

MEDIA RELEASE
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THE PILBARA

From the Deserts Profits Come

Bradon Ellem

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With millions of tonnes of iron ore being shipped out to China, Western Australia's Pilbara region is a media staple, through stories of mining companies' profits, the earnings of fly-in-fly-out workers and the wealth of new entrepreneurs.

For all this, what we know about the region - which covers over 500,000 square kilometres across the north-west of WA - remains incomplete.

Since his first trip to Newman in 2001, author Bradon Ellem spent the next 15 years listening and learning about the region.

The result of his exploration is revealed in *The Pilbara: From the Deserts Profits Come*. It traces the Pilbara's ancient history, the unions and their power, and the companies that reinvented the Pilbara through workplace control with fly-in-fly-out labour and 12-hour shifts.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bradon Ellem is a Professor of Employment Relations in the Business School at the University of Sydney. Since 2006, he has been Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Industrial Relations. He is a Senior Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Western Australia Business School.

Bradon has written on many aspects of industrial relations, ranging from a history of the clothing industry to the impact of policy changes such as Work Choices and the Fair Work Act.



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