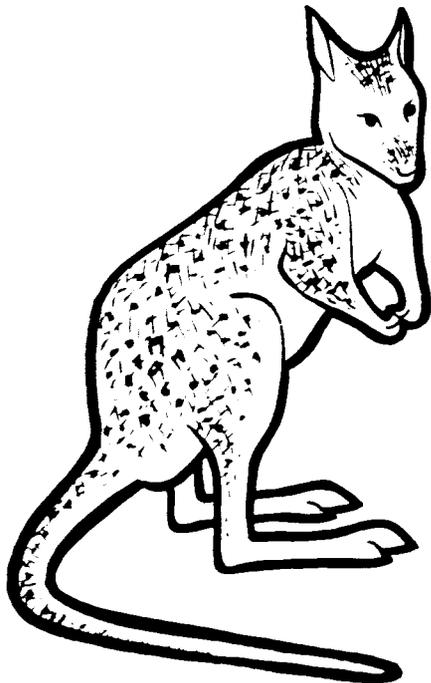


Mr. WALLABY

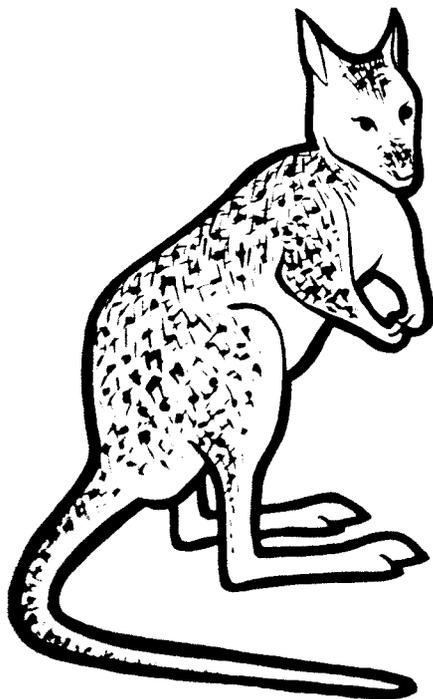
Related to Roland Robinson by Bob Andy at Wallaga Lake.



OLD George Noble was always called "old Marvellous" because when you were talking to him he would always say, "Aint that marvellous." and then laugh. But everyone was frightened of old Marvellous. He was a clever old man. He was a bugeen, a spirit who could sing you or change himself into a bird or an animal to come and make you sick and kill you.

Old Jimmy Clemens and old Marvellous were travelling from Jervis Bay. They were going to Canberra to see the Prince of Wales. These two old men were camped on the way and they were drinking rum. They had a row and old Marvellous put bone-dust in old Jimmy's drink and killed him. This bone-dust is the bone-dust of a man and a woman. It is poison.

Old Jimmy's brother was a clever old man. He was a bugeen too. He received a message about his brother's death. He travelled through the air like a spirit and took all Jimmy's dogs back home. Later on he threw the Guneena, the devil's stone, at old Marvellous and killed him in three days.



ONE night I went to old Jimmy's place and thought I'd have a game of cards. I didn't have much money. I had a couple of games and went broke. I sat at the fire a while until I was getting sleepy. I made up my mind I'd go home. Outside it was pretty dark. I looked out of the light and couldn't see at first in the darkness. When I could see I started off. As I walked past the chimney, I saw something move. It was a wallaby. He turned round and looked at me. I stopped to see what it was. When he seen me stop he hopped away to a carved blackfellers' tree and stopped there.

I went back and called to everyone in old Jimmy's place. "Come out here. There's a Bugeen out here!" They all came out. I pointed the wallaby out to them. I said, "Look, he was sitting there looking through the cracks of the chimney, watching us and having a warm from the fire."