



Chapter 2

Dissemination of information

Highlights 2007–08

- Aboriginal Studies Press held strategic discussions with overseas distributors as part of its externally funded participation in the London Book Fair
- The AIATSIS Audiovisual Archive returned more than 1660 images to the community during a visit to Fitzroy Crossing
- A new focus on the AIATSIS Library's Family History Unit follows the Apology to the Stolen Generations
- Aboriginal Studies Press obtained external funding for a six-month editorial internship
- Online exhibitions hosted by the AIATSIS Library scored 3.48 million web hits
- An on-site visit to review the AIATSIS collections, by a group of senior men from Arnhem Land communities, was among several key visits during the year.

In 2007–08, AIATSIS increased the amount of information available from its program areas. The corporate goal for dissemination is to create, develop and disseminate a diverse range of publications and services about Australian Indigenous cultures.

AIATSIS disseminates information through:

- Aboriginal Studies Press, the Institute's publishing arm
- the Research Program and NTRU staff publish peer-reviewed papers, non-peer reviewed reports and present papers in a range of conferences, seminars and workshops
- the Library and Audiovisual Archive, which provide access to the Institute's extensive collections.

Some material is produced for sale, for example, the Aboriginal Studies Press list; however, other programs provide material as a free resource. The choice of medium—print, CD/DVD or online delivery—is shaped by the available AIATSIS resources.

Aboriginal Studies Press

Aboriginal Studies Press (ASP) facilitates and promotes high-quality research through its publishing program in Australian Indigenous studies. ASP publishes a vital and varied list of both scholarly and general-interest books.

The majority of funding for ASP derives from AIATSIS (\$700,054), with some funds sourced from one-off grant applications. From the \$700,054 budget, 57 per cent was allocated to staff costs (including consultants) and 32 per cent to the cost of producing and marketing the publications list, plus royalty payments, leaving 11 per cent for discretionary use.

Revenue from the sale of books and maps, CDs and DVDs of music and films, and journal subscriptions, plus royalties from licensed material, and income from

Copyright Agency Limited, Public Lending Right, Educational Lending Right and other sources amounted to \$289,464 which was 18% above the budgeted figure. While some of this revenue derives directly from ASP's initiatives (sales of books and maps), other income, for example, income from copyright and lending agencies, is outside ASP's control.

The ASP Director has responsibility for ASP as a whole. The Director shapes the publishing list, oversees marketing and publicity, and works with authors before the final acceptance of manuscripts. The Deputy Director then works closely with authors from receipt of final manuscripts to the finished book. The Deputy Director also has responsibility for the *Australian Aboriginal Studies* journal and manages the day-to-day work of the ASP staff. Both the Director and Deputy Director provide support to intending authors who require advice.

The ASP Graphic Designer produces the ASP titles and the journal. Thirty per cent of her time is given to designing and producing work for other parts of the Institute. The Publishing Administrative Assistant provides administrative support to all ASP staff, as well as maintaining the website and producing ASP's marketing materials.

All staff are involved in supporting authors at launches, conferences, festivals and the NAIDOC booksale. ASP uses part-time contractors for publicity for select titles, for some e-publishing work and for direct-selling initiatives.

ASP recently won an editorial internship placement for six months. It was a national competitive process managed by the Australian Publishers Association with funding from Copyright Agency Limited, and the intern began work at the end of June 2008.

All ASP staff and managers undertook vocational training which tied to their performance agreements and developed their work and life skills.

Publishing Advisory Committee

The Publishing Advisory Committee provides advice to the Principal about which titles ASP should publish, taking into account ASP's human and financial resources. The committee's work is supported by ASP staff, who work closely with authors submitting their manuscripts, and who develop a list of manuscript assessors. ASP aims for 50 per cent of assessments to be performed by Indigenous authors and/or academics. These reports are sometimes provided anonymously to authors for use in revising their manuscripts for resubmission.

Four of the five AIATSIS Council and external members of the committee are Indigenous. All committee members bring strong academic, community, language, and writing and editing expertise, which complements the knowledge of the ASP managers and the AIATSIS executive.

The committee met once in October 2007 and recommended one manuscript for publication and three for publication following revision. The conditionally accepted manuscripts were worked on by their

authors/editors; two were resubmitted and accepted for publication and are scheduled for 2007–08 publication.

Submissions and author support

In 2007–08 ASP received twenty-six unsolicited manuscripts and several fully developed proposals. As in the previous year, the quality of material submitted for publication was of an increasingly high standard. In part this is because of two publications ASP makes available free to intending authors: *An Information Kit for Indigenous Authors* and the *ASP Publishing Style Guide for Authors and Editors*. AIATSIS website data reveals that 3,628 copies of the author's kit and 7,950 copies of the style guide have been downloaded. This followed a marketing campaign to more than thirty writers' centres around the country.

The ASP Director and Deputy Director provided direct phone or email counsel to twenty-four authors regarding publication. These included seven Indigenous authors and four queries about collaborative writing projects. ASP maintained regular contact with its contracted authors, and all authors published during the year expressed satisfaction with the process and the level of support provided.

Publishing Advisory Committee members, 2007–08

Mr Steve Larkin	Principal and Chair
Dr Luke Taylor	Deputy Principal, Research and Information
Ms Rhonda Black	Director, Aboriginal Studies Press
Council representatives	
Professor John Maynard	
Mr Dana Ober	
External members	
Mr Bruce Pascoe	
Dr Jakelyn Troy	
Ms Sue Abbey	



Taris Ashley
Wagilak playing
a spelling game
at Ramingining
CEC

Power through the presses

Much of what AIATSIS stands for, and achieves, is about empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. Publishing is one of the key ways the Institute works in partnership with Indigenous Australians to acknowledge, affirm and raise awareness of our rich and diverse cultures and histories.

The Institute was delighted when Aboriginal Studies Press received funding for a full-time intern for six months, in a pilot program run by the Australian Publishers Association and funded by the Copyright Agency Limited's Cultural Fund. Aboriginal Studies Press was one of only five publishers in Australia (out of approximately 35 applicants), to be granted funds for the intern, and the only Indigenous publisher.

ASP was looking for somebody with community connections who could benefit from the training in the protocols and processes of Indigenous publishing and writing, and who had the opportunity to return to the community and share these new skills.

The successful applicant, Polly Hemming, brings to Canberra her experience of living and teaching in Ramingining, in north-east Arnhem Land. Polly will be learning the ins and outs of publishing in an Indigenous studies environment.

Culture and language are very strong at Ramingining. Polly hopes to pass on and share the skills learned during her internship, with the Ramingining community so that they can produce written material for their students and the wider community.

ASP began work on some of the titles to be published in 2008–09, one of which is a new edition of *The Little Red Yellow Black Book* previously published by AIATSIS and disseminated free. A website with extra material and teachers’ notes will be made available as a free resource.

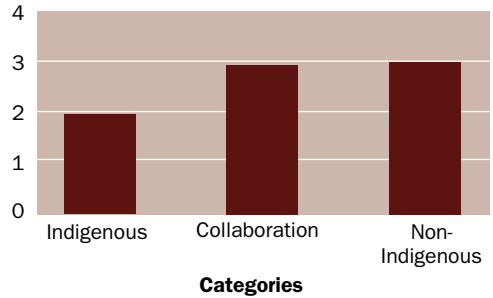
Most design work was carried out by ASP staff, and the work of Indigenous photographers and illustrators was used where possible. There are few suitably trained Indigenous editors, but ASP is preparing a cross-cultural training workshop for the freelance editors it employs.

ASP continued to sell a backlist of about 125 titles in print, and CDs of music and DVDs of film, which are now individually produced to meet customers’ requests. Reprints of five titles were undertaken using digital printing, including a reprint of the *Aboriginal Australia* map. A print-on-demand (POD) option service has been sourced that offers economical short runs of the format of book that ASP produces.

Book publishing in print

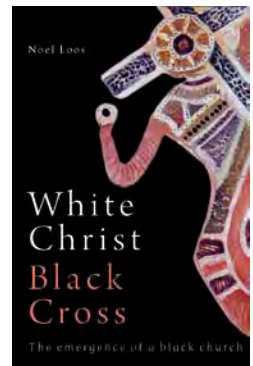
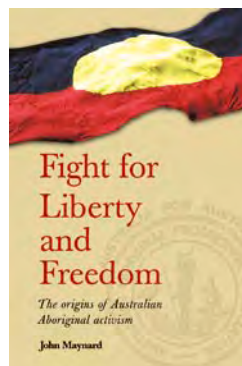
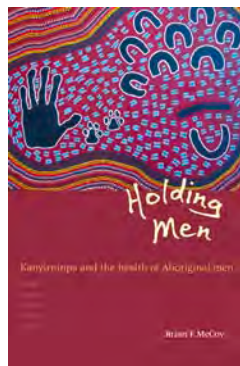
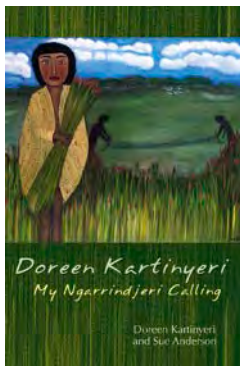
ASP’s publishing output has remained steady at between six to eight titles for several years. In 2007–08 ASP published eight books covering history, anthropology, children’s stories, biography and Aboriginal men’s health. Two of the eight were illustrated books for children, one was a

Figure 3: Comparison of ASP authors, 2007–08



paperback edition of a best-selling hardback and one was taken on consignment from a small independent publisher. Of the eight titles published, four were scholarly, four were general-interest titles and two had cross-over potential from scholarly to general-interest audiences. One manuscript derived from an AIATSIS research grant. Two authors are Indigenous and three non-Indigenous, and three books were collaborations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous authors (Fig. 3).

Significant features of the ASP list are the number of books in Aboriginal or Indigenous studies written by Indigenous authors, an area usually the domain of non-Indigenous academics, and the number of books that are collaborations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous authors. For *Doreen Kartinyeri: My Ngarrindjeri Calling*, Aboriginal genealogist and activist Doreen Kartinyeri and oral historian Sue Anderson worked



together for seven years before the book's publication in April 2008. The collaboration was successful in giving prominence to Kartinyeri's voice and expands the established boundaries of authorship and the expectations of register in autobiographic writing.

Electronic publishing

Lack of resources meant that a previous project of licensing backlist titles to third-party publishers and aggregators was put on hold. However the research and contacts made are valuable and will be used in future. ASP approached several electronic publishers and created a prioritised list for 2008–09. In addition, ASP scanned and made available one out-of-print backlist title as a free resource available from the AIATSIS website.

As well as publishing and distributing books, the *Aboriginal Australia* map, CDs and DVDs, ASP provides design and production services to other parts of AIATSIS. These include:

- one edition of the annual report
- two copies of *Institute News* (in conjunction with the Media and Communications Officer)
- corporate stationery and material for special events such as openings and conferences.

Journal, print and online delivery

ASP, with the Research Program, published two editions of the Institute's multidisciplinary peer-reviewed journal, *Australian Aboriginal Studies*. The journal is distributed nationally and internationally in print and electronic form. It has been licensed to Informit Pty Ltd and an international aggregator, EBSCO Information Services. The National Library of Australia's online Australian Public Affairs Full Text, the Attorney-General's Information Service

and ProQuest include it in their indexes and databases.

ASP undertook a revitalisation of the journal, which was redesigned to fit a smaller, more economical format while still allowing a generous display of illustrations — one of the distinguishing features of the journal. The receipt of material was rescheduled to allow the journal to meet its advertised publishing dates. Subscription charges were increased, in line with comparable journals, and two new subscription categories were added. These marketing efforts saw subscription numbers increase by 19 per cent.

Marketing, publicity and distribution

ASP's work over the past few years in developing a strong, rigorous list was rewarded by several ASP authors winning or being shortlisted for awards.

Quentin Beresford, *Rob Riley*

Winner: Stanner Award, 2007; WA Premier's Literary Award (non-fiction), 2007

Shortlisted: NSW Premier's Literary Award, 2007

Penny van Toorn, *Writing Never Arrives Naked*

Special commendation: Walter McRea Russell Award for best book in literary scholarship, 2007

Shortlisted: Victorian Premier's Literary Award, 2007

Rosalind Kidd, *Trustees on Trial*

Shortlisted: NSW Premier's History Award, John and Patricia Ward History Prize, 2007

ASP continued the work of previous years in developing a unique marketing plan for each title. For most titles this included:

- creating e-kits for authors to help promote their own books
- producing flyers for teaching academics, AIATSIS members and the ASP mailing list

- book text in the ASP quarterly newsletter
- securing space for authors at speaking events (writers' and book festivals)
- providing review copies to the media and relevant journals.

Eight authors appeared at five writers' festivals, as well as conferences and public talks.

At least two endorsements were sought for most books from key Australian and overseas academics for use in marketing. A freelance publicist was appointed to two general-interest titles, which resulted in radio interviews and reviews in both mainstream and Indigenous media.

Every newly published book was launched, some in more than one venue. These events helped ASP to establish productive relationships with a range of cultural organisations and bookshops and enabled the books to reach a wide national audience.

Using AIATSIS funding to bring authors from interstate, including one remote Western Australia community member, ASP convened two successful sessions in the AIATSIS Conference.

Because ASP does not subscribe to a clipping service, it is not possible to determine the total number of reviews across all media. However, where reviews were noted, excerpts were included on the AIATSIS website and used in ongoing marketing of the relevant titles.

ASP created an annual catalogue which was direct mailed to 5,000 addresses, including public and university libraries. ASP distributed a joint Indigenous publishers' catalogue created by Magabala Books in Broome comprising select titles from Magabala Books, the Institute of Aboriginal Development Press in Alice Springs, and ASP. Contact was maintained with both publishers, sharing information about distributors.

As a contribution to the Indigenous Literacy Day in September (see <www.worldwithoutbooks.org>), ASP donated a percentage of revenue from sales of the *Aboriginal Australia* map amounting to \$1,000.

A direct-sales consultant was employed part-time for several months to pre-sell the new edition of *The Little Red Yellow Black Book*, especially to organisations and departments for use in cross-cultural training. Another sales consultant was employed part-time to dissect ASP's backlist and investigate the purchasing patterns of ASP's account customers. A prioritised list of organisations was created and targeted marketing and selling approaches were begun. This work will continue in 2008–09.

Using funding from the Literature International Market Development Program of the Australia Council, the ASP Director attended the London Book Fair in April. Meetings were held with the new UK/Europe distributor and the US distributor to finesse the provision of information and marketing each party undertakes. Discussions were also held with potential distributors in other locations. In addition, meetings were held with several Canadian, US and British publishers to discuss the possibility of selling rights. While the potential for such deals is limited given the specificity of the content of the ASP list, discussions are ongoing about three manuscripts.

ASP continued to maintain and add content to its part of the AIATSIS website, but will await the development of a new site before undertaking any new initiatives (see Chapter 4, page 59).

Research Program

The Research Program disseminates the outcomes of research through external peer-reviewed publications, conference and seminar presentations, professional

workshops and forums, in-house publications, information services and web resources. See Chapter 1 and Appendixes 1 and 2 for more information.

Native title publications

The Native Title Research Unit's publications are central to the dissemination of native title research both from within the NTRU and from external organisations and individuals involved in native title. The NTRU aims to produce publications that are of high academic quality, useful, relevant, and available to interested people who are interested in them.

The NTRU publishes a peer-reviewed issues paper series, *Land, Rights, Laws: Issues of Native Title*. During 2007–08, the NTRU published six issues papers. Ms Tran Tran completed six editions of the *Native Title Newsletter*. The newsletter includes a listing of recent acquisitions by the AIAISTIS library of native title-related materials compiled by the Native Title Research and Access Officer. Copies of issues papers and newsletters are available in both printed and electronic versions by free subscription or for download from the NTRU's website. Ms Tran Tran also completed twelve editions of *What's New* and *Native Title in the News*, which are distributed by email to key native title stakeholders and available for download from the NTRU's website.

The NTRU also launched its Research Monograph series during the year. The series aims to provide in-depth analysis of critical and emerging research issues in native title in addition to the NTRU's Research Report series.

Conferences, workshops and seminars

AIATSIS Conference

The AIATSIS Conference 2007 was held at the Manning Clarke Centre, ANU from 6 to

8 November 2007. All research staff were involved in presenting or organising sessions at the conference.

The final program involved three days of presentations, discussions and workshops dealing with 17 themes and involving over 100 speakers. The conference attracted three major sponsors, the National Centre for Indigenous Studies; the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health; and the Department of Education, Science and Training. There were 216 registered delegates. The most successful sessions were generally those focused on significant community issues.

Direct running costs for the conference totalled \$48,000, including \$23,000 in supported travel for delegates, offset by income of \$34,000.

Native Title Conference

The ninth annual Native Title Conference was held in Perth from 3 to 5 June 2008. The conference was co-convened by the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council and hosted by the Noongar people (see breakout box, page 6).

The conference cost \$344,000 to run, offset by income totalling \$337,000.

Australian Languages Workshop

The annual Australian Languages Workshop was held in March 2008. It was hosted by ANU and AIATSIS, and was held at the ANU Kioloa campus. The workshop, organised by Dr Kazuko Obata, attracted about 30 participants from universities and language centres. It provide participants with an opportunity to catch up with current research and programs on Australian languages in an informal environment. The workshop was very successful and ANU and AIATSIS have been asked to host the event again next year.

AIATSIS Seminar Series

Seminars for Semester 2, 2007 covered a range of current research presented by staff, grantees and invited speakers. Some of the topics were:

- the use of GIS and Cultural and Natural Resource Management Systems
- Corporatising Indigenous Populations: Governance and Indigenous Groups in Australia and New Zealand
- Monsoon History, Archaeology and Eco-Development in the Mulan Lakes Community, Northwestern Australia.

Semester 1, 2008, focused on education and knowledge transfer. Some of the topics were:

- Indigenous Children of the Education Revolution
- Growing up Nunga in the City: A social and cultural view
- 'You translate it into meaning': Observations on knowledge transfer between teachers and Aboriginal English speaking students.

Dr Patrick Sullivan is convening the Semester 2, 2008 series with the theme 'Indigenous Public Policy — Responses from the ground'.

Library and Audiovisual Archive

The Library is open to the general public for study and reference. Mura®, the Institute's online catalogue, includes bibliographic details of all catalogued AIATSIS collections materials. The AIATSIS thesauri can be used to browse the collections. The Audiovisual Archive is open to anyone who wishes to access and research audiovisual materials. Because of the size of the collection, appointments are necessary.

On-site access and copying of materials is provided in accordance with copyright provisions and the conditions determined by

depositors and donors in consultation with collection management staff.

Library services

The Library's reference staff provides information services to visitors and access to the collections. Providing services to remote clients is an equally important aspect of the Library's information services. To assist remote clients, the Library provides accessible content on the AIATSIS website, including online exhibitions, fact sheets and bibliographies. Remote clients can also access information services by telephone, mail, fax and email.

During 2007–08, reference staff produced over 80 new or updated bibliographies of the Library's holdings on individual Indigenous languages. The bibliographies are well used, and more than 230 are available on the AIATSIS website. They complement the Library's other language resources — the language thesaurus and the *Collectors of Words* online exhibition.

Indigenous studies centres in Australian universities were kept up to date on the Library's activities and its services to remote clients through regular mail-outs. The centres are a target group for the Library as potential long-term users of its services.

Table 1 summarises the Library's use statistics over the past three years.

Family History Unit

The AIATSIS Library is responsible for the Family History Unit, which is funded by the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH) as part of the Link-Up Program and the recommendations of the *Bringing Them Home* report. The unit assists Link-Up caseworkers around Australia in family tracing and reunions for Indigenous people who were removed from their families. Assistance is provided

Table 1: Library use statistics, 2005–06 to 2007–08

Activity	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08
Entries in visitor's book	1,287	1,048	1,162
Group visits	22	31	34
Advanced enquiries	586	570	530
Reference desk enquiries	1,659	1,441	1,225
Items used	10,417	10,273	9,036
Telephone enquiries	1,034	936	753
Document supply requests	215	299	347
Formal client education	736	478	460

through family tracing skills workshops and an enquiry support service. The unit delivered two family history skills workshops in Canberra to Link-Up caseworkers in August 2007 and June 2008. The unit has trained 148 caseworkers since 1999.

To further support the unit's training capacity, four staff are currently undertaking the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment course. Additionally, OATSIH is arranging for the unit's workshop to be assessed by a registered training organisation as part of the development of qualifications and skill-sets for Link-Up caseworkers.

In 2007–08, the Family History Unit continued its focus on supporting Link-Up organisations. Considerable time was spent developing a model memorandum of understanding for better access by Link-Up caseworkers to records held by state government agencies.

Unit staff attended the annual National Link-Up Forum in Adelaide, convened by OATSIH, where staff made a presentation on the unit's achievements. The unit will be providing additional training and support to Link-Up caseworkers with the announcement of additional funding for the Link-Up Program over the next four years.

The unit further developed the special website for Link-Up caseworkers, adding the

family history workshop training manual and other indexes.

The unit maintains an authoritative Indigenous family history website. Special features include a family history kit and links to hundreds of web resources such as record indexes and guides to records. The unit encourages people to undertake their own research which can be an empowering experience. The site is well used by Link-Up caseworkers, libraries, archives and the public, with over 650,000 visits since 2003.

The unit also provides a family history information service to Indigenous clients all around Australia. This service is highly valued, since many clients live in regional and remote areas with little or no access to records.

The backlog of family history enquiries is 415. The absence of similar Indigenous family history services in each state as recommended by the *Bringing Them Home* report has placed a disproportionate workload on the unit. Following the Apology by the Prime Minister and the federal government to the Stolen Generations, the unit experienced an increase in enquiries. Indexing for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Biographical Index was suspended in 2007–08 so that more staff resources could be focused on answering enquiries.

Table 2 summarises the Family History Unit's statistics over the last three years. A combined list of groups visiting the Library and the Family History Unit is available on the AIATSI'S website at <www.aiatsis.gov.au>.

Audiovisual Archive services

The Audiovisual Archive serves a wide range of clients including Indigenous individuals and communities as well as academic

Table 2: Family History Unit statistics, 2005–06 to 2007–08

Statistic	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08
Number of enquiries received	551	310	444
Telephone enquiries	2,404	1,252	1,542
Total number of Link-Up Workshop participants	8	22	18
Number of visitors	117	55	67
Number of website hits	142,727	149,863	200,905

researchers, filmmakers and government departments. Most of these clients do not visit AIATSI'S in person and their requests are completed through email and by phone. The archive received and processed more than 520 requests for material in 2007–08. More than 50 per cent of these requests were from Indigenous people.

Return of Materials to Indigenous Communities

The Return of Materials to Indigenous Communities (ROMTIC) program seeks to enhance Indigenous people's ability to access the audiovisual collection by providing copies of up to twenty collection items free of charge. Material to the value of \$11,658 was copied and returned to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals under this program in 2007–08. A further \$15,000 worth of material was supplied under the Community Access program.

Community Access

The Audiovisual Archive's Community Access program seeks to take the collection to the community. In August 2007, staff



Shannice and Rosita Shaw from Fitzroy Crossing look at images from the After 200 Year collections.



More than 1500 members of the Stolen Generations have been reunited with their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family members through a program supported by the AIATSIS Family History Unit. Increased Australian Government funding announced during 2007–08 will make it possible for up to 1000 more reunions over the next four years. The funding will strengthen the working relationship between the Family History Unit and the Link-Up Program run through the Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH). AIATSIS supports Link-Up units around Australia through workshops and a research and referral service.

conducted a Community Access visit in Fitzroy Crossing. More than 1,660 images from the Fitzroy Crossing and Ringersoak After 200 Years collections were digitised in preparation for this visit. Approximately 200 community members attended the event, lodging 68 requests for 585 copies of photographs. The total value of material supplied to the Fitzroy Crossing Community under the ROMTIC program was more than \$15,000. Various community organisations from Fitzroy Crossing were also supplied with digital copies of the Fitzroy Crossing and Ringersoak After 200 Years collections and with hardcopy proof sheets. Having these resources in the community will make it much easier for community members to access the collections and to request their own copies from AIATSIS.

Onsite group visits

Onsite visits are one of the best ways to explore and access the AIATSIS collections. While some of the collection is digitised, most of it is not, so by visiting us clients are able to access and review large volumes of material. AIATSIS hosted a number of groups of Indigenous people throughout the year, which included a group of senior men from Arnhem Land who visited in early 2008.

Online exhibitions

As part of the AIATSIS Digitisation Program (see Chapter 3), the Library created two new online exhibitions. Digitisation and collection management staff developed *Day of Mourning and Protest — 70th Anniversary*. The twenty-sixth of January 2008 marked



Don Wininba Ganambarr, Joe Dhamanydji, Joe Gumbula, Ronnie Waraludj Wandijak, Sampson Henry, Wukun Wanmbi, Boby Bunungarr, Steven Bara and Isiah Ngurugurra from Arnhem Land communities in the Northern Territory during their visit to AIATSIS.

Exploring the AIATSIS collections: a community journey

Monday 2 June 2008 saw an official welcome to country at AIATSIS headquarters in Canberra, as eight senior men from various communities in Arnhem Land arrived to examine the Institute's collections of traditional and ceremonial material, as well as audiovisual and written records, from their own country.

A traditional owner from Ngunnawal, Matilda House, performed the welcome for the group, which represented the communities of Yirrkala, Groote Eylandt, Galiwinku, Kakadu, Ramingining, Croker Island and Oenpelli, among others. AIATSIS Principal Steve Larkin invited the visitors to explore the collections.

While the AIATSIS digitisation program is proceeding apace, most of the collection has not yet been digitised, and the Institute encourages communities to visit its headquarters where they can access and review large volumes of material.

The visit was one of several organised onsite visits to AIATSIS during the year. In this case, the visitors viewed a number of collections that contain restricted ceremonial material. They also selected more than 50 film titles to view from the audiovisual collection, and inspected a number of photographic collections. AIATSIS staff arranged to copy some items requested by the visitors for delivery on their return to their communities.

While at AIATSIS one of the men performed a cleansing ceremony in remembrance of the late Dr Marika, an AIATSIS Council member from Arnhem Land who passed away in May 2008.

the day, 70 years ago in 1938, when an important national Aboriginal civil rights gathering, the Day of Mourning, took place at Australian Hall, Sydney.

It was an event unique for its time in Australia, representing the culmination of years of concerted efforts on the part of Aboriginal leaders such as William Cooper, William Ferguson and others.

The Library also launched a new online exhibition telling the story of Indigenous Australians at War. The site was originally compiled by Garth O'Connell, an Indigenous soldier and currently an employee of the Australian War Memorial. AIATSIS has taken over the redevelopment and hosting of the site from Mr O'Connell for future safe-keeping.

The website includes biographies and an honour roll among historical and modern information about Indigenous Australians in the armed forces from the Boer War to the present. The exhibition will be continuously updated; anyone interested in contributing new information or offering correction is invited to send an email to library@aiatsis.gov.au.

Two online exhibitions, *To Remove and Protect: Laws that changed Aboriginal lives* and *Aboriginal Lives Under Control*, were redeveloped and merged. The new online exhibition contains all the legislation cited in the *Bringing Them Home* report and the annual reports of each state government 'protection board' from the 1800s to the 1950s. The complete set of annual reports will be a major historical resource that is currently difficult for the general public to access. The AIATSIS Library acknowledges the continuing cooperation with the National Library of Australia, which has lent some of the material from its collections.

The online exhibitions have been very successful, with a total of 3,487,003 hits

on all digitisation web pages in 2007–08. In particular, the *Dawn* magazines, with their importance for family history, were the most popular resource.

Genealogies from the Hart papers were accessed by people from the Tiwi Islands. The Tiwi Land Council is co-funding the digitisation of this material with AIATSIS in 2008–09.

Digitisation of print collections

The Library Digitisation Unit scanned and preserved 7,633 digital files for preservation and access in 2007–08.

The AIATSIS Digitisation Program funded a staff member to catalogue material in digital form onto Mura®. The material includes books that are out of copyright, archived websites and publications from PANDORA — Australia's Web Archive, which is managed by the National Library of Australia and its partner organisations. This work has increased the number of records on Mura® that provide electronic access to remote users.

The Library has increased its commitment to PANDORA since 2006. Staff are archiving a wide range of Indigenous websites and individual publications on PANDORA. Additionally, all archived PANDORA websites are individually catalogued and are accessible on Mura®.

As of 30 June 2008, the Library maintained 273 PANDORA websites and titles. Sixty websites are awaiting copyright permission clearance.

Library staff have been digitally preserving out of copyright books and making them accessible from Mura®. To date, over one hundred titles have been added. This will be an ongoing activity as it provides remote access to some of our rare book collection through our catalogue and website.

For my country

Indigenous Australians at war

They answered the call and risked their lives for their comrades and their country, winning the respect of those with whom they served. Yet for many of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians who donned uniforms to fight their nation's enemies, their homecoming was different from that of their comrades.

The AIATSIS Library has launched a new online exhibition telling the story of Indigenous Australians at war. The site was originally compiled by Garth O'Connell, an Indigenous soldier working at the Australian War Memorial. AIATSIS has taken over the redevelopment and hosting of the site for future safe-keeping.

The exhibition shows the significant contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service people since the Boer War, a contribution which continues today. However, it notes that after the First World War, '[Indigenous] returned soldiers were not allowed to have a drink with their comrades at their local pub, there was no government support for the wounded or mentally scarred Indigenous veterans, and their children were being removed.'

'*Indigenous Australians at war* is a journey into the author's research into Australian Aboriginal servicemen in the defence of Australia,' AIATSIS Principal Steve Larkin said at the launch of the exhibition. 'It gives Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and non-Indigenous Australians a free online resource about an aspect of history that is not very well known.'

The exhibition will be continuously updated. A dedication on the site reads, in part: 'To the kids in communities today, that they find out that we've got heaps of pride when it comes to fighting for our country — we've always stepped up when freedom was being threatened, both here and overseas.'



Production of videos

AIATSIS produced two key videos in 2007–08. The first was a documentary about the 2007 NAIDOC Day celebrations. This video included live performances by Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists and interviews with local community members. It was broadcast by the National Indigenous Television (NITV) in early 2008. The second was a short promotional video that accompanied AIATSIS's submission to the federal government's Review of the National Innovation System. This video sought to convey the technical and cultural innovations that AIATSIS has developed to manage our Indigenous cultural heritage collections.

Promotion and conferences

Presentations and papers by collections staff

Library Director Rod Stroud was guest speaker at the annual Service Provider's Forum held by South Australia Link-Up at Nunkuwarrin Yunti in Adelaide in July 2007.

Audiovisual Archive Director Di Hosking, with Caroline Carmody and Rebecca Stubbs, spoke at a forum session titled 'Forty Years On: Are Indigenous collections different to other materials held in archives, libraries, museums and government departments?' at the AIATSIS Conference in November 2007.

PJ Williams and Rod Stroud made a presentation about the Family History Unit at the 'Shake Your Family Tree' family history day at the National Archives of Australia in February 2008.

Alana Garwood-Houng gave a paper, 'Living in a World without Memory', at the UNESCO Memory of the World Conference, held in Canberra in April 2008.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library and Information Research Network Conference

In April 2008, a conference was held in Darwin at Charles Darwin University with the theme 'Listen Up, Speak Up!'. AIATSIS Library staff were closely involved in organising the conference. The conference was a great success, due in part to the support of the staff from the Northern Territory Library Service and Charles Darwin University Library.

The conference was organised by the outgoing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library and Information Research Network President and AIATSIS Library staff member Alana Garwood-Houng. It included papers by Professor Martin Nakata, Dr Allan Marett, Audiovisual Archive Director Di Hosking and Family History Unit staff Rebecca Stubbs and Judy Martin. Four AIATSIS Library staff flew out to Melville Island to visit the Pirlangimpi Indigenous Knowledge Centre.

The conference consolidated the work of previous conferences in strengthening the links between libraries and archives with Indigenous staff and collections. AIATSIS hosts the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library and Information Research Network website. The success of the network directly assists both the Library and the Audiovisual Archive.

Other conferences attended by collections staff

Library and Audiovisual Archive staff attended a number of other conferences in 2007–08. These included:

- Digital Futures Forum (Canberra, September 2007)

- VALA Conference on Library Technology (Melbourne, February 2008)
- UNESCO Memory of the World Conference (Canberra, April 2008)
- Innovative Ideas Forum (Canberra, April 2008).

Strategic alliances

During 2007–08, the Library and the Audiovisual Archive fostered close working relationships with many important institutional partners. This section provides an indicative but not exhaustive description of the major collaborations undertaken during the year.

Libraries Australia

Libraries Australia is a modern online resource that provides access to the national database of material held in Australian libraries, known as the Australian National Bibliographic Database. Users can search for any item and find out which library in Australia holds it. In 2007–08 the AIATSIS Library greatly increased the amount of its holdings on Libraries Australia, which helps to raise awareness of our collections, in particular manuscripts. This also included the uploading of the AIATSIS thesaurus headings into all of the AIATSIS Library's records.

The AIATSIS Library is an active participant in Libraries Australia Document Delivery, an Internet-based system for interlibrary lending and document delivery managed by the National Library. The AIATSIS Library

borrow, lends and copies materials to and from other Australian libraries.

PANDORA

The AIATSIS Library is a formal partner in PANDORA — Australia's Web Archive, supported and hosted by the National Library of Australia. The AIATSIS Library appreciates the assistance provided by PANDORA staff members.

Other alliances

During 2007–08, AIATSIS was involved with a number of leading institutional and professional bodies, including:

- National State Libraries Australasia's Working Group on Indigenous Collections and Services
- Australian UNESCO Memory of the World Committee
- National Archives of Australia Canberra Consultative Forum
- ACT CANHUG Users Group (Catalogue Systems)
- Cross Agency Digitisation Forum
- Copyright in Cultural Institutions Group.

The Library maintained institutional memberships of:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library and Information Research Network
- Australian Library and Information Association
- Australian Society of Archivists
- Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers.

Jamie Ngurra Williams and Jerome Coe-Williams witnessing The Apology to the Stolen Generations.

