

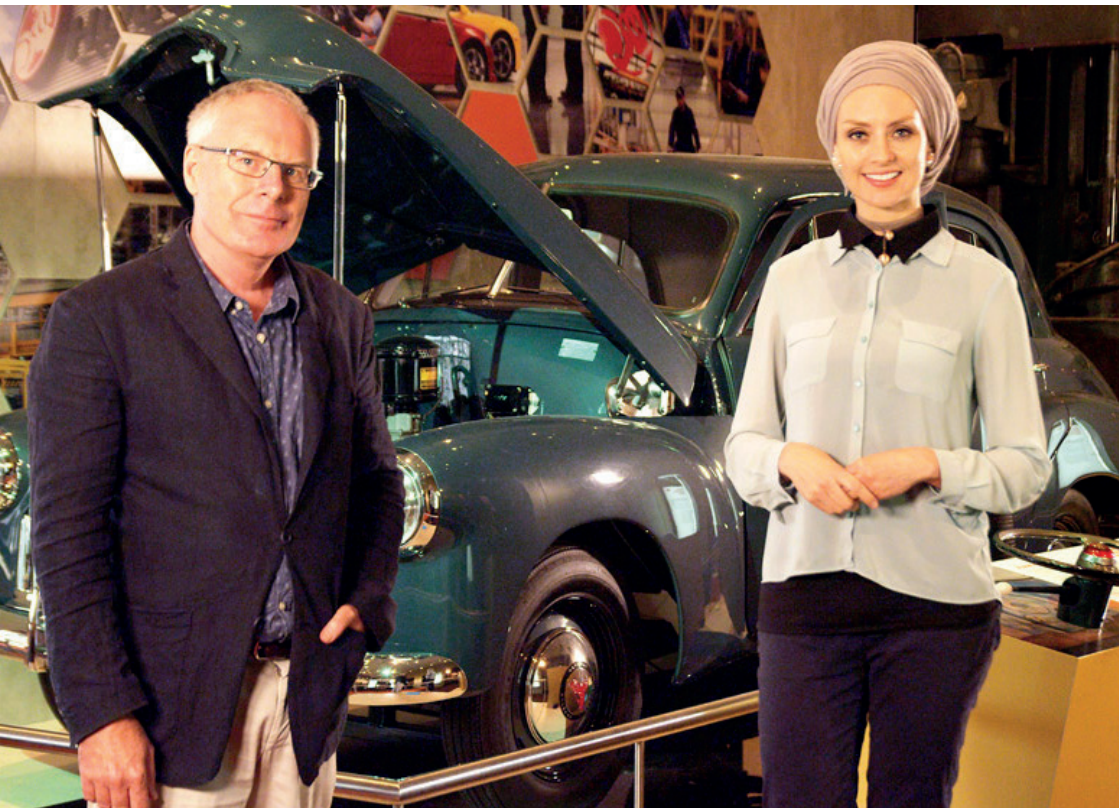


Australian
National
University

Australian Journey

The story of a nation in twelve objects

The Documentaries
The Interviews
Questions, Activities, Resources



*Cruise the length and breadth of a continent
with Dr Susan Carland and Professor Bruce Scates*

This booklet and accompanying DVD is produced by the Australian National University as a free educational resource. We gratefully acknowledge our collaboration with Monash University, the National Museum of Australia and all the cultural institutions featured in this project.



Australian Journey: Taking your bearings

This series is designed for anyone, anywhere interested in Australia. Exploring the themes of **Land**, **People**, and **Nation**, it offers a road map to our country's **Past**, **Present**, and **Future**. Australian Journey will take you the length and breadth of the continent, and across almost four billion years of history, in twelve short and engaging episodes. And every episode uses objects to reveal the stories of a nation. What do these pieces of the past tell us about their time, their purpose and their maker? Some of the objects we have chosen are famous, iconic or familiar; others obscure, even quirky. But all our objects tell a story and all find a place in the National Museum of Australia.

Australian Journey is presented by Professor Bruce Scates and Dr Susan Carland. It involves a unique collaboration between the Australian National University, Monash University and the National Museum of Australia. Over fifty major cultural institutions were involved in the creation of this series. We thank all of them for their support and respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of all the lands on which filming took place.



Australian Journey: Charting your course

Like the best journeys, start at the beginning. An eight-minute introduction will outline the focus and structure of all twelve episodes. Then you can complete the journey in any direction you want to, following the chronology, or leaping ahead to any topic that interests you.

You will find a supplementary interview for each and every episode of Australian Journey. 'Susan Carland: In Conversation' offers you the opportunity to hear from experts in the field, strike up debate and engage the work of challenging social commentators.

This resource booklet includes:

- Where we will visit, who we will meet, what we will see (4-9)
- Engaging with objects (10-11)
- Debating the issues (12-14)

You are free to reproduce any or all of this package. And you can access episodes and interviews, resources and quizzes online at the Australian Journey website.

Visit the Australian Journey website at
australianjourney.anu.edu.au



Where we will visit, who we will meet, what we will see

Episode One: Travelling Country



Cross the continent and consider the differences between Indigenous and non-Indigenous understandings of the land.

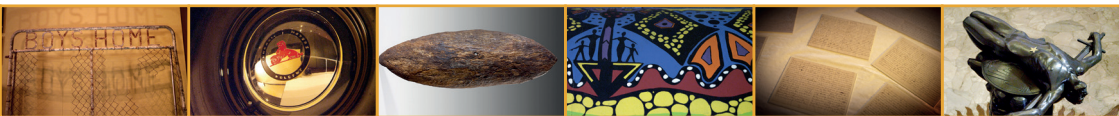
Supplement: Susan Carland in conversation with Associate Professor John Bradley and Dr Shannon Faulkhead

Episode Two: Land of the Weird and Monstrous



Join the search for a lost Australian species and appreciate the cost of narrowing biodiversity.

Supplement: Susan Carland in conversation with Ms Kathryn Medlock and Dr George Main



Land

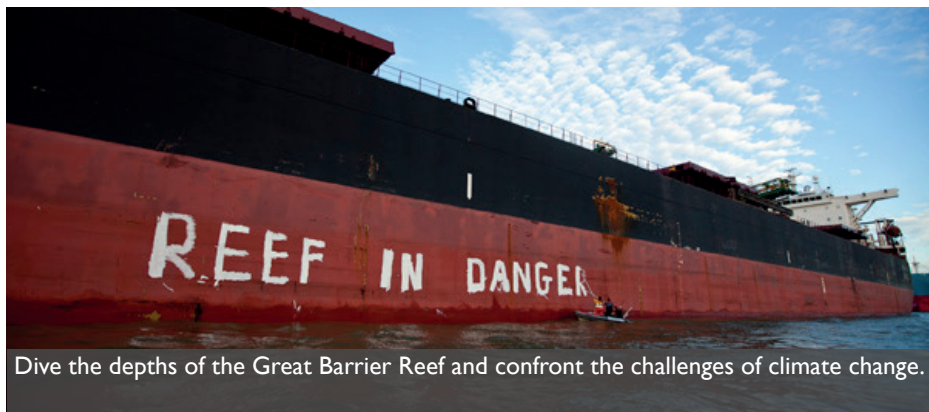
Episode Three: A Wide Brown Land



Reach beyond the outback and find new ways to live in a dry and drying continent.

Supplement: *Susan Carland in conversation with Dr Ruth Morgan*

Episode Four: Our Island Home



Dive the depths of the Great Barrier Reef and confront the challenges of climate change.

Supplement: *Susan Carland in conversation with Dr Ruth Morgan*



Episode Five: Multicultural Mosaic



Open Australia's borders and see the shaping of a multicultural society.

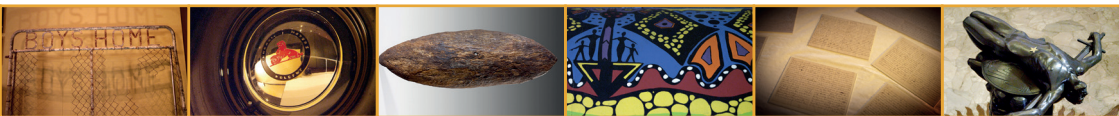
Supplement: Susan Carland in conversation with Justice Julian Burnside, AO QC

Episode Six: Captivity Narratives



Explore the ruins of Australia's convict past and discover its complex legacy.

Supplement: Susan Carland in conversation with Professor Rae Frances



People

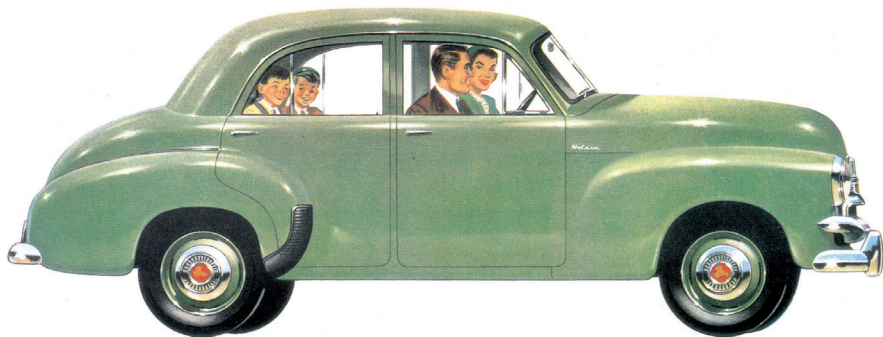
Episode Seven: *The Stolen Generations*



See how Indigenous Australians fought the removal of their children from family and community.

Supplement: *Susan Carland in conversation with Professor Peter Read*

Episode Eight: *An Australian Way of Life*



Drive Australia's 'first' motor car and find out how sport defines a nation.

Supplement: *Susan Carland in conversation with Dr Waleed Aly*



Episode Nine: *Encounters*

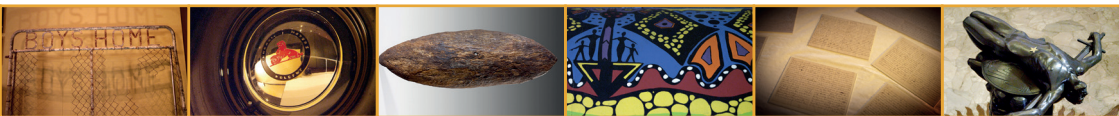


Supplement: *Susan Carland in conversation with Mr Peter Yu*

Episode Ten: *Creating a Nation*



Supplement: *Susan Carland in conversation with Professor Jenny Hocking*



Nation

Episode Eleven: *Australia's First Terrorist?*



Meet the rebel and outlaw who called for an Australian republic, a man who became an icon.

Supplement: Susan Carland in conversation with Professor Frank Bongiorno

Episode Twelve: *The Anzac Legend*



Untangle Australia's foundation myth and find that remembering can be a form of forgetting.

Supplement: Susan Carland in conversation with Professor Bruce Scates and Ms Rebecca Wheatley



Engaging with objects

A Piece of the Past

The word artefact is derived from the Latin terms *ars* or *artis* meaning skilled in joining, and *factum* meaning to make or do. Thus an artefact can be considered to mean any physical entity that is formed by human beings; from a nail to the building it is in.

— Chris Capel, *Objects: Reluctant Witnesses to the Past*

Think of three additional objects that can also tell 'the story of Australia'. Choose one that relates to the theme of **Land**, one for **People**, and one for **Nation**.

Focus on one particular artefact. What draws you to this object? What qualities make it so compelling?

How and when was this object made?

Draw a Map, Devise a Timeline. Can you chart the journey of your chosen object over space and time?

Whose History?

If you want told the history of the whole world, a history that does not unduly privilege one part of humanity, you cannot do it through texts alone, because only some of the world has ever had texts, while most of the world, most of the time, has not.

— Neil McGregor, *A History of the World in 100 Objects*



Does the object you have chosen tell a story in a way written words cannot?

Who originally owned it and who does it belong to now?
Can anyone make a special claim to ownership of this object today?

Make a 'Meaning Mosaic'. Objects have a shape, they serve a purpose and convey certain meanings. How has the shape, purpose or meaning of your chosen object changed over time?

Patterns in the Past

Objects have the power to connect us to the others' lived experience, to collapse time and space and invite us in to glimpse others' dreams and ambitions and the shape, feel and character of their worlds.
— Mat Trinca, *Landmarks: A History of Australia in 33 Places*

How does this object bring you into touch with the experience of past generations?

How might your view of this object differ from that of its creator?

Situate Your Object and Reshape it Altogether. How might the meanings of this particular object alter with the way it is presented? Would your object look different in its own time and context, in a museum today, to a time traveller a thousand years from now?



PART ONE: LAND

Debating the issues

View an episode and interview. Then take issue with argument and evidence:

Episode One: Travelling Country

Competing visions of how a landscape is seen and understood

Is it accurate to describe white explorers as discoverers of Australia?

What do you think?

Episode Two: Land of the Weird and Monstrous

Revisiting Australia's extinction events

Should scientists attempt to clone the Thylacine? **What do you think?**

Episode Three: A Wide Brown Land

The politics of water in Australia

Are scientific and engineering solutions sufficient to meet the challenge of living in a dry and drying continent? **What do you think?**

Episode Four: Our Island Home

Global warming and the Great Barrier Reef

Will the Reef be saved for future generations? **What do you think?**



PART TWO: PEOPLE

Episode Five: Multicultural Mosaic

Australia as a socially cohesive society

*Is the incarceration of asylum seekers in detention camps a violation of human rights and Australia's international obligations? **What do you think?***

Episode Six: Captivity Narratives

White Australia's convict origins

*Should convict Australia be called a slave society? **What do you think?***

Episode Seven: The Stolen Generations

The forced removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families

*How does a society come to terms with the impacts of a policy such as this and who should decide what needs to be done? **What do you think?***

Episode Eight: An Australian Way of Life

Suburbia and sport, culture and society

*Is it appropriate that sportsmen and women are Australia's greatest national heroes? **What do you think?***



PART THREE: NATION

Episode Nine: Encounters

Asserting the sovereignty of Australia's First Nation peoples

*What does it mean when objects are taken without the agreement of their owner? Does this make the institutions who acquire these objects responsible for their return? **What do you think?***

Episode Ten: Creating a Nation

Australia's political system and its constitutional crisis

*Should the 'Palace Papers' (detailing secret, sensitive and private correspondence between Australia's Governor-General and the British Monarch in the lead up to the double dissolution of 1975) be released for public viewing by Australia's National Archives? **What do you think?***

Episode Eleven: Australia's First Terrorist?

The Kelly Outbreak and Australia's first republic

*Was Ned Kelly a 'terrorist'? **What do you think?***

Episode Twelve: The Anzac Legend

A nation's contested memory of war

*Which museum or museums in Australia should examine frontier violence? Explain your reasons. **What do you think?***

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