

# A dictionary for our ever-evolving language, *Macquarie Dictionary* celebrates its Fifth Edition!



**EMBARGO DATE: 27 OCTOBER 2009**

1981. Malcolm Fraser is Prime Minister. *Puberty Blues* screens in cinemas across Australia causing outrage amongst parents. *Wheel of Fortune* hits our television screens, as does *A Country Practice*. The Sin Bin rule is introduced into rugby league, and Leyton Hewitt is born. Lady Diana and Prince Charles marry and are presented with a pair of Koala and Kangaroo motif jumpers...and *The Macquarie Dictionary* is first published.

*The Macquarie Dictionary* takes its name from the colonial governor, Lachlan Macquarie, who, two hundred years ago, transformed New South Wales from a penal colony to a free settlement, thus planting the seeds for the founding of the nation of Australia. In similar fashion to its namesake, *The Macquarie Dictionary* also planted seeds...for the validation of Australian words, thus creating a permanent record of the linguistic melting pot that is the cultural history of Australia.

Since its first publication in 1981, *The Macquarie Dictionary* has backed Australia's efforts to defeat the cultural cringe. It has seen, like, the Americanisation of, like, words from US-sitcoms...like, ya'know. It has adjudicated disputes between the old-school and the new-skool. It has lovingly embraced all the new words that continually come to the fore with its annual *Macquarie Word of the Year* and, like an old friend it is trustworthy and loyal to the Australian vernacular.

The ever-evolving language spoken in Australian schools, workplaces and homes is what makes *The Macquarie Dictionary* unique. Its coverage of Australian English improves with each passing edition, so that the *Macquarie Dictionary Fifth Edition* (November 2009) is the most comprehensive and reliable account of Australian English as it has been, and as it is to date.

***We're proud of our lingo: its earthy origins and dry flowerings, its laconic capture of past and prospect. We proudly mystify outsiders with our affectionate misnamings, our trimmings and parings... The Macquarie speaks uniquely of Australian passage, and the evolution of our life in this place. It speaks more broadly of the way language places us. Our words mark us out as belonging.***

- Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, Foreword, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition.

*The Macquarie Dictionary Fifth Edition* is an entertaining and informative reference with a uniquely Australian point of view. As the world changes, so too does the information become more timely. The growing concern about climate change has led to an emphasis on the environment, prompting the inclusion of many new words relating to our environment, renewable energy and sustainable development.

For the first time, the print dictionary is accompanied by a free e-book edition available from the website, bringing an invaluable reference resource to your fingertips! Macquarie Dictionary Online is also going mobile so now you can get the words you want and the definitions you need while on the go! A variety of iPhone applications will also be released this year. <http://www.macquariedictionary.com.au>

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