

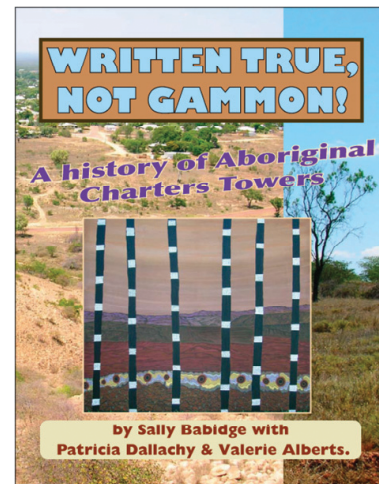


Media release
BLACK INK PRESS

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August 27, 2007

This week, copies of the new book, Written True, Not Gammon - A history of Aboriginal Charters Towers will be presented to elders in the Charters Towers community, by its author Sally Babidge.

This is the culmination of years of effort by the author and the community, formally represented by Val Alberts, Chairperson, Gudjal Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation and Artist Patsy Dallachy, who were consultants and editors.

The book is based on research undertaken (2004-2005) during a community history research project funded by Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS).

Newmont Asia Pacific funding contributed to printing costs.

The author has undertaken to direct all royalties to Kutjala Kindergarten.

Anthropologist Sally Babidge began her research in the town with a PhD project at JCU. She is now based in Brisbane, teaching Anthropology at University of Queensland, but hopes to continue her research in Charters Towers.

Black Ink Press designer Bernadette Boscacci dedicated much time and energy to designing a high quality book, illustrated on every page with photographs and maps.

This was made possible by a wealth of family photos and oral histories contributed by elders and supplemented by archival photos and Sally and Patricia's library research.

Being determined to launch the book in NAIDOC week despite it not yet being printed, an enjoyable Virtual Launch event took place in the Excelsior Library in Charters Towers on July 10.

The publication is a major achievement for the Charters Towers Aboriginal Community. It is a long-needed resource for locals and visitors alike. Education Queensland already has plans to use it for a localisation project in schools.

It is a partnership that will enhance the 'healing process' for many in the Aboriginal community as it recognises years of injustices, but also shares heart-warming stories and celebrates positive achievements.

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