

**The Diaries of Frank Hurley 1912-1941***Edited by Robert Dixon and Christopher Lee*

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Description

The first illustrated edition of the diaries kept by Australian-born photographer and film maker Frank Hurley.

'Frank Hurley's diaries are a gripping record of two parallel adventures, as a photographer on the new frontiers of exploration in Antarctic ice and Papuan jungle and as a showman amid the new thrills of modernity, publicity and the cinema. He is the twentieth century.' —*Richard White, Senior Lecturer in Australian History, University of Sydney*

'Frank Hurley's words are almost as graphic as his photos in conveying the unfamiliar. His diaries complement his artwork, and take readers into the foreign landscapes of Antarctica, New Guinea and the World Wars. Reading them is to share the thrills – and the frustrations and vanities – of his journeys of discovery.' —*Martin Crotty, Senior Lecturer in History, University of Queensland*

Frank Hurley is best known today as a photographer and film maker. His major documentary films include *The Home of the Blizzard*, *In the Grip of the Polar Pack Ice*, *Sir Ross Smith's Flight and Pearls and Savages*, while his photographs of Douglas Mawson's Australasian Antarctic Expedition, Ernest Shackleton's Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition and the two World Wars have been so widely exhibited and reproduced that in many cases they are the principal means by which we have come to see those world-historical events. Yet there is another source, so far little known to the public, which also gives us a startling sense of the presence of the past: it is Hurley's voluminous manuscript diaries, only brief extracts from which have so far been published. Originally written in the field in Antarctica, South Georgia, England, France, the Middle East, Papua and Australia, and later raided and revised for his many publications and stage performances, they have survived years of world travel and are now carefully preserved in the archives of the National Library of Australia in Canberra and the Mitchell Library in Sydney. This illustrated edition of his diaries presents Frank Hurley in his own words, explores his testimony to these significant events, and reviews the part he played in imagining them for an international public.

Readership: The diaries will be of interest to the general reader with interests in polar and military history, and early photographic and cinema history.

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Robert Dixon is Professor of Australian Literature at the University of Sydney. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities and a past-President of the Association for the Study of Australian Literature, and has published widely on Australian literature, postcolonialism, Australian cultural studies, Australian art history, and early photography and cinema.

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