

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE0980

## Jackomos, Merle Robertha

(1929 - 2019)

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**Born** 13 June, 1929, Cummeragunja New South Wales Australia

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**Died** 1 April, 2019, Victoria Australia

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**Occupation** Aboriginal rights activist, Author, Community worker

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### Summary

Merle Jackomos, of Yorta Yorta descent, grew up at Cummeragunja, New South Wales. During the famous walk-off of the Cummeragunja people who crossed into Victoria in 1939, Merle and her family were amongst those who stayed to make sure that the station was not closed and sold off by the government. She married Alick Jackomos in 1951, and became involved with the Aborigines Advancement League of Victoria. She helped found the National Aboriginal and Islander Women's Council of which she became Victorian vice-president, and the Northcote Aboriginal women's refuge. In 1972 she was elected to the Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Council. She was later appointed director of Aboriginal Hostels Ltd, and in 1981 was elected to the National Aboriginal Conference, of which she remained a member until its abolition in 1985.

### Published resources

#### Edited Book

The Encyclopaedia of Aboriginal Australia : Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, society and culture, Horton, David, 1994

#### Journal Article

The History of Lake Tyers, Jackomos, Merle, 1971

The History of Lake Tyers, Jackomos, Merle, 1976

History of Cummeragunga and Maloga, Jackomos, Merle R, 1977

Museum of Victoria. Daughters of a Dreaming, Jackomos, Merle, 1990

#### Newspaper Article

Australian Aborigines in the News, Jackomos, M

#### Book

Living Aboriginal History of Victoria: Stories in the Oral Tradition, Jackomos, A. and Fowell, D., 1991

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

## Archival resources

### **AIATSIS Pictorial Collection**

[Aborigines Advancement League of Victoria - Group portraits from the Conscience Calling Ball 1961](#)

[Historical images from Victoria, 1880 - 1984](#)

[Alick and Merle Jackomos - wedding day at St Augustins](#)

### **AIATSIS Manuscript and Rare Books Collection**

[Life on an Aboriginal reserve - Cummeragunja / by Merle Robertha Jackomos nee Morgan, \[1980\]](#)

### **Author Details**

Leonarda Kovacic

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