The A to Z of the Discovery and Exploration of Australia

ALAN DAY
10. The A to Z of Science Fiction Literature by Brian Stableford, 2005.
18. The A to Z of the Friends (Quakers) by Margery Post Abbott, Mary Ellen Chijioke, Pink Dandelion, and John William Oliver Jr., 2006.
34. The A to Z of Unitarian Universalism, by Mark W. Harris, 2009.
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42. The A to Z Methodism, by Charles Yrigoyen, Jr. and Susan E. War- rick, 2009.
44. The A to Z of Sufism, by John Renard, 2009.
47. The A to Z of the Discovery and Exploration of the Pacific Islands, by Max Quanchi and John Robson, 2009.
The A to Z of the Discovery and Exploration of Australia

Alan Day

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For Paul Wilks and John Nicholson—true Aussies, good mates of the author, and keen supporters of this venture
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Series Editor’s Foreword

Launching a new series of historical dictionaries is always a bit of an adventure. In this case, a series on discovery and exploration, it is even more so. This first volume deals with Australia, and others should follow soon on Africa, America, and other places. But there is still room for further additions to fill the blank spaces. Although much, but not all, of the discovery and exploration lie far back in time, and we inhabitants of the 21st century have become somewhat jaded, the contents of this book still overflow with adventure. In this case it is a double adventure, first of discovering a continent that was not quite where it was expected and then of exploring its lengthy coastline and vast inland reaches.

Like all other historical dictionaries, this volume adheres to a standard format. The introduction provides the general context; the dictionary goes into further detail on persons, organizations, and events, in this case expeditions of all sorts, and also some of the places discovered and explored. The chronology charts the progress over time. And the bibliography allows readers to learn more about the general process or specific aspects. The big difference is again “adventure.” The material contained in many entries, despite their matter-of-fact approach, is truly gripping. So much so that one tends to pass from entry to entry rather than coldly consulting just the desired one and closing the book.

The A to Z of the Discovery and Exploration of Australia was written by Alan Day. For decades he studied the subject from afar, thanks to the very copious literature, which is laid out in the bibliography he took special care with as a professional librarian. Finally, in 2001, he went on his own tour of the Outback, not your standard tourist’s excursion but to reconnoiter some of the places he had only read about. Aside from authoring the first volume in the new series, he was actually the one who initially came up with the idea of such a series, which will gradually shed more light on similar experiences elsewhere in a handy form that can be consulted by beginner and expert alike.

Jon Woronoff
Series Editor
The purpose of this historical dictionary is to outline the voyages of discovery and the inland explorations that were instrumental in adding Australia to the global map. To that end the entries feature ancient cosmographers; speculative cartographers; influential geographers who pressed for voyages to discover the precise location of the continent, generally agreed to exist in the southern hemisphere; discoverers and explorers; surveying and land-measuring instruments; place-names and geographical locations; diseases that commonly afflicted exploring expeditions; learned societies and research library collections; and even a snatch or two of verse. A few terms encountered in explorers’ narratives and historical accounts, familiar to Australians but perhaps less so to overseas readers, are also incorporated. A question mark is used throughout the dictionary to denote uncertainty about facts.

One of the pleasures of compiling a reference work of this nature is the help received from professional colleagues and others. At home, in England, most of my research was carried out in the John Rylands University Library in Manchester, in the Map Room of The British Library, and at the Royal Geographical Society in London. In Australia, I very much enjoyed working in the State Library of Queensland’s John Oxley Library in Brisbane; in the library of the Australian Stockman’s Hall of Fame in Longreach; in the Northern Territory Alice Springs Public Library; at the Royal Geographical Society of South Australia Library in Adelaide, where Valerie Sitters was assiduous in pointing me in the right direction and providing me with much-appreciated take-home material; and in the La Trobe Library of the State Library of Victoria in Melbourne, where Dianne Reilly went to some effort to find me a particularly desirable issue of the La Trobe Library Journal to add to my collection.

By post I received practical help from Dorothy Rooney, Liaison Library, Warrnambool Campus, Deakin University; Paul Brunton, of the State Library of New South Wales, in Sydney, who kindly sent me a copy, on request, of the illustrated catalog of the national touring exhibition Matthew Flinders:
The Ultimate Voyage; Rod Cramer, of Alice Springs, who supplied me with details of his treks across the Simpson, Great Sandy, and Little Sandy Deserts retracing the routes of Cecil Madigan and Lawrence Wells; and Kenneth Wilks, of Buderim, Queensland, who saved me hours of research time by sending up-to-the-minute newspaper reports. I am also indebted to James C. Docherty for readily allowing me to reproduce two maps, “Australia: Evolution of States, 1494–1863” and “Australia: States, Territories and Capitals,” from his Historical Dictionary of Australia (2nd ed., 1999).
**Acronyms and Abbreviations**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>fl</td>
<td>Floruit (flourished)—indicates when a person whose birth and death dates</td>
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<td></td>
<td>are not known was prominently active</td>
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<td>HMCS</td>
<td>His (Her) Majesty’s Colonial Ship</td>
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<tr>
<td>HMS</td>
<td>His (Her) Majesty’s Ship, depending on the sex of the reigning monarch</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSW</td>
<td>New South Wales</td>
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<tr>
<td>OBE</td>
<td>Order of The British Empire</td>
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<tr>
<td>QLD</td>
<td>Queensland</td>
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<tr>
<td>RGS</td>
<td>Royal Geographical Society</td>
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<td>RGSASA</td>
<td>Royal Geographical Society of Australasia South Australian Branch</td>
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<tr>
<td>SA</td>
<td>South Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>SS</td>
<td>Steam Ship</td>
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<td>TAS</td>
<td>Tasmania</td>
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<tr>
<td>VIC</td>
<td>Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOC</td>
<td>Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA</td>
<td>Western Australia</td>
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AUSTRALIA: EVOLUTION OF STATES, 1494-1863

AUSTRALIA: DIVISION BY TREATY OF TORDESILHAS, 1494

AUSTRALIA: DIVISION BY TREATY OF SARAGOSSA, 1529

AUSTRALIA: BRITISH CLAIM, 1786

AUSTRALIA: BRITISH COLONIES, 1836

AUSTRALIA: COLONIES, 1859

AUSTRALIA: COLONIES, 1863

The Northern Territory was part of South Australia until 1863.
Chronology

3rd Century B.C.   Ancient Egyptian voyagers land on Australian shores?

7th Century A.D.  Arab seamen visit western, northern, and northeastern coasts of Australia?

14th Century    Macarrese voyages to northern shores begin?

1406    Chinese ships sail to Australia?

1421    Hong Bao and Zhou Man sail independently along Australian coastlines?

1475    First printing of Ptolemy’s *Geographia* prolongs the ancient world’s concept of a southern continent maintaining the Earth’s equilibrium.

1494    Treaty of Tordesillas, signed by Portugal and Spain, delimits their claims to newly discovered lands.

1503    According to 17th-century French sources, Binot Paulmyer de Gonneville lands on the southern continent.

1518?–1528?    Jean Alphonse visits Australia’s west coast?

1519    Ferdinand Magellan sights Tierra del Fuego, which contemporary cartographers wrongly assume to be part of the southern continent.

1521    Christovão de Mendonca sails down the east coast of the southern continent?

1529    Treaty of Saragossa amends the Treaty of Tordesillas. All Australia, apart from the eastern seaboard, is now situated within the Portuguese sphere.

1531    Oronce Finé’s world map consolidates Tierra del Fuego into Terra Australis, which extends northwest across the Pacific to merge with New Guinea.

1542    Jean Rotz presents his “Boke of Idrography” to King Henry VIII of England. It is the earliest surviving work of the Dieppois hydrographers depicting “the londe of Java.”