

THE SOURCE

White's insights

'The voice of our country's conscience' is Dorothy Green's description of Patrick White in the preliminary pages of a recent collection of White's addresses and interviews.

The thirty-two pieces in this collection — most of which are published here for the first time — cover a range of political, social, environmental and moral concerns over a span of 30 years. Green bans, uranium, the Sydney monorail ('Monsterail'), Whitlam, Kerr, Hayden, the Bicentenary, Hiroshima, the Hawke Government: these are but a few of the subjects traversed with characteristic forthrightness in *Patrick White speaks*.

It is stimulating reading. I enjoyed once more White's address at the 1980 opening of Australian Library Week, with his impassioned support for the printed word, and, incidentally, an appealing vignette of the Mitchell Library through the eyes of White when a toddler.

Patrick White speaks was published in 1989 by Primavera Press and costs \$16.95 in paperback (ISBN 0 9589494 6 8) and \$29.95 in hard cover (ISBN 0 9589494 7 6).

Female roles — fact and fiction

The dramatic change in the role of women in Australian society since World War II is the focus of Anne Hazell's recent publication *Reflections of reality*, published by Auslib Press. Julie Barkman, Children's and Youth Services Consultant at the State Library of New South Wales, describes it as 'noteworthy reading'.

'Anne Hazell's aim,' writes Julie, 'was to establish if the female characters in adolescent fiction written between 1947 and 1986 genuinely reflected the behaviour and attitudes of adolescent girls at the time the novel was set.'

'Against previous and well-documented research on adolescent girls in Australia, 220 young adult novels are

reviewed. Changing attitudes to relationships and the prominent social issues of racism, sexuality and drugs are closely examined. Focusing mainly on novels in which adolescent girls are the main characters, Hazell finds a strong correlation between attitudes and behaviour of the fictional females and their role in contemporary society. The soundness of Hazell's research makes for noteworthy reading, especially for librarians, teachers and others with an interest in and knowledge of young adult literature in Australia, as well as providing a good reference to this literature.'

Reflections of reality: female roles in Australian adolescent fiction since World War II by Anne M. Hazell was published by Auslib Press in 1989 and costs \$20.00 plus \$3.00 postage. (ISBN 1 875145 02 8)

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A path through the minefield

How should you receive a gift? How would you select a trustee? Are you liable for the advice you give? Can you benefit from the Taxation Incentives for the Arts Scheme?

If you are a museum or gallery curator the answers to questions such as these (or at least good clues) can be found in a useful little book published by Redfern Legal Centre Publishing. Shane Simpson's *Museums and galleries: a practical legal guide* tackles every imaginable legal angle of running a gallery or museum. In many cases the information and advice will prove equally beneficial for library managers, especially those with collections of original or rare materials.

What is 'responsible reproduction'? How can you merchandise materials relating to your collections? What are the legal implications of sponsorship? Do you have enough insurance? In a useful chapter Simpson also deals with ethical aspects of working in a gallery or museum. He covers the national and international protection of cultural material, provides a sample loan agreement for a public museum, lists corporate affairs offices around Australia, and rounds off with a helpful glossary and a good index.

Museums and galleries: a practical legal guide by Shane Simpson was published by Redfern Legal Centre Publishing in 1989 and costs \$29.95. It's highly recommended. (ISBN 0 947205 10 1)

'A fearless and passionate rebel'

'Australia's most bewitching playwright and poet' was one critic's description of the creator of *Rapunzel in suburbia*, *The man from Mukinupin* and *Bobbin up*. Hal Porter wrote that this writer's reminiscences 'make the rest of us sound like superannuated bank clerks.'

The writer in question? Dorothy Hewett, now the subject of a very useful bibliography by Anne Casey published earlier this year by ALIA Press. This 140-item annotated bibliography — winner of the 1988 Metcalfe Medalion — covers the works of Hewett in all their variety, criticism and interpretation of her work, theses and biographical material. The latter ranges from archival materials to films about, and interviews with, Dorothy Hewett. There is a good chronology of Hewett's life, and a thorough index. This is a most promising start to a series of ALIA Special Publications, and a welcome addition to the range of reference works on Australian literature.

Anne Casey's *Dorothy Hewett: a bibliography*, published in 1989 by ALIA Press, costs \$20.00 (ALIA members) or \$25 (non-members) plus \$1.50 postage. (ISBN 0 86804 440 7)

David J. Jones



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