

## Tim Flannery

### 2007 Australian of the Year



Dr Tim Flannery is one of Australia's leading thinkers and writers. An internationally acclaimed scientist, explorer and conservationist, he has published more than 90 scientific papers and written many books including definitive ecological histories of Australia (*The Future Eaters*) and North America (*The Eternal Frontier*) and the landmark essay *Beautiful Lies: Population and Environment in Australia*.

His interests aren't restricted to biology, though. Tim has also written *1788*, a bestseller about the early years of British colonisation, editing and republishing contemporary accounts.

Other works include "*The Eternal Frontier: An Ecological History of North America and its Peoples*, *Throwim Way Leg: An Adventure*, and *Country: a continent, a scientist & a kangaroo*. He has written articles for a broad range of journals from literary magazines to specialist scientific journals and mass-circulation magazines

Tim appears regularly on radio and is often called on as expert commentator on a wide range of environmental and social issues. He's made numerous television appearances and also a television series for ABCTV based on *The Future Eaters*.

He writes regularly for *The New York Review* and the *Times Literary Supplement* and he has edited and introduced many historical works including *The Birth of Sydney* and *The Birth of Melbourne*. In 2002 he was invited to give the Australia Day address to the nation.

His pioneering research as a field biologist in New Guinea prompted Sir David Attenborough to describe him as being in the league of the world's great explorers and the travel writer Redmond O'Hanlon to remark, "He's discovered more new species than Charles Darwin."

Tim Flannery spent a year as professor of Australian studies at Harvard, where he taught in the Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology. Nearer to home he is an active member of the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists, which reports independently to government on environmental issues of concern to Australians.

He is chairman of the SA Sustainability Roundtable and Premier's Science Council; a director of the Australian Wildlife Conservancy; and the National Geographic Society's representative in Australasia.

In April 2005 he was honoured as Australian Humanist of the Year.

His most recent work, *The Weather Makers* (first published in Australia, October 2005) – concerns the global implications of climate change and its special relevance for Australia.

Together with John Doyle (of '*Roy and HG*' fame) Tim recently appeared on ABC television in the series '*Two Men in a Tinnie*', with John Doyle.