

Alan, Pat and Henry Long

There are also cultural and familial connections between Fortescue Banyjima and Nyiyaparli, epitomised by the family of the third Parker brother, Horace, who married Olive, the Nyiyaparli daughter of Paddy Long. Police reports show that on 14th December 1950 a complaint was received from Marillana Station that Horace wanted to marry Olive but 'he was tribally related to her, and it was against the tribal customs for them to marry'.¹

The police report noted:

Paddy, father of Olive and King of the Marillana tribe, [is] a good hard working native who is able to keep his tribe orderly. Pat, brother of Olive. Henry another brother. Neither of these boys having native names yet All were questioned in turn and I ascertained that Horace Sam [sic] was a cousin to Olive and naturally this fact was the reason, more so than the fact that Sam is a half caste, for the fathers vigorous opposition to the marriage according to tribal laws.²

David Stock recalls the incident and says it arose because Olive's mother was Whitehead's 'sister' (pers com.). David Stock typifies the close relationship between Martuidja Banyjima and Nyiyaparli people as he could identify as both but chooses Nyiyaparli. The close connection between the Parker and Long families is confirmed in a statement by Wobby Parker:

Nyiyarparli give me a wife and I was married in Nyiyarparli to Queenie Yuline. She is the mother for Susanne Parker. I went through Law at Roy Hill. Paddy Long was Nyiyarparli. The Banyjima people put Pat through in exchange for me. Patrick Long my young brother. Pat been giveway to Banyjima in return (Nangarra). Still Banyjima law.

Pat Long was also a partner of Cella Tucker and adopted Dennis Guinness, known as Bangu, who was the son of an Indjibandi man. Bangu and his family are putative members of Martuidja Banyjima. As a result of these ties, the descendants of Pat and Henry Long are accepted as claimants in the Martuidja Banyjima native title claim. The two brothers are buried at Youngaleena where they resided in their final years.

¹Report by F S Jackson PC 2040 to Chief Protector, 18 January 1951

²Journal of J G Jackson PC 2040, Police Patrol Report, AN 5/3 Acc 430 File 100/1951.