

1. Ben Bohane, *The Black Islands: Spirit and War in Melanesia* (Port Vila, Vanuatu: Waka Press, 2013), p120: ‘White Australia has a Black History,’ aboriginal protest during the Sydney Olympics, 2000

Ben Bohane (b. 1970, lives and works Port Vila, Vanuatu) is a photojournalist, author and TV producer who has covered Asia and the Pacific for more than thirty years. He is the founder and director of www.wakaphotos.com, the only photo agency based in the Pacific islands. Bohane’s foreign assignments included historic political changes in Vietnam, Cambodia, Burma, Afghanistan, the collapsing Soviet Union and Europe. Since 1994, he has covered every major conflict in the Pacific region – East Timor, West Papua, Maluku, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Bougainville, Vanuatu, Fiji and New Caledonia. Bohane has amassed the world’s largest personal photo archive of the South Pacific. His photos are held in the collections of New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art and the British Museum, and have appeared in *The New York Times*, *National Geographic*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Guardian* and *Asahi Shimbun*. In 2003, he published *Follow the Morning Star*, documenting the West Papuan independence struggle. <https://www.benbohane.com/about>

2. Hank Nelson, *Taim Bilong Masta: The Australian Involvement with Papua New Guinea* (Sydney: Australian Broadcasting Commission, 2001), based on the ABC radio series produced by Tim Bowden. First aired in 1981, the series “tells the story of Australians in New Guinea – why they went, what they did and what they took away.” (Back cover blurb)

3. Hank Nelson, *Black Unity or Black Chaos* (Ringwood, Vic.: Penguin, 1972)
Cover photograph: Sigmund Drinkrow

4. Map: Pacific Postcard, Undated
Purchased Chinese general store, Port Vila, Vanuatu, 2007

5. Herbert I. London, *Non-White Immigration and the “White Australia” Policy* (New York: New York University Press, 1970)

The White Australia Policy names a set of measures that prevented people of non-European ethnicity, especially Asians and Pacific Islanders, from migrating to Australia. From the 1850s, competition in the gold fields between European and Chinese miners, then union opposition to Pacific Islander labour on sugar plantations, reinforced calls to eliminate low-wage immigration from Asia and the Pacific. Colonial authorities levied special taxes to prevent Chinese from bringing relatives to Australia, and from working in certain industries. Passed in 1901, the *Immigration Restriction Act* gave British migrants preference over others. Postwar governments dismantled the White Australia Policy but not until 1973 was race rejected as an immigration criterion. Australia has since maintained a large multi-ethnic immigration programme, allowing people from any country to apply, regardless of ethnicity, culture, religion or language. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_Australia_policy

“There is some irony in my family’s migration from South Africa to flee apartheid while First Nations people were (and are) yet to gain sovereignty and were only granted the vote in 1967; and in the fact that the White Australia Policy was not dismantled until 1973. Two years later, Papua New Guinea finally became an independent nation, cleaving itself as a ‘territory’ from colonial Australia. These changes took place under the progressive government of Gough Whitlam, a figure my grandparents championed in the years after their arrival. As an Australian of colour from a migrant background I can’t shed the optic of our brutal colonial past; as a ‘settler’ living on unceded land, I too am part of that entangled narrative. Yet few young Australians I meet know that Papua New Guinea was an Australian territory. Nor do they know about the ‘Blackbirding’ of South Sea Islanders – a slave trade crucial to the Queensland sugar industry. The African-American poet, James Baldwin, reflecting on the United States’ equally brutal past, stated in his eloquent Harlem lecture (1963): “We have conquered a continent but are yet to become a country.”

6. Former Australian Prime Minister Gough Whitlam, Easter Island, 1979
Scanned photograph from Whitlam’s 1985 book, *The Whitlam Government: 1972–1975*, 115 x 235mm. Photographer unknown: *The Herald*, 1979

The reformist government of Prime Minister Gough Whitlam (1972-75) ended military conscription, established new agencies for Aboriginal affairs and the environment, and introduced universal health care. In 1975, economic woes and political mistakes resulted in Whitlam becoming the only Prime Minister ever to be removed from office by the Governor-General.

Newell Harry, *Sul Mare*, 2022

Quasi-archival installation gathering stories, images and artefacts.

The same year, his government passed the *Racial Discrimination Act*, removing the last vestiges of the White Australia Policy. Text adapted from: <https://www.nma.gov.au/explore/features/prime-ministers/gough-whitlam>

7. *The Humanist*, official publication of the Humanist Party (Australia), issue no. 5, August 1985. Cover: feature interview with Eddie Funde. 400mm x 275mm

This edition of left-wing paper, *The Humanist*, features an interview with Sonwabo Eddie Funde (1943–2018) from the African National Congress (ANC), giving a snapshot of the Australian political left's attitudes and response to apartheid. When Funde arrived in Australia in 1983 – without friends, family, a home, or income – apartheid was not a key issue. Even for progressives, the focus was closer to home: Vietnam, French nuclear testing in the Pacific, Indonesia's invasion of East Timor, and the threat of nuclear war. Ordinary Australians had never heard of Nelson Mandela and the ANC; many of those who had considered them terrorists. As ANC representative in Australasia, Funde built an extraordinary grassroots movement of activists and a coalition of unions, churches and civil society institutions supporting the ANC cause. Within a decade, a seismic shift had occurred. The Labor Government was imposing financial sanctions on South Africa's apartheid state and funding assistance for ANC students; apartheid had become the number one international issue in civil society. Upon his death in 2018, the ANC honoured Funde with a National Funeral. In his tribute, activist Daren McDonald wrote that he “did not just help change South Africa; [he] also changed Australia.” Text adapted from McDonald's tribute to Eddie Funde, Australian Society for the Study of Labour History: <https://www.labourhistory.org.au/hummer/hummer-vol-13-no-1-2019/vale-eddie-funde/>

8. ‘Storian Blong Rachel’, found paraphernalia

9. Clive Moore, *Kanaka: A History of Melanesian Mackay* (Boroko: Institute of P.N.G. Studies, University of Papua New Guinea, 1981)

“Australia's immigrant Melanesians are the true founders of the sugar industry: it was their muscles and sweat which were used to carve the cane fields out of the coastal scrub of Queensland. This is their story. Kanaka is a history of the Queensland labour trade to the Pacific Islands, particularly the island of Malaita, one of the Solomon Islands, and the Melanesians working in the sugar industry at Mackay. It tells the story of the Blackbirding days, seen from ... the side of the Melanesian labourers...” (Back cover blurb)

10. Poster on women and land rights, design by Jada Wilson.

11. Robert M. Glasse and Mervyn J. Meggitt (eds) *Pigs, pearls, and women : marriage in the New Guinea highlands ; a symposium* (Englewood Cliffs, N.J: Prentice-Hall, 1969)

12. *Woman mo: kastom ekonomi*, compiled by Jean Tarisesei (Vanuatu: Vanuatu National Cultural Council, 2007)

13. ‘Girl Gymnasts are Poised for Success’, *Drum*, May, 1968

Drum is a South African family magazine founded in 1951, published online since 2020, aimed mainly at black readers and containing market news, entertainment and feature articles.

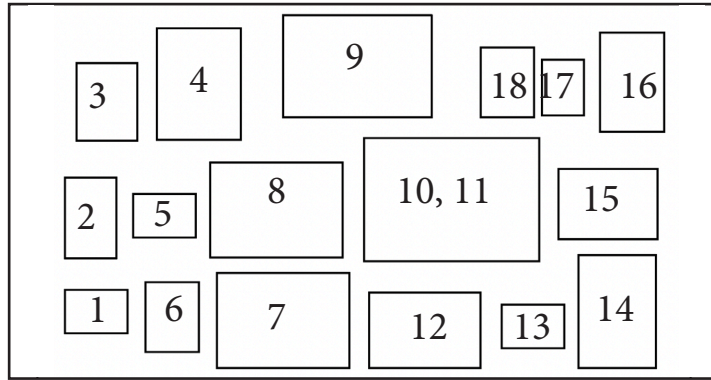
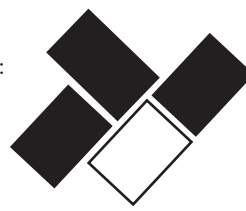
Described as “the first black lifestyle magazine in Africa”, it has two sister magazines: *Huisgenoot*, aimed at White and Coloured Afrikaans-speaking readers; and YOU, aimed at demographically and ethnically diverse English-speaking readers. *Drum* is noted chiefly for its 1950s and 1960s reportage of township life under apartheid. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drum_\(South_African_magazine\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drum_(South_African_magazine))

“This May 1968 edition of *Drum* magazine features an article depicting my mother, Virginia Heeger (b. Cape Town, 1952) at sixteen, performing a routine on the beam, three years prior to my family's arrival in Sydney, Australia. Under apartheid, my parents' families were classified as ‘Coloured.’ At this time only ‘whites’ represented South Africa on the international sporting stage. While my mother and her colleagues were reportedly ‘good enough’ to make the South African Olympic team, this of course never eventuated.”

14. Newell Harry, untitled photographs, 2004-2019

Pigment prints on resin coated paper

Each 180 x 267mm; paper size: 210 x 297mm



1. Anti-apartheid activist Grant King at the Southern African Liberation Centre, Sydney, 1994.
Colour family photograph

“In 2010 I chanced upon a draft letter by Grant King (b. Durban, 1962), a white South African political exile who had fled South Africa for Sydney in the mid 1980s. A close friend of my grandmother and ex-partner of my mother, he had been heavily involved as a young activist with the African National Congress (ANC) and the Pan African Congress (PAC). Addressed to his sister and father, the letter details his escape from South African authorities in 1985 as a 23-year old. King’s parents were resolute supporters of the National Party’s apartheid regime and, until receiving his letter, were completely unaware of his political activism and exile to Australia. As a young engineer, King had worked in Durban’s African townships, witnessing first-hand the police brutality unreported in the media, experiences that would fuel his activism. In exile, he writes of being under surveillance and an attack by “Afrikaans-speaking whites” in which he was “brutally beaten and had his genitals scalded with drain cleaner.” The letter goes on to reveal his loving relationship with my mother, seeking his parents’ understanding and approval of their interracial relationship. In Sydney during the early 1990s, King was instrumental in organising the ‘Afrika Nite’ musical events, to raise funds for the PAC. The events were publicised by Radio Skid Row, a community radio station still active today.”

2. Athol Fugard, *Statements*, Theatre Communications Group, New York, 1986

3. Ralph Miliband and John Saville (ed.), *Vol.7: The Socialist Register 1970* (The Merlin Press, 1970)

4. A protestor, Salford U.K., 1969. ‘Stop the Tour’ anti-apartheid protest to boycott the South African Springbok rugby tour of the U.K.
Inkjet print of news photograph
200.7 x 285mm. Photographer unknown

5. Postcard: T/V G. Marconi, Sydney Harbour, 1972,
gift of the artist’s grandmother

6. *Modern African stories* by Ellis Ayitey Komey, 1964, Faber and Faber edition, in English.

7. Anti-apartheid protest to boycott the South African Springbok rugby tour of Australia, 1971
Inkjet print of news photograph, 200.7 x 285mm. Photographer unknown
During the controversial 1971 rugby union tour of Australia by South Africa’s Springboks, anti-apartheid protests were held all around the country. The tour is perhaps most infamous for the state of emergency that was declared in the state of Queensland. In total, around 700 people were arrested during the Springboks’ tour.
Text adapted from: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1971_South_Africa_rugby_union_tour_of_Australia

8. Salford U.K., 1969: ‘Stop the Tour’, an anti-apartheid protest to boycott the South African Springbok rugby tour of the UK
Inkjet print of news photograph
200.7 x 285mm. Photographer unknown

9. Maps from Uncle Pat’s geography class, South Africa, c. late 1950s-60s
Biro, felt-tip pen, paper. Each approx. 270 x 380mm

10. *L’Araldo Del Mare / The Sea Herald*, Voyage 10/1971 – Special Photographic Issue
On-board newspaper of the Guglielmo Marconi, Lloyd Triestino Line

11. *L’Araldo Del Mare / The Sea Herald*, New Year’s Eve edition, Voyage 10/1971, 1 January, 1972
On-board newspaper of the Guglielmo Marconi, Lloyd Triestino Line

12. Anti-apartheid feminist and activist, Gloria Steinem, arrested, 1984
Report facsimile, 185mm x 257mm. Photographer unknown
The typed caption reads: “Washington, Dec. 19—arrested at embassy—a uniformed officer arrests feminist Gloria Steinem during an anti-apartheid protest outside the South African Embassy in Washington, Wednesday. (AP LASERPHOTO) (raf4130pool) 1984.”

13. Postcard depicting young Tahitian women re-enacting Paul Gauguin’s 1892 painting, *Ta Matete* (The Market). Purchased 2017 from a store in Atuona on Hiva Oa, the island in French Polynesia where Gauguin died in 1903.

14. *Aloi Pilioko: Artist of the Pacific*, book, gift of Aloi Pilioko, Port Vila, 2005

15. French anti-nuclear protests, 1973
Report facsimile, 185mm x 257mm. Photographer unknown
The document reporting this ‘incident’ was coincidentally made on the date of the artist’s first

Newell Harry, *Sul Mare*, 2022

Quasi-archival installation gathering stories, images and artefacts.

birthday. The typed caption reads: "LUP052701-5/27/73-WATTERLOS: Marchers protesting the French nuclear tests in Mururoa atoll of the South Pacific, are forcibly removed by French police from the French side of the street in the Belgian/French border town of Watterlos 5/26. The incident occurred when the protesters were denied entry into France where they had planned to continue the march. (UPI) mal/str."

16. French Nuclear Testing in the Pacific: Volume II International Court of Justice, Nuclear Tests Case New Zealand v France

Questions of the Jurisdiction of the Court to Entertain the Dispute and of the Admissibility of the Application: Public Sitings of the Court 10-11 July; Judgement of 20 December 1974; Statement by the Prime Minister.

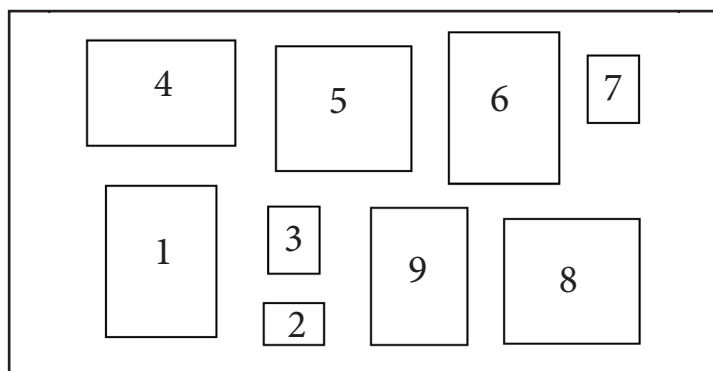
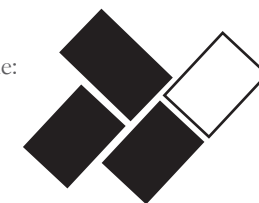
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Wellington December 1975

Publication No. 497

17. 'Native Climbing for the Good Coconut'

Postcard purchased 2017 from Atuona general store on Hiva Oa, Marquesas Islands, the French Polynesian island on which Gauguin died in 1903.

18. Postcard: District Six, purchased Cape Town, 2006



1. Vanuatu *Daily Post* (front page), 27 July 2006: 'Chinese Communist Party showers VP and NUP with Presents'

From a series of Daily Post newspapers collected between 2004-11

2. *Skelim Laip Bilong Yu Yet* ('Weigh up Your Life')

Found Christian pamphlet, Port Moresby, 2015. 105 x 147mm

Published by Christian Books Melanesia, Wewak, Papua New Guinea

3. Richard Shears, *The Coconut War: The Crisis on Espiritu Santo* (North Ryde: Cassell, 1980)

"The so-called Coconut War began on 27 May 1980 when a rebel faction took control of the island of Espiritu Santo. British Commando Royal Marines, combat police from the French Garde Mobile and Papua New Guinean troops invaded the New Hebrides, prepared to do battle with an army of bow and arrow warriors led by Jimmy Stevens, an aging village chief. It ... ended in tragedy less than 4 months later with the arrest of Jimmy and the death of his son. ... Richard Shears describes the sad-funny story of one man's defiant stand against the might of Britain, France and the local authorities..." (Back cover blurb)

4. Nicholas Chevalier (1828-1902)

Race to the Market, Tabiti, 1880

Commissioned print for *The Illustrated London News*, 9 October, 1880

275mm x 400mm. Purchased Nuku'alofa, 2010

5. Setaleki Iloa, *Captain Willian Bligh: A Tongan View of his Lineage* as told to CDR (RET) Wm H.

McGrath, US Navy (Retired), 6 May 1989 at Nuku'alofa, Kingdom of Tonga

Self-published document, photocopies

This self-published book challenges the lineage of Tonga's royal family, claiming a direct, 'histor-

ically unaccounted' bloodline through children allegedly sired by William Bligh around the time of the 1789 mutiny on the British ship he captained, HMS Bounty. It was purchased in 2010 in the Nuku'alofa market where the author would detail the narrative in person. The book contains sketches of family trees and copies of hand-written correspondence with historians and retired sailors. There is some documentary evidence for Setaleki's claim that Bligh sired a child with a young woman of the Tongan Royal Family.

6. Reproduced inkjet print from Shears' *The Coconut War*, 1980

7. *Nogut Yu Lus* ('No Good You Lust')

Found Christian pamphlet, Port Moresby, 2015. 147 x 105mm

Published by Evangelical Brotherhood Church, Lae, Papua New Guinea

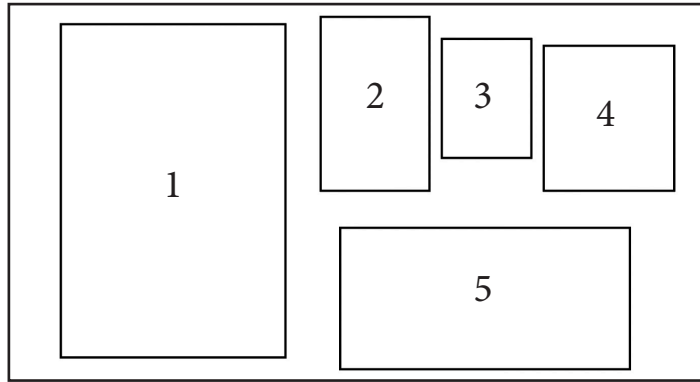
8. *Paradise: in-flight with Air Nuigini*, No. 54 December (1985). Published by Air Nuigini, Boroko, Papua New Guinea, 1985.

9. 19th Century ethnographic etching depicting African ('Cafres') people, each approx. 390 x 255mm

Newell Harry, *Sul Mare*, 2022

Quasi-archival installation gathering stories, images and artefacts.

You are looking at this vitrine:



1. John Bom (b. Papua New Guinea, date unknown)

Piece long Bougainville, 1999

Acrylic on paper, 630 x 565mm

Gift of Geoff Carey

John Bom is a contemporary Niuguinean painter who emerged in the 1990s. Artist's statement: 'I come from Kerowagi in Simbu Province. I started painting in 1994, and was taught by [renowned artist] Mathias Kauage in his house. I learned from Mathias for a long time, and now my paintings are sold all over the world.'

2. Peter McIntyre, *Peter McIntyre's PACIFIC* (Wellington: A.H. & A.W. Reed, 1966)

3. *Vanuatu Daily Post*, 11 November, 2004: 'Cannibal feast of Tanna painting sells for vt (Vatu) 6.48 million'

From a series of *Daily Post* newspapers collected 2004–11

4. Cover page from the Broadway musical, *South Pacific* (1949), composed by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II

Found document, thrift store Port Vila, Vanuatu, 2006

5. *Hula Hawaiians*, Carinia Records, Sydney, c. 1970s

Purchased flea market, Insadong, Seoul, South Korea, 2012