

# Buluwai Stories



**Binnanewan** ("Cecil Brim") was born 'in the bush' in 1901 On Groves Creek, fourth child to Toby and Annie Brim living in the area behind Speewah to Stoney Creek called Gulgar. As a child, Cecil lost part of his ear from a bullet fired in a raid on Buluwai Country. In 1916, three years after Mona Mona mission opened, Cecil's parents made the difficult decision to save their remaining children, and along with his older sister Middie, the family was 'safely escorted' to the mission.

Cecil married Gudembah ("Dinah Fullerton", Koko Bujundji) and they had 8 children Marita, Warren, Ivan, Milton, Ruth, Eunice, Ross and Annette (died as a baby). In 1955, Cecil and Dinah applied for an exemption to leave the mission (finally closed in 1962) and moved their family to Oak Forest. Cecil worked in forestry all his life and passed in 1984 at the age of 82.



**ABOVE LEFT:** Cecil aged 14 (taken from his parents) at Mona Mona mission.

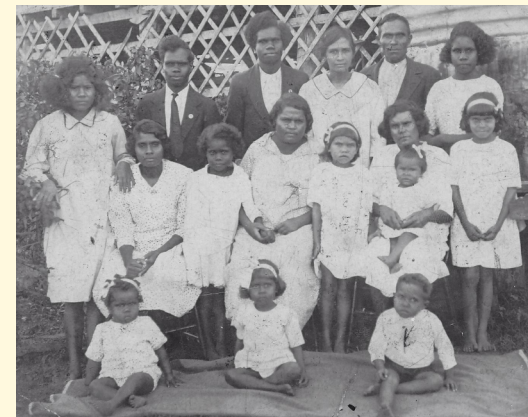
**LEFT:** Cecil (standing on truck wheel) working in forestry.



**ABOVE:** Standing [Newbury?], Bill Shephard, [ ], Cecil Brim, Sitting: Minnie Shephard, Jessie Richardson

**TOP RIGHT:** Cecil and Dinah Brim's wedding (centre couple). Left standing Mona Fagan and sitting Jessie Richardson. Right standing Bill Shephard and sitting is his wife Minnie Shephard.

**RIGHT:** Family photo  
Back row: Mona Fagan, Bill Shephard, Cecil Brim, Jessie Richardson, Dick Courtney (Richardson), [ ]  
Front row: Minnie Shephard, Esther (child), Dinah Brim, Melba Richards, Rosie Grogan holding baby



**ABOVE LEFT:** Cecil's wife Dinah, with their children (oldest to youngest) Marita, Warren, Ivan, Milton

**ABOVE:** Video of Cecil aged 37, Norman Tindale visited Mona Mona mission during the SA Museum Expedition 1938-9 and collected the Brim family tree along with photos, videos, hair samples, language and artefacts.

**LEFT:** Queen Maggie Donahue (Djabugay) and Cecil Brim (Buluwai) photographed at Kuranda's first NAIDOC celebration in [1984].



Honouring our neighbouring tribes, clans and families: Djabugay (north), Yirrgay (east), Muluridji (west), Ngatjan (south west) and Yidindji (south east) with whom we share Dreamtime stories of creator god Bulurru, ancestral lore, kinship and landscape boundaries.

We wish to advise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander visitors that this website and links may contain images and voices of people who are deceased. Buluwai Indigenous Corporation (BIC) respectfully acknowledges the First Peoples' and Custodians of the lands, waters and seas on which we work and live. We honour our Elders, past, present and emerging.