## Australasian Journal of Herpetology

Duellman *et al.* (2016) found that the species within each of *Pengilleyia* and *Kumanjayiwalkerus gen. nov.* diverged from one another 16.7 MYA and these two genera in turn diverged from their nearest living relatives 23.2 MYA. **Distribution:** Tropical Australia, extending down the east coast of Queensland as far as the wetter south-east of that State and the Fly River region of Southern Papua New Guinea.

**Etymology:** The genus *Kumanjayiwalkerus gen. nov.* is named in honour Kumanjayi Walker, another indigenous Australian victim of an execution by a racist white Australian police officer in the Northern Territory, being one of over 400 such victims in Australia since 1990. The 19 year old was shot and killed by NT Police Officer Zachary Rolfe in November 2019.

The world is full of memorials and species named in honour mass murders, thieves and despots and It is appropriate that victims of these people should also be honoured.

Indigenous Australians were subjected to a British Genocide that was pro-rata significantly more destructive than the holocaust caused by the German Nazi regime to Jews and others. The British attempts to rewrite the factual historical record of Australia was far worse than that of the Nazi Propaganda Ministry, including that Australia was "uninhabited" prior to 1770 when Captain James Cook "discovered" the place, but these facts are not well known, even to many Australians.

Also not well known outside Australia is the endemic corruption of Australian police forces in the modern era. It is hoped that by naming of a widespread and common species of frog in honour of a victim of a police muder in

Australia that attention is not only drawn to the victim of the crime, but also other victims and a hope that by doing so, the crime and corruption that is endemic in Australian police forces is eventually stopped (see also etymology for *Nyctimystes* (*Asperohyla*) *georgefloydi sp. nov.* earlier in this paper).

Notable is that George Floyd was killed by police on 26 May 2020 in Minnesota, USA.

The videos of the killing made by bystanders were shared online, sparking widespread protests in over 30 cities and worldwide.

Two days later, on 28 May 2020, Victorian Police officers pulled over a motorist on the busy Monash Freeway at Dandenong North. They got out of their police car and proceeded to execute the 53 year old family man by shooting him dead in broad daylight in full view of other drivers, the entire incident being captured on dashcams and even State Government-owned freeway CCTV cameras. Unlike in Minnesota, USA, the Victorian Police successfully hijacked every video made and none was made public or shared on social media.

As a result there were no protests in Australia arising from the incident.

Police Union boss, Wayne Gatt (remember the Gatt name ... and for the wrong reasons), told the media that the execution was wholly justified.

**Content:** *Kumanjayiwalkerus kumanjayi* (type species); *K. rothii* (De Vis, 1884).



## KUMANJAYIWALKERUS KUMANJAYI SP. NOV. LSIDurn:Isid:zoobank.org:act:9D99A68E-3A87-4AAE-B0AA-B7B31078D521

**Holotype:** A preserved specimen at the Western Australian Museum, Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen number R50585, collected at the Drysdale River National Park, Kimberley District, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -14.7667 S., Longitude 127.0833 E.

This government-owned facility allows access to its holdings.

**Paratypes:** 14 preserved specimens at the Western Australian Museum, Perth, Western Australia, Australia, specimen numbers, R50377, R50382, R50581, R50582, R50583, R50805, R50806, R131681, R173564, R173578, R173579, R173580, R164955 and R164956, collected at the Drysdale River National Park, Kimberley District, Western Australia, Australia, Latitude -14.7667 S., Longitude 127.0833 E.

**Diagnosis:** *Kumanjayiwalkerus kumanjayi sp. nov.* has until now been treated as merely the western population of *K. rothii* (De Vis, 1884), better known as "*Litoria rothii*", with a type locality of Mackay in North Queensland, Australia.

However the possibility of there being at least two species within putative "*Litoria rothii*", has been known for decades. Hoser (1989) on page 41 had photos of the western and eastern forms of this species and Anstis 2013 on page 297 stated "it is possible there may be more than one species involved.

*Kumanjayiwalkerus kumanjayi sp. nov.* is the form encompassing the Kimberley District of Western Australia and the top end of the Northern Territory, including the western side of the Gulf of Carpentaria. *K. rothii* of the type form occupies most parts of Queensland, except the driest areas and the south, as

well as southern New Guinea.

Both species would key out as "*Litoria rothii*" in either Anstis (2013) or Cogger (2014).

The two species are readily separated from one another as follows:

*K. rothii* has obvious black spots and blobs above the arm pit, on the rear flank, groin and inner and rear hind leg. In contrast these areas of black are either absent, heavily reduced as to be inconspicuous or shaded as grey.

Where the black spotting and marks are present in K.

rothii, K. kumanjayi sp. nov. has light bluish-purple flash colours instead.

Some north Queensland specimens of *K. rothii* may also have light bluish-purple in these inner areas, but in these specimens, the light bluish-purple areas are always well bounded by thick black outlines (not seen in *K. Kumanjayi sp. nov*).

*K. rothii* has yellow and black mottling along the inside edge of the foot, versus light bluish-purple and yellow mottling in *K. kumanjayi sp. nov.*.

Black spotting extends along the lower flank, anterior to the hind limb in *K. rothii*, whereas this is not the case in K. kumanjayi sp. nov.. The upper lip of K. rothii is whitish, versus yellow-brown in K. kumanjayi sp. nov.. Both species K. kumanjayi sp. nov. and K. rothii are further defined as follows: A medim-sized, somewhat slender tree frog. Has a slender hind limb. Tongue oval, with its free hind edge rather deeply emarginate. Vomerine teeth in two small groups between the choanee. Choanae rather large and angular. Head small. Snout subacute, longer than orbit or interorbit. Nostril much nearer the tip of the snout than to the eye. Loreal region shelving is rather concave. Tympanum distinct, two-thirds of orbit. Fingers half-webbed, but fringed to the discs; discs about two-thirds of tympanum in size. Toes entirely webbed, with small discs. On protraction of the hind foot, the ankle reaches between the eye and the nostril. There is no distinct tarsal fold. There is a faint fold over the wrist. Males to 40 mm, and females to 60 mm in body length. Colour variable, but is usually lead grey, olive or reddish brown, uniform or mottled with darker patches. Colour and intensity changes significantly with time of day, temperature, activity and other factors. The the flash markings of the arm pits, groin and legs are outlined above, but invariably include yellow and one or other of black or bluish-light-purple, or sometimes both. Diagnostic of both species is the distinctive iris of the eve, which has a rediish-orange upper orbit and grey lower half.

Hoser (1989) at page 41 has comparative photos of both *K. kumanjayi sp. nov.* and *K. rothii* in life, with *K. kumanjayi sp. nov.* on middle right and *K. rothii* on bottom right. Anstis (2013) has comparative photos of both *K. kumanjayi sp. nov.* and *K. rothii* in life, with *K. kumanjayi sp. nov.* and *K. rothii* in life, with *K. kumanjayi sp. nov.* on page 297 two photos on right and *K. rothii* on page 298 on top left. Vanderduys (2012) has a photo of *K. rothii* in life, from near the type locality on page 68 bottom left and also bottom right. Eipper (2012) at page 113 bottom also has a photo of typical *K. rothii* in life, as does Eipper and Rowland (2018) on page 150 (both photos), as does Cogger (2014) at page 187 bottom. Clyne (1969) has a photo of *K. rothii* in life, on page 35 at top.

The genera *Pengilleyia* Wells and Wellington, 1985 as defined within this paper, and *Kumanjayiwalkerus gen. nov.* are as a pair, both readily separated from all other Australasian Tree Frogs (Pelodryadidae) by the following unique suite of characters:

Vomerine teeth present; fingers with conspicuous webbing reaching at least as far as the base of the penultimate phalanx of the fourth finger; hind edge of forearm is smooth, or with at most a few low, discontinuous tubercles; hind edge of foot is smooth; hind side of thighs with contrasting black and yellow bars or marbling, at least dorsally.

The genus *Pengilleyia* Wells and Wellington, 1985 is readily separated from the genus *Kumanjayiwalkerus gen. nov.* by having a back that is either very warty or moderately warty, versus virtually smooth or with well scattered small pointed tubercles on an otherwise smooth body in *Kumanjayiwalkerus gen. nov.*.

Furthermore species within *Pengilleyia* invariably have green spots, flecks or blotches on the back versus none in *Kumanjayiwalkerus gen. nov.*.

*Kumanjayiwalkerus gen. nov..* has a strongly contrasting reddish-brown upper iris, with grey below, versus either weakly contrasting reddish-brown upper iris or the iris being grey all over in *Pengilleyia*.

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**Distribution:** *Kumanjayiwalkerus kumanjayi sp. nov.* is found from the Kimberley District of Western Australia and the top end of the Northern Territory, to the western side of the Gulf of Carpentaria. *K. rothii* of the type form occupies most parts of Queensland, except the driest areas and the south, as well as southern New Guinea.

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The spelling of the species name is deliberate and should NOT be changed. While it is convention for an "i" to be added to a male patronym name, in this case I have chosen to dispense with this so that the species name more accurately reflects the person it is named in honour of, especially noting that the taxon is common and widespread and it is hoped that people remember the exact person the frog is named after and not be otherwise confused into thinking the person's name in fact ended with two "i's" noting that in this case, this is done for the benefit of lay people and not those familiar with the minor details of scientific nomenclature of living animals.

Furthermore this nomenclature decision was made after discussions with people within the Yuendemu Aboriginal Community.

## PENGILLEYIA WELLS AND WELLINGTON, 1985

**Type species:** *Litoria tyleri* Martin, Watson, Gartside, Littlejohn and Loftus-Hills, 1979.

**Diagnosis:** *Pengilleyia* Wells and Wellington, 1985 as defined by them was literally a "dogs breakfast" of widely divergent species placed into a single putative genus. This creation by them, does stand out as one of their

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