Entry type: Person
Entry ID: IMP0081

Bandler, Faith Ida Lessing

(1920 - 2015)

Born	19200927, Tumbulgum New South Wales Australia
Died	20150213
Occupation	Author, Campaigner

Summary

Faith Bandler has campaigned for Aboriginal and Islander rights throughout her life, firstly through the Aboriginal-Australian Fellowship and later through the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders (FCAATSI). She has written novels and children's literature as well as many non-fiction works relating to Aboriginal rights. Her biography, *Faith: Faith Bandler, gentle activist*, written by Marilyn Lake, was published in 2002.
Read more about her in our sister publication The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth-Century Australia.

Details

Faith Bandler and her sister enlisted in the Australian Women's Land Army during World War II. She was employed at Young, picking cherries and also the farming districts of Bathurst and Griffith. She was discharged on the 11 October 1945.

Bandler was offered an MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) for her services to the community in 1976, but declined it in protest against the dismissal of Prime Minister Gough Whitlam by the Governor-General, Sir John Kerr. She later accepted a nomination as Member of the Order of Australia (AM) and received the honour on 11 June 1984. This was for service to Aboriginal welfare.

Events

2001 - 2001
Inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women

Published resources

Edited Book
The Encyclopaedia of Aboriginal Australia : Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, society and culture, Horton, David, 1994

Who's Who in Australia 2002, Herd, Margaret, 2002

As a woman: writing women's lives, Scutt, Jocelynne A., 1992

Resource Section
FAITH BANDLER, 2002,
https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/faith-bandler/13779932

Great moments in Indigenous history: Have Faith in Nelson!, Foley, Gary, 2002,
http://www.kooriweb.org/foley/great/grt11.html

Guide to the Papers of Faith Bandler, Hirst, Warwick, 2000,
http://findaid.library.uwa.edu.au/cgi-bin/nph-dweb/dynaweb/findaid/bandler/@Generic__BookView;cs=default;ts=default

Book

Faith : Faith Bandler, gentle activist, Lake, Marilyn, 2002

The black Diggers : Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders in the Second World War, Hall, Robert A., 1997

Turning the tide : a personal history of the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders, Bandler, Faith, 1989

Faith Bandler [videorecording] : born 1920 : civil rights activist, Heimans, Frank, 1993c

Marani in Australia, Bandler, Faith; Fox, Len, 1980

The Time was ripe : a history of the Aboriginal-Australian Fellowship (1956-69), Bandler, Faith; Fox, Len, 1983

Wacvie, Bandler, Faith, 1977

Welou, my brother, Bandler, Faith, 1984c

Australian literature : an historical introduction, McLaren, John, 1989

Australian women writers : a bibliographic guide, Adelaide, Debra, 1988

Talkin' up to the white woman : Aboriginal women and feminism, Moreton-Robinson, Aileen, 2000

Newspaper Article
Betrayal [White attitudes to Indigenous people], Marr, David, 20 May 2000

Keeping the faith [Although she has faith in youth and the future, Faith Bandler grieves for the life she has lost in the battle for rights], Hope, Deborah, 1998

Faith -Bandler-, a vision splendid, Stephens, Tony, 1991

A lifetimes accomplishment [Faith Bandler], Secord, Walt, 1989

Details of pioneers in Aboriginal movement., Horner, Jack, 1972

Faith lives in world Bandler touched, Robinson, Natasha, 2015

Journal Article
Paving the way : a tribute to black Australian writers. [Keynote speech given at the presentation of the New South Wales Premier's Literary Awards (1993)], Bandler, Faith, 1999

They spoke out pretty good: the leadership of women in the Brisbane Aboriginal rights movement, 1958/ 1962, Darling, Elaine, 1996

2001 Eldershaw Memorial Lecture : founding fathers, dutiful wives and rebellious daughters.[Lecture presented to a Tasmanian Historical Research Association meeting on 10 Apr 2001.], Lake, Marilyn, 2001

Citizenship as Non-discrimination: Acceptance or Assimilation? Political Logic and Emotional Investment in Campaigns for Indigenous Rights in Australia, 1940 TO 1970, Lake, Marilyn, 2001

Book Section
Aboriginal women, Richards, Michaela, 1988

Australian land rights policy, Bandler, Faith, 1987

Conference Proceedings
Reports and resolutions, Conference on Aboriginal Affairs (8th : 1965 : Canberra, A.C.T.), 1965

Resource
Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Site Exhibition
The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth-Century Australia, Smart, Judith and Swain, Shurlee (eds.), 2014,
http://www.womenaustralia.info/leaders

Archival resources

National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection
Papers of Jack and Jean Horner, 1956-2003 [manuscript]

AIATSIS Film Collection
Aboriginal women farm workers during World War II - three archival film interviews

AIATSIS Manuscript and Rare Books Collection
Annual report by N.S.W. State Secretary

Mitchell and Dixson Libraries Manuscripts Collection
Aboriginal National Theatre Trust Limited - files, 1902-1991

Women's Redress Press - book files, 1976-1996, including correspondence, contracts, readers' reports, reviews and photographs

Collection 01: Faith Bandler papers, 1968-1992

Series 04: Faith Bandler interviewed by Carolyn Craig, 1997

Collection 02: Faith Bandler further papers, 1875, 1945-1997

Ros Bowden - interviews conducted for radio programs and documentaries, ca.1975 - 1989

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies
FCAATSI Oral History Project

National Portrait Gallery
Bust of Faith Bandler by Julie Edgar

Portrait of Faith Bandler by Greg Warburton

Portrait of Faith Bandler by Alison Alder

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