'Communities Working Together': an annotated bibliography of recent works on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history
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Social Policy Group
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Inquiries

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Introduction

National Reconciliation Week 27 May – 3 June 1998

'Communities Working Together'

National Reconciliation Week was initiated by the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation in 1996 to provide a special focus for nationwide activities to support the Council's vision of 'a united Australia which respects this land of ours; values the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage; and provides justice and equity for all.'

National Reconciliation Week is framed by two significant dates in Australia's history which best symbolise the hopes and aims for reconciliation:

27 May marks the anniversary of the 1967 Referendum whereby over 90 per cent of Australians supported the removal of clauses from the Constitution which discriminated against Aboriginal people.

3 June marks the anniversary of the High Court of Australia's judgment in the 1992 Mabo case. The decision recognised the Native Title rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The theme for National Reconciliation Week 1998 is 'Communities Working Together' – a chance to explore and acknowledge shared experiences, a shared heritage and to understand and respect local indigenous people's culture. This bibliography aims to recognise National Reconciliation Week by providing a selection of recently published material which Senators and Members and their constituents might use to gain a broader understanding of indigenous culture and history.

Titles have been chosen from the Department of the Parliamentary Library's holdings which gives a high priority to the collection of resources relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues. Consequently the Department of the Parliamentary Library holds over two thousand monographs, CD-ROMS and videotapes and subscribes to key journals and abstracting and indexing services relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs. The diversity of the resources is reflected in both content and style and includes academic analyses, government reports, community histories and autobiographies.
The political and public debates arising from the 1992 Mabo and 1996 Wik High Court judgments have tended to dominate the reporting, discussion and literature of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs. The following bibliography is a response to client requests for alternative works which highlight Aboriginal and Torres Strait stories, art, culture and history and which may have been overlooked in the debates surrounding Native Title. The selection emphasises works in which indigenous Australians share their knowledge, history and experiences and attempts to represent the diversity of such experiences through including works from a wide geographic range. It does not include books on social issues such as health and education, or works devoted to presenting a solely political stance, although it is recognised that many of the works in the autobiography and history sections will, by their nature, include such topics.

The bibliography is restricted to monographs published in the last four years which are still in print and readily available to the general reader.
REFERENCE WORKS


Catalogue item: [R 499.15 ART] (Reference Books)

A major study of the vocabulary of Aboriginal English which demonstrates some of the ways in which Aboriginal people have made a European language their own. It is arranged thematically around the experiences that shaped the language. It shows how the values of traditional society were expressed in a new language and how this language has become an important marker of Aboriginal cultural identity.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 f ASA /copy 1] (Folio Books)

A concise and factual work on ATSIC, specific programs, land, history and funding. Also available on ATSIC's Internet site at [http://www.atsic.gov.au](http://www.atsic.gov.au)


Catalogue item: [305.89915 f ENC /copy 3] (Books)

This is the only single authoritative reference work which covers all aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander studies. It has 2000 entries, 1000 photographs, illustrations and maps and is extensively cross referenced and indexed.

The encyclopedia is also available on interactive CD-ROM for computers running Windows. The user may move through the resources geographically, chronologically and by subject. It features the print version text and photographs as well as 230 sound bytes (music and oral history) and 50 video clips.
HORTON, David. *Aboriginal Australia*. Canberra: Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, 1996. -- 1 map: col.; 85 x 104 cm.

Catalogue item: [MAP CABINET 3 /copy 1] (Maps)

This map is derived from the *Encyclopedia of Aboriginal Australia* and attempts to represent all the language groups of the indigenous people of Australia.


Catalogue item: [499.15 MAC /copy 2] (Books)

A collection of word lists from seventeen Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages which represent the richness and variety of Australia's indigenous languages. Background notes cover the history and culture of each language. Words are indexed via indigenous language or English language.

**ART and CULTURE**


Catalogue item: [591.994291 MIN] (Books)

The Anangu, who know and look after Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, share some of their traditional knowledge of seasons, climate, landscape, animals and plants. They also explain their connection to the land through *Tjukurpa* (Law).


Catalogue item: [305.89915 BER] (Books)

This detailed ethnography covers all aspects of the traditional life of the Yaraldi group of the Narrinyeri people of the lower Murray River region of South Australia.

Catalogue item: [R 709.0110994 CAR] (Reference Books)

The first concise survey of Australian Aboriginal art and artists.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 CAW] (Books)

An account of the interconnectedness of traditional medical, religious and cultural knowledge displayed through the healing rites of the Yolgnu clan of northeast Arnhem Land.


Catalogue item: [759.9941 f COW] (Ground Floor Folio Books)

A survey of the Gugadja artists and their art. The acrylic paintings reproduced in the book reflect both a secular range of themes and the diversity of approaches and experimentation in the art from Balgo Hills.


Catalogue item: [R 305.89915 EID] (Reference Books)

This guide offers a different way of exploring the best of Melbourne. It describes Aboriginal places, both historic and modern, whose locations have been mapped onto cycling and walking maps.

Catalogue item: [709.0113 FLO] (Books)

An introduction to the variety and richness of Australian Aboriginal rock paintings and engravings known from over 100 000 surviving sites. It is written for Aboriginal people wanting to know more about their cultural heritage, for the general public and for students with an interest in rock art. It complements *Archaeology of the Dreamtime* by the same author, described below under History.


Catalogue item: [759.994 f HOL] (Ground Floor Folio Books)

Yirawala asked the author to write this book so that white Australia might understand the relationship between ceremonial painting and Aboriginal religion and law. It includes plates and explanations of the entire ceremonial series of 139 paintings now in the Australian National Gallery.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 JON] (Ground Floor Books)

This work draws on the world's largest boomerang collection, housed at the South Australian Museum, to describe the boomerang's traditional uses and its more recent appropriation by western culture.


Catalogue item: [R 759.994 f TJA] (Reference Books)

Comprehensive survey of the work of one of the founders and leaders of the Western Desert art movement. Includes sixty-three plates with detailed annotations.

Catalogue item: [759.994 f JOH] (Ground Floor Folio Books)

A comprehensive study which documents the career of one of Australia's best known artists. Tjakamarra's painting, *Possum and Wallaby Dreaming*, was chosen as the basis for the mosaic in the forecourt of Parliament House, Canberra. Includes photographs and explanations of Dreaming sites depicted in the paintings and forty-three annotated plates.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 MAT] (Books)

A collection of stories which reflect the oral tradition of Aboriginal storytellers from across New South Wales.


Catalogue item: [820.94 MUD] (Books)

A wide-ranging critical survey of Australia's oral and written literature. Special attention is given to the various genres and the major Aboriginal writers of the last thirty years – Oodgeroo, Lionel Fogarty, Kevin Gilbert, Jack Davis and Mudrooroo. A comprehensive and controversial work which addresses some of the key issues facing indigenous writers.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 MUD /copy 1] (Books)

A collection of provocative essays ranging from Aboriginal spirituality to politics, history, law, health and education.

Catalogue item: [305.89915 YIM] (Books)

A collection of fifteen stories from Warlpiri elders recorded and translated for the first time. All reflect the importance of the *Jukurrpa*, or Dreaming, as the basis for Warlpiri culture and law.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 f YAR] (Folio Books)

Yarrtji is the initiative of six senior Ngarti and Kukatja women who live on the edge of the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia. By conveying their experiences, values and connections to the land, the women want to share their life stories with a wider Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal audience. The stories are told in their own words and illustrated by 700 photographs.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 ROS] (Books)

A study of indigenous peoples' relationships to their country. Sacred geography, Dreaming ecology, land management and the convergence of human and ecological rights are explained and illustrated by examples in Aboriginal people's own words.


Catalogue item: [709.011 SAY] (Ground Floor Books)

This work brings together for the first time the work of Aboriginal artists of the nineteenth century and concentrates on the work of three men – Barak, Tommy McRae and Mickey of Ulladulla. The drawings combine elements from both Aboriginal and European cultures and are a valuable record of the meeting of the two cultures.
AUTOBIOGRAPHY and BIOGRAPHY


Catalogue item: [920 BOH] (Ground Floor Books)

Jack Bohemia, Kimberley tracker, tells the stories of his police tracking days to William McGregor. This is the first autobiographical account of a police tracker to be published and confounds many stereotypes of Aboriginal-white interaction.


Catalogue item: [920 MUM] (Ground Floor Books)

A book of photographs by Lee Chittick with recollections by many Aboriginal people about respected Aboriginal elder, Percy Mumbler, of the Yuin people of the south coast of New South Wales. A history of people, place and political struggles.


Catalogue item: [920 HUG /copy 1] (Ground Floor Books)

This is the story of Rita Huggins, who grew up on Cherbourg Aboriginal Reserve. It is also the story of living under the Queensland Protection Act and living as a single mother in Brisbane in the 1960s. Her story includes daughter Jackie's memories and responses to events.


Catalogue item: [920 MAB] (Ground Floor Books)

The life story of Edward Koiki Mabo told largely in his own words to long-time friend, historian Noel Loos, who has edited the book and supplied additional biographical and descriptive material.

Catalogue item: [920 MCA] (Ground Floor Books)

The story of Charlie McAdam and his family. Three of Charlie's sons – Greg, Gilbert and Adrian – are well-known Australian Football League players. This book recounts the lives of the McAdams and describes how they have overcome adversity.


Catalogue item: [920 MCP] (Ground Floor Books)

One of the oldest Nyamal speakers recalls his life spent in and around the Pilbara region of Western Australia. Jack McPhee tells of the events and places that have shaped his life and the many characters he has come across.


Catalogue item: [920 f MAR] (Ground Floor Folio Books)

The autobiography of a great statesman, artist and religious leader. Told in his own words to Jennifer Isaacs whose photographs illustrate the text.


Catalogue item: [920 MOR /copy 1] (Ground Floor Books)

Through poetry, prose and illustrations, Eileen Morgan recounts her own life and the history of the Wallaga lake area of southern New South Wales.


Catalogue item: [920 COL] (Ground Floor Books)

The biography of one of the greatest tightrope performers ever known. Con Colleano toured England, America and Europe between 1920 and 1950 as one of a handful of top ranking, highly paid circus artists.

Catalogue item: [920 SAU] (Ground Floor Books)

Keith Saunders follows the success of his first book, Learning the ropes, with another book about his life, family and eventful experiences in Sydney in the 1950s and 1960s.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 SYK /copy 2] (Books)

Thirty-four women speak of their lives and their achievements. An insight into how life has been, and is now, for Australian women in general and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in particular. Includes some women of high status within their own communities whose achievements fall outside the narrow European view of 'achievement'.


Catalogue item: [796.0899915 f TAT /copy 2] (Ground Floor Folio Books)

Biographies of the 129 indigenous Australians who comprise the first Aboriginal and Islander Sports Hall of Fame. Representing twenty-five sports their achievements are part of Australia's sporting history although most have gone unrecognized by the general public. Includes an introductory essay on the history of indigenous sport and the social and political context of sporting success.

HISTORY


Catalogue item: [305.89915 ABO] (Books)

A collection of papers published as a special issue of Labour History which surveys the myths and realities of Aboriginal work in the colonial period and twentieth century. The collection includes the perspective of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal historians and workers.

Catalogue item: [305.89915 ATT/copy 1] (Books)

This book aims to provide an appraisal of the legal significance of the 1967 referendum and hopes to contribute to public discussion of both the referendum and the bases of discrimination against Aboriginal people. It includes a selection of written documents and Aboriginal oral accounts about the referendum and its significance.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 TER] (Books)

A selection of eleven papers previously published in the journal *Aboriginal History*. The editors selected papers which 'presented materials not widely known; included Aboriginal people's accounts of their experiences; dealt with events in widely separated parts of the continent and together presented a progression in time through two hundred years since the European invasion.'


Catalogue item: [305.89915 CHE/copy 1] (Books)

A political and institutional history focusing on the constitutional system, legislation, regulations and public administration. It explores how Aborigines have been excluded from certain rights and includes discussion of recent issues such as self-determination and the Mabo decision.


Catalogue item: [994.0049915 FLO.3] (Ground Floor Books)

Using the latest archaeological evidence and Aboriginal oral traditions this work examines the way in which Aboriginal people adapted to, and modified their environments. It examines how art, religion and social organisation developed and changed over 50 000 years of occupation. It complements *Rock art of the Dreamtime*, described above under art and culture.

Catalogue item: [305.89915 GOO] (Books)

A unique account of Aboriginal history in New South Wales which stresses the role of Aboriginal activists in the political campaigns for land rights since 1770.


Catalogue item: [940.5404 HAL] (Books)

Biographies of six Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who served their country during the Second World War.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 KID] (Books)

A comprehensive history of the Queensland's government intervention in the lives of Aboriginal people, the power of bureaucrats and the conflicts between state and federal politicians and church and government.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 f MAC] (Folio Books)

Through oral histories, documents and photographs, drawn mainly from the Australian Archives' collection, this book shows what happened to the children who were placed in two Northern Territory institutions run by the Commonwealth government: the Bungalow in Alice Springs and the Kahlin Home in Darwin.

Catalogue item: [305.89915 CON /copy 2] (Books)

A comprehensive account of the processes which shaped the lives of Aboriginal Australians from 1788 to the present. It presents the history of white-Aboriginal relations in each state through eye witness accounts, oral histories and historical research. The final chapter, by editor Ann McGrath, analyses and discusses the issue of 'What is Aboriginal History?'


Catalogue item: [305.89915 NAT /copy 1] (Books)

Often referred to as the 'Stolen Generations report' it includes the personal accounts of many people who were removed from their families.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 PED] (Ground Floor Books)

An award winning book which was described as 'A pioneering model for Australian historians.' (Judges report for WA Premiers Book Awards 1996) It tells the story of Jandamarra ('Pigeon') who turned from police assistant to resistance fighter and led the Bunaba people of the Kimberley against European settlers.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 FOR] (Books)

Examples of Aboriginal journalism from a wide range of Aboriginal and mainstream publications which offer the reader a glimpse, through Aboriginal eyes, of key issues and events in Aboriginal and Australian history.

Catalogue item: [994.60049915 RYA.2] (Books)

This work demonstrates that the Aborigines of Tasmania, although dispossessed, survived European settlement and the ensuing conflicts. It examines Aboriginal resistance and government policies after dispossession. This new edition includes a description of events in the 1980s and 1990s.


Catalogue item: [346.9430432 SHA /copy 1] (Books)

Nonie Sharp documents the ten year history of the Mabo case in which she contributed anthropological and historical evidence. She discusses the resultant native title legislation and the impact of the legislation on both the Meriam people of the Murray Islands and the broader Australian community.


Catalogue item: [994.38 SHA] (Books)

This book explores four meanings of the Tagai myth in the life of Torres Strait Islanders since the mid-nineteenth century. Its focuses on identity and self-awareness issues and examines the social issues involved in the historic Mabo case.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 SHA] (Books)

A collection of narratives and anecdotes from the Oodnadatta and Maree Aboriginal communities arranged in themes such as religious life, living off the land, missions, stock camps and Afghans. Each theme is accompanied by a short historical perspective.

Catalogue item: [305.89915 SUN] (Books)

Four women tell the stories of their lives and their community: the Burrabeedee mission near Coonabarabran. Margaret Somerville, as the transcriber of their stories, explores the methods of collecting the stories and her role in the telling of them.


Catalogue item: [R 796.0899915 TAT /copy 2] (Reference Books)

A celebration of the achievements of 1200 individual Aboriginal sports people whose stories are placed in the historical, political, legal and philosophical context of their time.


Catalogue item: [346.94044 OUR /copy 1] (Books)


**RECONCILIATION ISSUES: COUNCIL FOR ABORIGINAL RECONCILIATION PUBLICATIONS**

The following publications are written for the general public with the aim of improving understanding and knowledge of indigenous Australians and their culture.


Catalogue item: [305.89915 KEY] (Books)

Catalogue item: [305.89915 KEY] (Books)


Catalogue item: [305.89915 KEY] (Books)


Catalogue item: [305.89915 KEY] (Books)


Catalogue item: [305.89915 f AUS/copy 1] (Folio Books)

Five volumes include the proceedings of the Australian Reconciliation Convention, 1997; reports from workshops; ideas for community action and reconciliation awards. Also available on the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation's Internet site at: http://www.austlii.edu.au/car
INTERNET SITES

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION
ATSIC http://www.atsic.gov.au Includes information on: ATSIC programs, ATSIC Regional Councils, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, also media releases, speeches, and full text of recent publications such as As a matter of fact.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Page. http://dargo.vicnet.net.au/aboriginal Emphasis on Victorian groups and issues, but has many links to other sites.


Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies. http://www.aiatsis.gov.au


ARTS AND MUSIC


Maningrida Arts and Culture. http://www.prg.apc.org/~bawinanga


HEALTH

HISTORY


MEDIA


NATIVE TITLE

National Native Title Tribunal. http://www.nntt.gov.au. Includes frequently asked questions about Native Title, media releases and speeches, newsletter, bibliographies, list of all claims accepted by the tribunal and a searchable index to claims, registered parties and decisions.

RECONCILIATION
