



New in the library

The following books have been selected from the range of new additions. These notes are indicative of a book's subject matter, but are not intended as critical comment or review. The ABA invites the public to use the Library for research purposes, by appointment. The Library's e-mail address is library@aba.gov.au

Review of the pay television code of broadcasting practice

Phillipa Ballard. Wellington: Broadcasting Standards Authority, 1997. ISBN 0477018114

The review of the New Zealand pay TV code of broadcasting practice began in March 1995 and took two years to complete. Its conclusions and recommendations are a culmination of a lengthy review process, and take into account the views of individuals, groups and a cross section of the public. It examines the existing code and makes recommendations as to whether any changes should be made. The recommendations are made acknowledging the principles of freedom of expression, and balancing the rights under the Bill of Rights Act with the responsibility of the Authority to administer and give effect to the regulatory regime set down under the Broadcasting Act. The Authority recommends that a single code of practice should be developed for free-to-air and pay TV broadcasters. Another recommendation proposes one system of classification which applies to all television broadcasters and which uses symbols which are distinct from those used for films and videos. Classification symbols should be linked to time band restrictions. Recommendations are also made in connection with appropriate warning on programs and regarding classification guidelines for promotions for forthcoming programs.

Australia on the small screen 1970-1995: the complete guide to tele-features and mini-series

Scott Murray. Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 1996. ISBN 0195539494

Australian films are recognised as some of the world's finest and innovative, but not all of them are to be found on cinema screens. Some of the



best film drama has been made exclusively for television. Television may be the 'small screen', but the best ranks among the high points of Australian drama. This book, a companion book to *Australian Films 1978-1994*, examines the highly successful area of mini-features and tele-features. Its primary aim is to record a film's or mini-series' major technical and cast credits, which where possible have been taken from the film or a video copy. Production information not carried in the credits is incorporated in the credit blocks, where known. Also included is a brief synopsis of each film or mini-series. The book is fully illustrated.

The inside story of BSKyB

Mathew Horsman. London: Orion Business Books, 1997. ISBN 0752811967

In this book, Mathew Horsman reveals how BSKyB became one of the major corporate success stories of the decade.

The company is now worth £7.5 billion on the stock market and generates more than £1 billion a year in revenues. The author shows how the company shrugged off fierce criticism from traditionalists in the media, concerned politicians and the mainstream press who express concern about the growing power of BSKyB's controlling shareholder, Rupert Murdoch. He charts the company's recent falterings — the departure of its high profile chief executive, Sam Chisholm, its high-risk preparations for the digital revolution, and the growing alarm of regulators in Britain and Europe, aghast at the company's dominant power in pay TV. The story of BSKyB is the story of an industry, a management team, new technologies and new social forces. Its success was due to breathtaking risks, light regulation and a knack for knowing just how much the viewers were willing to pay. British television was radically transformed as a result.

