

Summary of Wonnarua Nation's Genealogy Project 2011.

I am pleased to report on my findings on the Genealogy of Sarah Madoo. I have based my findings on extensive research at the Mitchell Library in Sydney, going through old church records, historic records along with the Inland Christian Mission records and photos. Another source of information has been the electronic Historic Newspapers on line.

Sarah Waters nee Madoo was the daughter of Johnny Goubra and Eliza Goubra Mason. My first hint or lead to who Sarah was came with a link to an Aboriginal Mason name in the area when one of Sarah's children was arrested for a minor offense and the police records stated the boy was also known as Mason. Hunting through the Mason names came to my second lead: Sarah had been born on the Alwyn river near Dungog as were 3 other Aboriginal identities known in the Singleton, Patrick Plains area, who had been recorded in Cawthorn's papers: Old Brandy, and Charlotte, who turned out to be Mary Ann Bugg's mother, (Thunderbolts partner). This followed to old documentation from Waddell's material held at the Mitchell library: Cawthorn's papers 1825-1897 at the Mitchell Library MLDOC 871 being the biographical detail of the Coongoori tribe of Patrick Plains, Singleton district, supplied to Waddell, ca 1870s. My lead to Eliza Goubra Mason, and to her daughter Sally Mason, who I speculate was Sarah's sister led me to strongly suggest that Sarah belonged to the Aboriginal group from the Gringai Clan, also of the Dungog area part of Wonnarua Country, who were later recorded at both ends of the 1800s in the Patrick Plains District.

My next lead came with the Aboriginal name Comboo, Cumboo, Combo, Eliza Goubra Mason's father was Comboo. We know that Sarah was born in 1847 on the Alwyn River Patterson and passed away in Redfern in 1941. We can link Sarah to the same group of people who were recorded in the 1830s and again in the 1883 muster of Aboriginal people in the Patrick Plains. Sarah is connected to the people of that clan and is the daughter of Johnny Goubra who was the son of Cumboo, born before 1827 in Patrick Plains. I would strongly suggest that Madoo; Mdoos; is actually Comboo, based on written scrawl writing of the times and the strong probability that the CO from COMBOO was dropped to make Mdoos or Mboos and later an 'A' was added to make Madoo.

This is an exciting find as one very old Aboriginal man, well documented in the historic papers of the time was Coombo. There were many Comboo, Cumboo named Aboriginal people having their passing reported in the historic papers. There was Tommy who died at Sofala and Billy Good Day Cumboo; Comboo who had his portrait painted or sketched in the early 1800s. Then there was Old Brandy who died in 1855 and had claimed his area as Comboo and the name of his clan as Comboo, with the newspapers reporting that it was the land of his people. Old Brandy was reported to be well into his 100th year at the time of his death, making his birth as early as 1755. Sarah Madoo / Waters has a family line back to Combo and back to old Brandy.

William Waddell's papers on the "Natives of Patrick Plains and the tribe Corringoori" is held in Cawthorn's papers 1825-1897 at the Mitchell Library MLDOC 871 and is the biographical detail of the Coongoori tribe of Patrick Plains, Singleton district, supplied to Waddell, ca 1870s. There are listings of some the same Aboriginal people, in the 1830s and again in the 1883 muster: Johnny Goubra; Bobandi; Eliza Goubra; Sally Mason and others. Some people were very old and in desperate need of assistance

at the time of the muster. This is well recorded in the historic papers of the times and in letters from the local Minister imploring the Aboriginal Protection Board to do something to help the Aboriginal people of the area, all are well documented and published in the local papers.

Eliza Goubra Mason, (Sarah's mother) was the daughter of Yarry and Comboo and had been born before 1827 in Patrick Plains. Yarry was born before 1810 in Patrick Plains. Sarah's grandmother Cumboo, (Comboo) was the daughter of Billy Goodday, alias Cumboo, Comboo who had died around 1870 in Patrick Plains and whose father was Old Brandy.

Other interesting connections to Sarah and to her family line is with Mary Ann Bugg who learnt bush craft from her mother Charlotte and domestic, European knowledge from the number of years she spent at a boarding college. She partnered with Thunderbolt, (Ward) and helped him be a successful bushranger for many years. Mary Ann died in Maitland. Charlotte was with the same group of Aboriginal people born at Dungog, the links of each group are there continually.

There are 960 people in the Genealogical program left with the Wonnarua Nations who will make changes, corrections, add dates and update their member's information. I was pleased to find Sarah's ancestors and will hope the Aboriginal people now known in the Singleton / Patrick Plains area will be remembered, honored and made known.

Comboo; Aboriginal Charlotte; Jemmy; Jackey Hippi; Johnny Goubra; Eliza Goubra; Sally Goubra Mason; Yarry; Billy Good Day Cumboo; Old Brandy; Dummy; Broken Back Tommy; Bobandi; Old Dick; King Jimmy; King Cockie; Eliza; Betsy; Boney Mason; Betsy Mulmull; Biddy Mullmull; Ellen Mulmull; Mulmull Mullmul, (father of the Mullmul clan, spelt with one or two 'l's at different times); John Mulmull; Neilpo Brandy; Billy Brandy; Panglyor; Maryanne Yarry; Jemmy Benden.

Yours Sincerely,

Kath Schilling

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