

Eungella's Aboriginal Legend

There is a delightful aboriginal legend concerning the beautiful Pioneer Valley and Eungella range. It is said that away back in the morning of the world the alkaringa times*, the Valley of Changing Lights and Shades was the place where the powerful and kindly Larrakia blackfellows sat down. Game and fish abounded in the lush meadows and singing streams of the valley, and the fragrant air resounded with the happy laughter of the little birrales. The country was sometimes called Bimbimba, for that meant "the place of many birds." Then one day Korinya, who was always walking about seeing strange lands and hearing strange things, came back to the tribes after a long walkabout with a wonderful tale about Eungella—the Mountain of Mists, or Land of the Clouds. By the camp fire that night he told how he had braved the minggaahs, the spirit-haunted trees, and minaginbil, the place of leeches, and at last scaled the mountain wall and reached the top. But as he was looking for a way across the range Woor, the evil spirit, sent Ho too-worry, the clouds. Korinya could not see his shield before his face, so thick was the mountain mist, and was frightened, for he thought he would be killed by the murra-murras, the primitive blackfellows without proper faces, who were lurking all around him. In desperation he called loudly to the great Byamee, father of all the aborigine, to help him. And the third time he called Byamee heard, and sent Douran-Douran, the north wind, who chased Ho-too-worry away from the mountain. Korinya was thus able to see where he was going, and descended to the valley and his people as quickly as he could. And even to this day, as in the far-off alkaringa times, Ho-too-worry hurries to Eungella at evenfall. and close to where the chalet is situated is chased away by Douran-Douran.

An excerpt from the article : "The Chalet on the Mountain Top - Beautiful Eungella Range " by C.B. Christesen

(Researched from:) Trove Australia—Digitised newspapers <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/18903790>

(& retyped for the Eungella Regulla by Glenda Parish)

The Chalet on the Mountain Top Beautiful Eungella Range

By
C. B. Christesen

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Aboriginal Legend

Around Eungella is woven a romance of the early goldfield days. Gone is the frenzied activity of the 5000 diggers who flocked to the field in 1886 when a rich pocket was opened in the Orchid mine. The five crazy pubs and red cedar humpies have long since disappeared. But there still remain the old water wheel and the battery at the "Diggings." Now only a few old prospectors fossack for the precious metal in Broken River, the river of broken dreams.

A visit to Eungella Range will provide a scenic high-spot of a tour of North Queensland.

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