

NTEC Redistribution Committee  
GPO Box 2419  
Darwin  
NT 0801

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to you about the proposed name change to the NT electorate of Stuart. While I am also a signatory of the submission you have received from PAW Media, I wanted to add a few points of clarification around the word/name Gwoja/Gwoya.

One Pound Jimmy's 'Aboriginal name' was recorded as 'Gwoja'. This is an erroneous spelling, made by non-Indigenous, non-linguist and non-anthropologist in the mid twentieth century. It is clear however that the word 'Gwoja' is an attempt at the Anmatyerr/Arrernte word for 'water' or 'rain', which is Kwaty or Kwatye.<sup>1</sup>

All of the historical evidence (oral and in the literature) suggest that One Pound had an Anmatyerr mother and it seems that he spent most of his life living amongst people that spoke the closely related Arandic languages – Anmatyerr and Arrernte. For example, he was famously photographed at Spotted Tiger Mine (on Arrernte country), was part of Kwatye ceremonies that were documented by T.G.H. Strehlow at Arltunga (Eastern Arrernte country) in 1935 and he adopted the well-known Anmatyerr painters Clifford Possum and Tim Leura as sons. In fact, in 1963 all three men were recorded as living and working at Narwietooma Station (on Arrernte country) and the same census record identifies One Pound Jimmy as being 'Aranda' and gives his subsection name in the Arandic style 'Ngwarai' (Ngwarray). He was reputedly buried either on Narweitooma or Napperby Stations (again, Anmatyerr country).

Kwatye (rain) was One Pound Jimmy's 'totem' or 'Dreaming', derived from his association with a rain Dreaming site near Mt Wedge Station. I have spent some time recording Anmatyerr histories and it seems that most contemporary Anmatyerr people remember this man by the name 'One Pound' or 'One Pound Jimmy'. The name Kwatye/Gwoja refers to his Dreaming association and is less often used as a personal name for this historical individual.

I hope this information is useful. I would also advise further consultations with Anmatyerr people at Laramba (Napperby) and Yuelamu (Mt Allan).

Regards,



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<sup>1</sup> Kwaty and Kwatye are the same word, just spelt differently. The Anmatyerr spelling system, which was devised by IAD with Anmatyerr speakers, drops the final 'e' vowel (See the Central and Eastern Anmatyerr dictionary (IAD Press, 2010) whereas the spelling system used for Arrernte retains the final 'e'. The key point here is that Arrernte and Anmatyerr, as well as Kaytetye and Alyawarr, are all Arandic languages which are quite distinct from other Central Australian languages like Warlpiri, Pintupi, Luritja etc. For more on the Arrernte spelling system, read <https://www.clc.org.au/articles/info/have-you-ever-wondered-why-arrernte-is-spelt-the-way-it-is/>