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# Media Release

MAY RELEASE

## Shaking Hands on the Fringe

Negotiating the Aboriginal World at King George's Sound

By Tiffany Shellam

New release *Shaking Hands on the Fringe* goes beyond common colonial histories of peaceful or violent encounters.

Within this innovative history, Tiffany Shellam, unearths the intricate details of the relationship that formed between the British and the Indigenous inhabitants at King George's Sound in Western Australia, where a garrison was set up to deter the French from occupation.

The British newcomers and the area's Indigenous inhabitants, the King Ya-nup, came to share a small space, forcing both cultures to adapt in order to communicate and interact with one another.

Within this sphere, associations and friendships were formed that were as surprising as they were unique.

Rather than a threatening presence, the newcomers were perceived as potential political allies who might aid the King Ya-nup in their ongoing regional conflicts with their northern neighbours, the formidable Wills people.

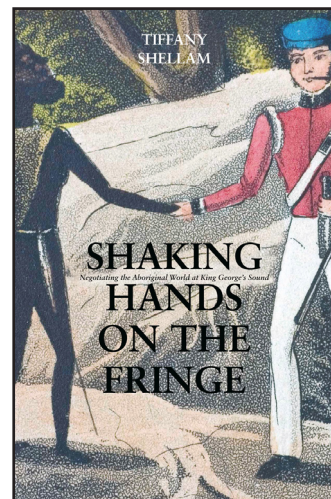
This ethnographic history narrates several intimate cross-cultural stories of the developing relationships between British and Aboriginal individuals and how the Indigenous people used the new scenario to seeming advantage.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Tiffany Shellam** grew up in Perth, Western Australia. She moved to Melbourne to undertake an Arts degree before moving to Canberra to complete her PhD in history at the Australian National University. Tiffany is currently lecturing in Indigenous History at Deakin University in Melbourne and has recently been awarded an Australian Academy of the Humanities Travelling Fellowship.

### MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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ISBN 9781921401268/\$29.95 Pb



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