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Editorial

It has not been a tradition for Koori people to commit their ideas, comments and stories to paper for any great length of time in our long history. It is of course, a gub tool of communication, one that has been used with devastating effectiveness to subjugate and oppress Koori peoples and communities.

It started 200 years ago with the invasion forces who wrote their reports back home to the "old country" about the "savage naked blacks, who roam aimlessly about the land," to the present day vast volumes of literary excreta that pours forth about Koori peoples, our ideas, our communities, our ways, and written by experts on Aboriginal people.

Newspapers generally report biased sensational negative, inaccurate stories about Koori people. Over the past years there has been minimal improvement in this type of reporting but nothing like what is needed in this country.

How do we improve this situation? Simple. WE write produce and cont??? the content of our community newspapers and distribute them far and wide.

Used correctly it is an effective creative tool that will provide us with the opportunity to inform our people in other communities and our own with accurate positive accounts about what is happening.

It will forge greater links of unity and it will be an additional barrier to the divide and rule process.

It is a medium for expression of our accounts, reports, ideas, constructive criticisms, feelings, hopes and aspirations.

It is a tool that we need to maximise to its fullest potential OUR way, to ensure the important issues that we need to address are canvassed widely.

I invite Koori people from all over to contribute, be it politics, culture, sport, poems, stories, whatever - it is YOUR newspaper. I am proud to present the first edition, of what I know will be an important communications link in our community - KOORIER 3.

Your comments, criticisms, suggestions, letters to improve KOORIER 3 are welcome. Please contact the editor.