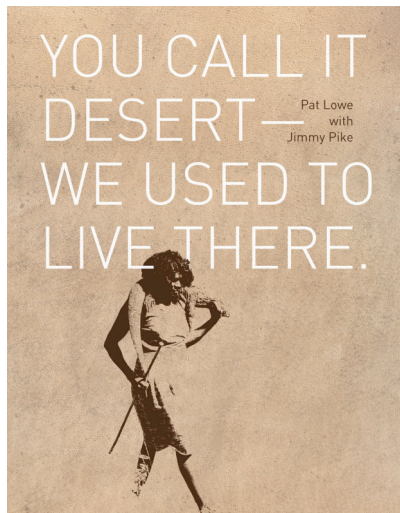


PRESS RELEASE
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Award Winning Artist Records his Life in the Desert



The first draft of this book was written under a tree on the slope of a sandhill where for several years, English woman Pat Lowe shared a desert camp with her lifetime partner, Walmajarri man Jimmy Pike.

Their camp faced south into the Great Sandy Desert where Pike was born. While spending time in the red heart of country that had been home to the Walmajarri people for thousands of years, they recorded Pike's stories through his painting and Lowe's writing.

With Jimmy Pike as her teacher, Pat Lowe explored the day-to-day lives of the desert dwellers. Through her unique understanding of their use of the land, its features and materials, Lowe writes about the resourcefulness and ingenuity of the desert people.

This new edition features over 100 colour photographs taken on their journey, along with an extensive collection of art by Jimmy Pike, one of Australia's best known Aboriginal artists.

Jimmy Pike was born near Japingka, a waterhole in the Great Sandy Desert, in about 1940, and his early years were spent as a hunter and gatherer. He left the desert as a boy when his family moved to a Kimberley cattle station. Like most of his peers, Pike became a stockman. Later he spent several years in prison where he took up painting and soon established an international reputation as an artist. Today his paintings and prints hang in galleries throughout the world. Jimmy Pike died in 2002.

Pat Lowe migrated to Australia from England in 1972 and worked as a clinical psychologist in Western Australian prisons for many years. After seven years in Perth, Lowe moved to the Kimberley. Pat Lowe is an award-winning author.

You call it desert—we used to live there is available from bookshops and on-line at www.magabala.com for \$39.95

Launched in 1987, **Magabala Books** is a not-for-profit Aboriginal Corporation that aims to promote, preserve and publish Indigenous Australian Culture.

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