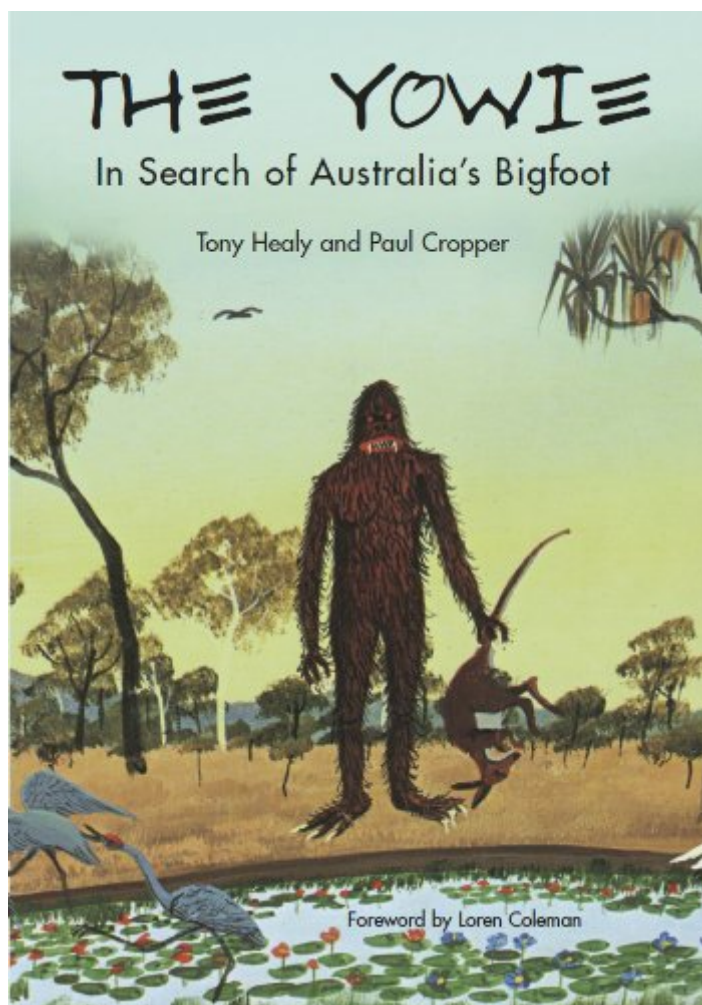


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THE YOWIE: In Search Of Australia's Bigfoot



Synopsis

The most comprehensive, authoritative work on Australia's most baffling zoological mystery. Includes 120 illustrations, an index, and a complete catalog of cases from 1789 to 2006. During the early colonial era, Australia's Aborigines often warned British settlers to beware of huge, ape-like creatures that lurked in the rugged mountains and deep forests of the island continent. Their people, they said, had been encountering the hairy horrors since time immemorial. They knew them by many names, including "doolagarl," "thoolagarl," "jurrawarra," and "tjangara." Soon the colonists, too, began to experience hair-raising encounters with the hulking, foul-smelling creatures, which they referred to as "Australian apes," "yahoos," or "youries." Today, they are generally referred to as yowies. The list of modern-day eyewitnesses includes zoologists, rangers, surveyors, and members of the elite Special Air Service Regiment. This book chronicles the yowie saga from the pre-colonial era to the present day. It contains over 300 carefully documented eyewitness reports and a vast amount of other data, much of which suggests that the damnably elusive creatures really do exist. The authors also critically examine the many theories that have been put forward to explain -- or explain away -- Australia's most baffling zoological mystery. PAUL CROPPER became fascinated by the yowie mystery in 1976, when he uncovered several long-forgotten eyewitness reports in colonial-era newspapers. Although then only 14 years old, he began visiting the Blue Mountains, to the west of his home in Sydney, searching for proof of the creatures' existence. Canberra-based TONY HEALY, who had already become intrigued by the bigfoot/sasquatch phenomenon while working in Canada in 1969, also became involved in yowie research in the mid-1970s. Since 1981 they have collaborated on many projects, notably in co-authoring "Out of the Shadows: Mystery Animals of Australia," which contained a lengthy chapter about the elusive yowie. Over the past 30 years they have searched for lake monsters, hairy giants, out-of-place big cats, and other semi-legendary animals in Fiji, North America, the Bahamas, Iceland, Ireland, Great Britain, Nepal, Malaysia, and in every state and territory of Australia. "The Yowie is a milestone work...It is no small feat to create a classic and thorough reference book that is easily readable by both the everyday person and the hardcore researcher but this is what Healy and Cropper have done..." -- Craig Heinselman, Crypto

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In the realm of mysterious bipedal creature books, there is a tendency for writers to explain the creatures, to hypothesize about what they are, and perhaps shape the data they utilize to support that hypothesis. But, for the researcher and common reader who want to know about the historical and actual reports of events, without hard interpretation, Healy and Cropper have provided one of the best books available on the subject. Until now, the Yowie has been strictly a section with a book, or a reference point. While this has worked well, and offered new aspects in a well done method, it has never thoroughly evaluated the phenomenon or presented the complexity of the mystery. The overshadowing of the Yowie by its North American cousin is now rectified within The Yowie. Healy and Cropper provide the reader with anecdotal, testimonial, historical, native, modern, and evidentiary connections to the Yowie, they utilize the reports gathered first hand and through the collective work of Australian researchers and worldwide researchers. They reintroduce the world to the Yowie, and to what mysteries may still reside in Australia. They also introduce the researchers to the world in a personal light, including Tim the Yowie Man, Dean Harrison, Rex Gilroy and Graham Joyner. Healy and Cropper no strangers to the subject, and have collectively spent over 50 years researching the subject. It was not until The Yowie however that the entire research basis has been available, consisting of over 300 documented events, from the one person sightings to mass sightings, from up-close and personal glimpses, to distance sights.

The Yowie: In Search of Australia's Bigfoot by Tony Healy and Paul Cropper is an impressive historical record of sightings of the large Bigfootlike animal known as the Yowie. The book begins with the shocking experience on March 5, 1978 of Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service ranger Percy Window looking for a pig in the jungle and then seeing an eight-foot Yowie, who had a black flat face and large yellow eyes, staring at him -- it is also important to note that later his superiors ordered Window not to talk about the encounter. A drawing by newspaper artist Will Donald as described by surveyor Charles Harper (1840-1930) in 1912 shows the "Bombala Anthropoid" with a small head, long, large canine teeth projecting over the lower lip, long arms, heavy torso, long upper legs, and short lower legs on page 39. Clyde Shepherdson describes his sighting in 1938 or 1939 between Nanango and Maidenwell, Queensland of a six-foot Yowie, who had rusty-yellow fur, a flat, broad face, fangs, a flat nose, and dark facial skin on pages 46-47. Page 69 features a photograph of Dean Harrison, Aaron Carmichael, and a car with a damaged front bumper, which may have been picked up in a collision by an eight-foot Yowie and pushed strongly away so that it smashed into the high embankment along Gilston Road in the Gold Coast hinterland. Pages 70-73 feature the amazing experience in October of 1977 of Bill O'Chee, Craig Jackson, and at least 18 others boys as students of the Southport School at the "Koonjewarre" campground near Springbrook seeing a 2.4-3 meter (7 feet-10.488 inches -- 9 feet-10).

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