
Reference	HM Cooper 1962, <i>Australian Aboriginal Words</i> , 4 <sup>th</sup> ed., SA Museum: 24.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	Tindale

### Discussion: ‘TARINGA’ RAILWAY STATION:

This ‘railway stopping place’ was on the old Willunga line, which opened in 1915 and closed in 1969.<sup>43</sup> Much of its length is now occupied by the Coast To Vines walking and cycling trail.

‘Taringa’ looks very much like a Kurna word, and in fact it is (or might be) the original Kurna name of another place (see the ‘Daringa’ essay above); but there is no known word ‘taringa’ in any local vocabulary.

In theory it could be remotely conceivable that this name was taken from some Aboriginal wordlist interstate, such as that from which the Brisbane suburb of Taringa was named (also via a railway

<sup>43</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willunga\\_railway\\_line](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willunga_railway_line) [4/5/16].

station).<sup>44</sup> But the records of this and similar names around McLaren Vale uncover a tortuous history which requires considerable effort to unravel, as I found in the days before I learned that Norman Tindale's index cards and map annotations always need to be assessed with caution and critical discernment, *preceded* by a background history of the name and place and also of Tindale's own records. For it does bring us back to the frequent differences between three levels of the data: real contact history, Tindale's retrieval work in the 1930s, and his own uses of that work.<sup>45</sup>

In the decade following his cryptic annotations on a map in 1935-41, "*Daringga (Turungga)*" and "*Tarangk (Tarangga)*";<sup>46</sup> Tindale seems to have been mulling over these names without committing his thoughts to paper.

In 1949 the Museum began to publish some of Cooper's collection, and he wrote in his Foreword,

*Whilst most of the words selected have already appeared in vocabularies,... a number of words hitherto unpublished have been added, including some made available by Mr Norman B Tindale... from his research manuscripts.*<sup>47</sup>

During this time, Tindale in 1947 offered 'Taringa' along with four other Kaurna words or names to the SA government's Nomenclature Committee, who had been asked to name some more railway stations.<sup>48</sup> They attached 'Taringa' to a small stopping place near Binney Road, 2.5 km north of Willunga. This is on Section 442, only 0.8 km northeast of Section 227 where Tindale had mapped 'Tarangk'. Presumably he thought this was near enough to whichever of the originals he had in mind, and a good use for a neglected place-name.

Adele Pridmore's local history of the Willunga-McLaren Vale district was published in 1949; it remains a familiar source today. The author had been in touch with Tindale and used some of his other material.<sup>49</sup> Conversely, Tindale had probably obtained some of his information above by talking to her. In the same year the SA Museum published the first edition of HM Cooper's *Australian Aboriginal Words*, containing this item given to him by Tindale: "*Taringga – McLaren Vale district (the middle place)*".<sup>50</sup>

<sup>44</sup> See 'History of Brisbane's Taringa', [www.ourbrisbane.com/suburbs/taringa/history](http://www.ourbrisbane.com/suburbs/taringa/history); and <http://wikimapia.org/5989513/Taringa-Brisbane-Queensland-Australia>.

<sup>45</sup> See the full story of 'Daringa', and of Tindale's variations on it, in the main essay above; also in Appendix 2 of PNS 4.03.01/02 Tarangga.

<sup>46</sup> Tindale annotated map, Hundred of Willunga, AA 338/24/97.

<sup>47</sup> HM Cooper 1949, Foreword to *Australian Aboriginal Words*, SA Museum.

<sup>48</sup> "Railway Stopping places 7/11/47: App<sup>d</sup> SAR 8568/43", Nomenclature Committee Minutes Book, GNU: 111.

<sup>49</sup> Pridmore's earlier draft of her book had included a paragraph which paraphrased and credited Tindale on the subject of Aboriginal burials and inquests (Pridmore typescript n.d. [1948], 'The Naming of McLaren Vale', D3208(T), SLSA: 46).

<sup>50</sup> HM Cooper 1949, *Australian Aboriginal Words*, [1<sup>st</sup> edition]: 23. For the alleged significance of McLaren Vale as a 'middle place', see PNS 4/03.01/02 Tarangga.



To compound the confusion, a nearby property on Binney Road named itself 'Taringa' for a while from the 1960s to the 1980s, and was duly marked on the survey map. There is no sign of it before 1966, and it can be safely deduced that the owners had named it after the railway station.<sup>51</sup>

'Middle place' cannot be a true explanation of 'Taringa'. The Kaurna suffix for 'in the middle' is *wattingga* (New Spelling *wartingga*), and 'middle place' would be identical: nothing like Ngarrindjeri *tarangk*. The original meaning (if any) of *Taringga* (if the word existed in Kaurna) is unknown.

The Willunga railway line was closed in 1969.<sup>52</sup> It is now the Coast To Vines Rail Trail, where 'Taringa' and other stations are now commemorated by onsite plaques.

'Taringa' has been a very popular name. There is a Taringa property at Warners Road north of McLaren Vale, alongside two Tarangas.<sup>53</sup> The Geographical Names Unit now lists eight other uses of 'Taringa' in SA alone.<sup>54</sup>

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### References to background documents

For a composite collection of background data relating to McLaren Vale's Aboriginal place-names and history, researchers can consult KWP for access to the password-protected document 'BACKGROUND6\_McLarenVale.pdf'.

*End of Summary*

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<sup>51</sup> Survey map Milang 1:100,000, Sheet 6627 (1967; compiled 1966, from 1:63360 Milang 1957 & Echunga 1963-5). This homestead name was still to be seen during the Field Check for Willunga map 6627 3 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) in October 1981 (Davina Sickerdick, Geographical Names Unit, p.c. 25-6/3/2009). Cp. GNU Record No. SA0075532.

<sup>52</sup> en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willunga\_railway\_line,\_Adelaide (16/3/09).

<sup>53</sup> SA Department of Lands database map, Noarlunga 1:50,000, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (Field Check Oct 1985); 'Taringa': GNU Record Number SA0023323.

<sup>54</sup> See <http://maps.sa.gov.au/plb/>.