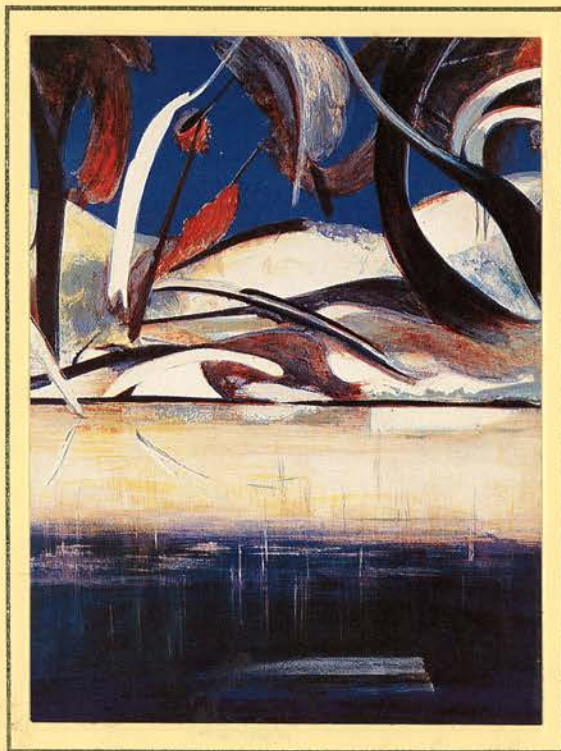


# AUSTRALIANS

---

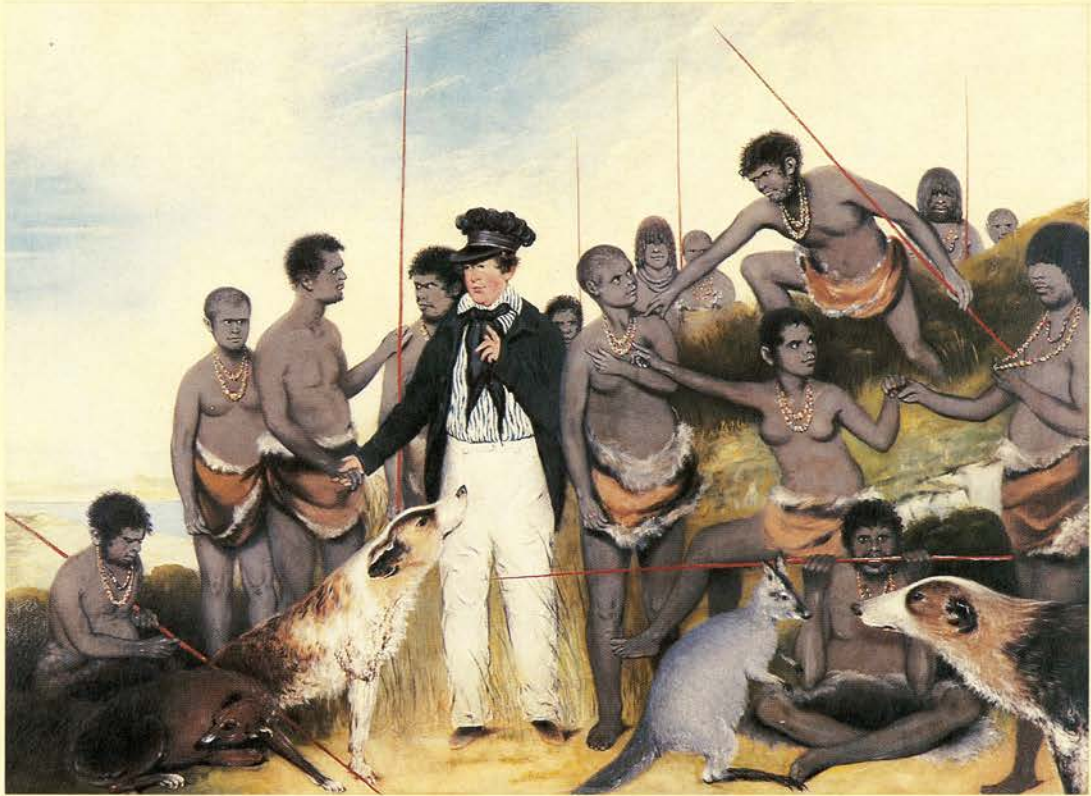


1988

# AUSTRALIANS

---

1988



*Benjamin Dutterau, The conciliation, 1840, oil on  
canvas 121 × 170.5. Inscribed in crayon 'The conciliation/  
A sketch for a National Picture. . .'*

TASMANIAN MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY, HOBART

# AUSTRALIANS

---

1988

*CHRONOLOGY WRITTEN BY*

MARION K. STELL

*AND*

RUTH THOMPSON

*EDITED BY*

KIM ANDERSON

FAIRFAX, SYME & WELDON ASSOCIATES

AUSTRALIANS 1988

First published 1989 by  
Fairfax, Syme & Weldon Associates  
372 Eastern Valley Way  
Willoughby, 2068  
New South Wales, Australia

*Publishing Director*  
Kevin Weldon

*Managing Editor*  
Kim Anderson

*Designer*  
Diana Wells

*Senior Editor*  
Camilla Sandell

*Assembly Artist*  
Birita Abols

*Editors*  
Kim Anderson  
Jacqueline Kent  
Claire Craig

*Production Manager*  
Mick Bagnato

*Indexer*  
Marion K. Stell

*Editorial Assistant*  
Anne Prichard



© Copyright Fairfax, Syme & Weldon Associates 1989

National Library of Australia  
Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Stell, Marion K.  
Australians 1988.

Bibliography.  
Includes index.  
ISBN 0 949288 33 0.  
ISBN 0 949288 34 9 (deluxe).  
ISBN 0 949288 09 8 (set).  
ISBN 0 949288 18 7 (set: deluxe).

1. Australia — History. 2. Australia — Social life and  
customs. 3. Australia — Politics and government. I.  
Thompson, Ruth. II. Anderson, Kim. III. Title.

994

Typeset by Savage Type Pty Ltd, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.  
Film Separations, Colour Scanners Pty Limited, Marrickville, NSW, 2204, Australia.  
Printed by Griffin Press, Netley, South Australia, 5037, Australia.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form  
or by any means electronic, mechanical, photocopying or otherwise without prior written permission of the publisher.

Fairfax, Syme & Weldon Associates is a partnership between John Fairfax & Sons Limited, David Syme & Co Limited and  
Kevin Weldon & Associates Pty Ltd.



COVER ILLUSTRATION

*Arthur Boyd, Shoalhaven quartet, 1988. Boyd was awarded the 1988 Bird and  
Bell Award for being an outstanding Australian by the Australian Ireland Fund.  
He later announced that he would donate his property on the New South Wales  
south coast to the people of Australia as a place where they could both appreciate  
and study Australian art.*

ENDPAPERS

*Detail from Bronson Jakamarra Nelson,  
Living together, working together, 1986  
acrylic on canvas, 182 x 184 cm.*

WARLUKURLANGA ARTISTS

# CONTENTS

CONTRIBUTORS		vii
INTRODUCTION		viii
JANUARY		1
<i>Bicentennial Antarctic Expedition</i>	LINCOLN HALL	5
<i>Celebration of a nation</i>	PETER SPEARRITT	20
FEBRUARY		25
MARCH		39
<i>Aboriginal art — an Australian distinctiveness?</i>	TIM ROWSE	55
APRIL		61
<i>Trade and foreign relationships</i>	CORAL BELL	62
<i>Anzac Day in France</i>	KEN INGLIS	77
<i>AIDS in 1988</i>	J. A. BALLARD	81
MAY		83
<i>Immigration</i>	JAMES JUPP	98
JUNE		103
<i>Trick or treaty for Aboriginal Australians?</i>	ROBERTA B. SYKES	107
JULY		123
<i>Environment</i>	J. M. POWELL	129
AUGUST		145
<i>Economy</i>	ROBERT HAUPP	159
SEPTEMBER		163
<i>Constitutional referendums</i>	GRAEME NEATE	166
<i>The sporting 'norm'</i>	MARION K. STELL	176
OCTOBER		187
<i>'Dynasty Corporation' — the takeover of John Fairfax Ltd</i>	RUTH THOMPSON	198
NOVEMBER		205
<i>Secondary and higher education</i>	J. ANN HONE	221
DECEMBER		231
ENDNOTES		244
NOTES ON ILLUSTRATIONS		246
INDEX		247



*Geoff Parr, The National Picture, 1985, Nekko  
print on canvas.*

J. W. POWER COLLECTION  
MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, SYDNEY

AUSTRALIANS 1988  
CONTRIBUTORS

**Dr J. A. Ballard**

Department of Political Science, The Faculties  
Australian National University  
Member of National AIDS Forum

**Dr Coral Bell**

Senior Research Fellow  
Research School of Pacific Studies  
Australian National University

**Lincoln Hall**

Photographer and mountaineer

**Robert Haupt**

Features writer  
*Sydney Morning Herald*

**Dr J. Ann Hone**

Senior Lecturer in Curriculum Studies  
School of Education  
Canberra College of Advanced Education

**Ken Inglis**

Professor of History  
Research School of Social Sciences  
Australian National University

**Dr James Jupp**

Director, Centre for Immigration and Multicultural Studies  
Australian National University

**Graeme Neate**

Solicitor  
Formerly Principal Legal Officer  
Constitutional Commission

**Dr J. M. Powell**

Reader  
Department of Geography and Environmental Science  
Monash University

**Tim Rowse**

Institute of Aboriginal Development  
Alice Springs

**Professor Peter Spearritt**

Director  
National Centre for Research and Development in Australian Studies  
Monash University

**Marion K. Stell**

Research Assistant in History  
Research School of Social Sciences  
Australian National University

**Dr Roberta B. Sykes**

Writer and educator

**Dr Ruth Thompson**

Writer and historian



## INTRODUCTION

Australia's Bicentenary marked one of the most significant events in Australia's past — an event that is often simply referred to as the 'European settlement' of the Australian continent. Many have argued that not all Australians place equal significance on 26 January 1788. Yet no event in the last 40 000 years of this continent's history has had such far reaching and even devastating consequences. For Aboriginal Australians it was 200 years ago that their ancestors realised that eleven of the numerous ships that had visited their shores had come to stay, to colonise, to conquer. It was also the end of one of the longest sea voyages in English history, and for those convicts who survived the 252 days that the voyage had taken, it was only the beginning of a much greater ordeal. Marines, too, felt the burden of their cargo and of the 'dreary prospect' before them.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the bicentennial theme 'Celebration of a nation' was to many Australians a controversial notion. Some felt its awkwardness as they sought to rediscover the past and, so, in some way, to redirect the future. Others believed it was an opportunity for reconciliation and unification for many people: for some World War II refugees and post World War II immigrants, Australia had provided opportunities and cause to celebrate.

Throughout the bicentennial year many projects and planned events did penetrate the 'birthday cake and candle' facade, producing regional unity in a way that national events could not hope to achieve. Indeed, it was through such regional unity that some national events, such as the Bicentennial Beacons, could be achieved.

*Australians 1988* records such events and at the same time reflects the varying and often conflicting responses to Australia's Bicentenary. We hope we have captured something of the mood and feeling of Australia in 1988, in the day-to-day transactions of politics, business, law, sport, leisure and the arts.

The selection of entries was based on a set of criteria, but these guidelines merely serve as a watchdog for consistency and evenness of style. They do not in themselves justify our selection — this is in all events our choice. Others, no doubt, would choose a different set of criteria.

The articles sprinkled throughout the chronology afford greater opportunity for assessment and evaluation of their subject. Together, with the chronology, we hope they will form a valuable record of Australia in 1988.

*Australians 1988* was inspired by the series *Australians: A historical library*. As publisher of the series, Fairfax, Syme & Weldon have endeavoured to maintain the standard of the series by producing a work that is comparable in its intent and quality. While not involved directly in the writing or publication of this book, we would like to take the opportunity to thank History Project Incorporated, the corporate authors of *Australians: A historical library*, and especially Peter Spearritt, for valuable time and advice.

Equally, we would like to thank Marion K. Stell and Ruth Thompson for their patience, persistence and thoroughness. The contemporary nature of this work often made it difficult to locate official sources of information and to verify newspaper and other media reports.

We would also like to thank David Syme & Co and John Fairfax & Sons Ltd for their valuable help in the compilation of this work, in particular, the illustrations. A special thanks must go to Fiona Russell and Ray Blackbourn of David Syme & Co, Lee McDonald of John Fairfax & Sons Ltd, and Douglas Sellick, Alan Moir, Ron Tandberg, Michael Leunig, Peter Nicholson, Michael Fitzjames and Bruce Petty.

KIM ANDERSON