

Aboriginal Studies Press Newsletter 2005 – issue 3

Aboriginal Studies Press publishes outstanding books that promote a greater understanding of Indigenous Australian culture.

This e-newsletter contains brief information on recent titles and a link to our website catalogue.

Please add the AIATSIS email address to your email address book to ensure you receive future newsletters as spam filters may block it. Please also forward this newsletter to any colleagues you feel may be interested.

ASP has just published five [New titles](#) and put five books [back in print](#), some with new editions. We also have a new, smaller version of the famous Aboriginal Australia wall map and a range of other titles for sale. See the end of the newsletter for an invitation to contribute an Issue Paper to the NTRU at AIATSIS.

New titles

Unfinished Constitutional Business? Rethinking Indigenous self-determination

Edited by Barbara Ann Hocking

Self determination / Constitutional law

Provides a comprehensive multi-jurisdictional exploration of Indigenous self determination: the recognised right of all peoples to freely determine their political status, and pursue their economic, social and cultural development. It argues that patterns are emerging that point to effective strategies. The authors challenge readers to (re)consider the meanings of self-determination and their implications for community development.

ISBN 0 85575 466 4 pb RRP\$39.95

[Catalogue](#)

[Inspection copy](#)

Landscapes of Indigenous Performance: Music, Song and dance of the Torres Strait and Arnhem Land

Edited by Fiona Magowan and Karl Neuenfeldt

Performance studies / Ethnomusicology

Explores a range of Indigenous music and dance forms and performances in the Torres Strait and tropical Northern Territory. Indigenous and non-Indigenous contributors demonstrate how local music and dance genres have been subjected to missionary, institutional, popular and global influences. Also looks at the cross-cultural issues of recording and teaching music and dance and explores issues raised by Aboriginal performers in the white university classroom.

ISBN 0 85575 493 1 pb RRP\$39.95

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Cleared Out: First contact in the Western Desert

Sue Davenport, Peter Johnson and Yuwali, Foreword by Peter Garrett

History / Anthropology

In 1964, a group of 20 Aboriginal women and children in the Western Desert made their first contact with European Australians — patrol officers from the Woomera Rocket Range. Through this one extraordinary episode, multiple perspectives on the moment of contact are revealed. Yuwali, 17 at the time and at home in the desert, remembers outrunning the strange intruders. Her sharp recollections are complemented by the colourful official patrol reports. These reflect a similar drama – arguments within Government and public scepticism about the Government's intent. Includes oral histories, detailed archival research, photographs, maps and rare patrol film footage.

ISBN 0 85575 457 5 pb RRP\$45.00

[Catalogue](#)

[Inspection copy](#)

The Rain Flower

Written by Mary Duroux, Illustrations by Karen Briggs

A beautifully illustrated book for beginning solo readers deriving from the author's cultural knowledge.

The Rain Flower is a delightful adventure story of the bush creatures' search for the rain flower to fill the rivers and waterhole. The day and night creatures all lived happily together in a beautiful valley of sweet grass and cool water until one spring the rain didn't come and the waterhole dried up. The creatures' search is a journey of learning: how to unite, seek advice, give opinion and work together — and their discovery is unexpected.

ISBN 0 85575 467 2 pb RRP\$14.95

[Catalogue](#)

[Inspection copy](#)

The Little Platypus and the Fire Spirit

Mundara Koorang

Illustrated children's picture book for ages 3–5 years

The Little Platypus and the Fire Spirit is a spirited and endearing story about how the platypus became the creature we know today. The platypus used to play in the bush, chasing bugs and butterflies, nipping the emus' long, skinny legs, and running up and down the tails of the kangaroos. But it longed to be a little duck with yellow feathers, bobbing and paddling around in circles on the water. With the help of a fire spirit the little platypus gradually became the curious creature found today diving, swimming and floating in the billabongs and rivers of the bush.

ISBN 0 85575 494 X hb RRP\$24.95

[Catalogue](#)

[Inspection copy](#)

See also *Wunambi the Watersnake*.

Back in Print

Aboriginal Suicide is Different: A portrait of life and self-destruction

Colin Tatz

Health / Suicidology

First published in 2001, this new edition includes new Preface. Adopting an historical and anthropological approach to suicide in Australia and New Zealand, *Aboriginal Suicide is Different* documents rates of suicide that may well be the world's worst. Tatz argues that to comprehend this relatively recent phenomenon (more outside than inside custody) we have to appreciate Australian Aboriginal history. Tatz believes this appreciation would contribute more to an understanding of suicide today than do psychological or medical theories about the victim.

ISBN 0 85575 498 2 pb RRP\$34.95

[Catalogue](#)

[Inspection copy](#)

Wunambi the water snake

Written by May L O'Brien, Illustrations by Sue Wyatt

An illustrated children's picture book

Yelling and shouting, the children chased each other in and out of the water... They didn't realise that they were sharing the water with a tired old Wunambi. Find out what happens when his rest is disturbed.

A story of the time when the land was being created and a powerful water snake called Wunambi roamed the earth whose great tracks became the creeks and rivers we know today.

ISBN 0 85575 500 8 pb RRP\$22.95

[Catalogue](#)

[Inspection copy](#)

Aboriginal Australia Wall Map

Compiled by David Horton

A smaller, more compact version of this classic map is now available. Fits comfortably on desks or rolls up easily. Small map is 594x420 mm. Full-size map of 841x1189 mm which works well on large walls still available.

ISBN 0 85575 496 6 flat RRP\$14.95

ISBN 0 85575 497 4 folded RRP\$14.95

[Catalogue](#)

[Inspection copy](#)

Auntie Rita

Rita Huggins and Jackie Huggins

Biography / Oral history

Most people call me Auntie Rita, whites as well as Aboriginal people... Everyone is kin. That's a beautiful thing because in this way no one is every truly alone, they always have someone they can turn to.

Rita Huggins was taken from her country and removed to Cherbourg Aboriginal Reserve. Her desire to make something better for herself, her family, and Aboriginal people and her thoughts about 1960s events and contemporary Aboriginal activism are seen here. Rita Huggins talked to her daughter Jackie. We witness their intimacy, their similarities and their differences, their 'fighting with their tongues'. Two voices, two views on a shared life.

ISBN 0 85575 248 3 pb RRP\$22.95

[Catalogue](#)

[Inspection copy](#)

Language and Culture in Aboriginal Australia

Edited by Michael Walsh and Colin Yallop

Language / Indigenous culture

Offers answers to questions about Australian Aboriginal languages: How many? Where are they spoken?, Who speaks them? How are they, and English, used in the media and education? The book has established itself as a useful guide to teachers and students involved in Aboriginal studies in the upper secondary years and at introductory levels in universities. Enhanced by bibliographical reference, maps, and questions for further discussion at the end of each chapter.

ISBN 0 85575 241 6 pb RRP\$34.95

[Catalogue](#)

[Inspection copy](#)

Paper and Talk: A manual for reconstituting materials in Australian Indigenous languages from historical sources

Edited by Nicholas Thieberger

Linguistics / History

Provides information about using texts and wordlists from historical sources in language programs and literature today. Investigates the links between languages and country; how languages are written and pronounced; understanding grammar; the use of computers in databases and the importance of reintegrating lost languages back into common day usage. *Paper and Talk* is an invaluable resource for both community language workers and linguists.

ISBN 0 85575 273 4 pb RRP\$34.95

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Now available

Black Lives, Government Lies

Rosalind Kidd

Black Lives, Government Lies, is the essential introduction to Aboriginal realities in contemporary Australia. Without this deft background picture of the control and concentration of Indigenous people, and the nature, scale, and casual immorality of public policy, current horrors detailed in news media or in heartfelt public pleas by black and white activists, could seem bewildering. The book is powerful and quickly read, and will never be forgotten.

ISBN 0 86840 787 9 pb RRP\$15.00

In Our Own Right: Black Australian Nurses' Stories

Edited by Sally Gould OAM and Kerryne Liddle

These rare stories of humanity, warmth, dignity and triumph over exceptional odds illuminate Indigenous students and nurses as a precious cultural asset with much to contribute to the education and practice of nursing. These stories will inform other students, tutors, teachers, researchers, support units and health professionals. They will promote understanding among family, friends and communities, and insights for mentors, health and social policy makers. Hopefully, this will lead to improved retention of Indigenous nurses in courses and health care institutions – and ultimately to improved health outcomes for all Indigenous Australians.

ISBN 0 97574 222 1 pb RRP\$33.00

The Grog Book: Revised Edition

Maggie Brady

This revised edition of *The Grog Book* contains updated information and new case studies. The aim of this book is to let Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples know about ideas and strategies for managing alcohol consumption and problems from many different parts of the country. There are chapters on the history and economics of alcohol; the health effects of alcohol; how to stimulate, plan and evaluate action in Indigenous communities; ideas on prevention; strategies and case studies on controlling drinking places, restricting supplies of alcohol and managing drinking trouble; guidance for service providers, relations and friends who give care and advice; and a useful set of handouts for use in workshops or study courses.

ISBN 0 642 82627 7 spiral bound Available free

The Kamberri: A History of Aboriginal Families in the ACT and surrounds

Ann Jackson-Nakano

This volume includes an introduction to the history of Weereewaa and to the groups that once lived around it, and focuses primarily on the Kamberri, who resided to the west and southwest of the Lake George. Much of this district now incorporates the Australian Capital Territory. The name of the capital, Canberra, was derived from the name of the place and the people who once claimed it as part of their territory.

ISBN 0 9585637 4 8 pb RRP\$33.00

The Aboriginal Population Revisited: 70,000 years to the present

Edited by Gordon Briscoe & Len Smith

This collection of essays brings together prominent scholars in numerous disciplines that highlight a multidisciplinary approach to Indigenous population studies. Chapters include:

- 'Difficult to find an opinion': 1799 Aboriginal population estimates
- How many people had lived in Australia before it was annexed by the English in 1788?
- The Aboriginal population in South Australia 1921-1944
- Town camps: in sickness and in health?
- 'All cross blood': demography and Darnley Islanders 1970s-1928
- Indigenous enumeration in the late twentieth century: emerging issues for population analysis
- The future history of Aboriginal families

- Recent trends in the demography of the indigenous populations of Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States of America
 - Aboriginal society and the global demographic transition
- ISBN 0 9585637 6 4 pb RRP\$33.00



Native Title Research Unit

The Native Title Research Unit at AIATSIS produces a series of publications that might be of interest to your staff and students.

The Native Title Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication that includes: feature analysis on current issues; claimant comment; a summary of native title in the news; and general information about current claims, determinations and Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

The **NTRU Issues Papers** series is a multi-disciplinary series of short research papers. Issues Papers allow the NTRU to target a number of emerging issues in native title research, reflecting on 'bigger picture' issues in a form that is of high academic quality but in a size and format that is useful to practitioners and researchers. NTRU Issues Papers are peer-reviewed and distributed widely across the full range of native title stakeholders.

AIATSIS Discussion Papers are designed to contribute to the wide range of discussions on Indigenous issues and policy taking place in Australia today. Discussion Papers are generally a longer and more in-depth examination of a topic relating to Indigenous studies. AIATSIS Discussion Papers are distributed to an expanded range of stakeholders and are also peer reviewed.

All these publications can be downloaded free of charge from

<http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/publications.html>

To submit a paper for consideration, for more information or to subscribe to any of these publications, please contact the editor, Diana McCarthy, at on 02 6246 1158 or diana.mccarthy@aiatsis.gov.au

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