

# NEW [acquisitions]



Matthew Bradley, captain of ATSIC Chairman XI, and Dawn Casey, Director, National Museum of Australia.

## The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Chairman XI Indigenous cricket collection

On 19 April 2001, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) Chairman Mr Geoff Clarke in conjunction with Prime Minister Howard embarked on a one-day cricket match that drew on the talents of a select group of Indigenous and non-Indigenous players. The aim of this match was to encourage and promote the role of young Indigenous cricketers in the sport today, while also commemorating the significance of the first Australian cricket team to tour England in 1868, which was an all-Aboriginal team from the western districts of Victoria. On 8 March 2002, a second match was held featuring an array of talented young Indigenous and non-Indigenous players.

It was prior to this second match that the Museum had the opportunity to collect objects from both matches. The ATSIC Chairman XI Indigenous cricket team came to the Museum for a curatorial tour of the First Australians gallery and to present a collection of objects to the Director of the Museum, Dawn Casey. The objects ranged from players' caps, players' outfits, match posters, programs, videos, CD ROMs and a signed cricket bat from the 2001 Indigenous team. These objects will fill a significant gap in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program collection and will give us the opportunity to document the involvement of Indigenous sportspeople today.

Tina Baum

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program

## New Torres Strait Islander exhibition to open

The *Paipa* exhibition explores the four directions of the wind (north, south, east and west) that has drawn people to and from the Torres Strait to mainland Australia. *Paipa* — meaning windward — is from the western Torres Strait Islands language, Kala Lagaw Ya.

*Paipa* will depict the different waves of migration of Torres Strait Islanders to mainland Australia and the impacts of the social history, economic, cultural and environmental changes that have occurred.

The themes of *Paipa* include coming of the light (the introduction of Christianity to the Torres Strait), the pearling and fishing industries (movement towards Western Australia), the cane-cutting industry (along the Queensland coast), the Second World War and finally, young people's perspectives on the environment. Objects range from historical pieces of the nineteenth century to contemporary forms acquired in 2002.

*Paipa* opens on 8 July 2002. See the calendar of events on pages 12–13 for details of a talk and tour of this exhibition on 25 July.

Leilani Bin-Juda

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program



Crocodile dance headdress, James Eseli Badu Island National Museum of Australia