

non-fiction



knowit

July - August 2001

No. 254

Official Newsletter of The Library and Information Service of Western Australia



ROBERT DREWE
The shark net
memories and murder

young adults

The Western Australian Premier's Book Awards 2000

fiction

parochial

poetry



- Your Guide to Knowledge

children's



Claire Forte,
Acting CEO and
State Librarian

The highlight for LISWA over the last few months has been the presentation of the Premier's Book Awards 2000 at a dinner held in the Alexander Library Building on Friday 15 June. We were delighted that the Premier was able to personally present the awards to the winning authors. We have had some very positive feedback on the success of the evening and LISWA is pleased to have organised the event again this year. Our congratulations go to Michèle Drouart, the winner of the Premier's Prize, and to the winning authors in each of the categories.

Another important occasion for LISWA has been the unveiling of a portrait of Dr Lynn Allen, LISWA's CEO and State Librarian from 1989-2001. The portrait, by WA artist Peter Kendall, was commissioned by the Library Board of WA and will take its place of honour alongside portraits of Dr J S Battye, Professor Fred Alexander, and photographs of former State Librarians, Mr Bob Sharman and Mr F A (Ali) Sharr. The portrait was unveiled by The Hon. Sheila McHale, Minister for Culture & the Arts, at a function held in Lynn's honour on 24 May 2001.

We are delighted to announce that the new State Library Shop, promoting Western Australian writing and publishing is open seven days a week, with a vibrant and enticing shop front accessible from the ground floor. We hope you will take some time to have a browse through the shop when next you visit us.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank Pat Gallaher, who has recently retired after many years dedicated to advancing services in public libraries, including the last 20 years as Regional Librarian of Geraldton. Well done Pat - you will be missed by us all.

what's on @ THE STATE LIBRARY

Admission Free (unless otherwise indicated)

EXHIBITIONS

"22 Days Late : an Ode to Federation"

June - September 2001
Centre for the Book
Ground floor, Alexander Library Building
For information, contact: Public Programs (08) 9427 3151

DISPLAYS

Opening of First Australian Parliament 1901

July - August 2001
Social Sciences Library
First floor, Alexander Library Building

"At the Bottom of the Garden"

July - August 2001
Industry & Technology Library
2nd Floor, Alexander Library Building

"The Big Top: Circuses Past & Present"

July 2001
Music & Performing Arts Library
2nd floor, Alexander Library Building

"Centenary of Federation: Architecture"

July 2001
Arts & Literature Library
Ground floor, Alexander Library Building

SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday Matinee

Every Wednesday 12:30pm
Alexander Library Building Theatre
Screening info: (08) 9427 3159

Sunday Cinema

4.30pm - 9.00pm
Alexander Library Building Theatre
Screening information:
Jane Leahy (08) 9380 1781

Ghost Towns

July 2001
Battye Library
3rd floor, Alexander Library Building

"Centenary of Federation: Development of Religion"

August - September 2001
Arts & Literature Library
Grd floor, Alexander Library Building

"Disney and Beyond: Animated film from Hollywood to Bristol"

August - September 2001
Music & Performing Arts Library
2nd floor, Alexander Library Building

Census 2001

July 2001
Battye Library
3rd floor, Alexander Library Building

Children's Book Week

18 - 30 August 2001
Readers' Centre
Mezz. floor, Alexander Library Building

Assoc. for the Blind Technology Expo

23 - 25 August 2001
Centre for the Book
Ground floor, Alexander Library Building
Contact: David Gribble (08) 9311 8233



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Deadline for issue no. 255 (Sep - Oct '01) - **17 August 2000**

The Library and Information Service of Western Australia

Alexander Library Building, Perth Cultural Centre, Perth WA 6000 Tel: (08) 9427 3111 Fax: (08) 9427 3256
Website: www.liswa.wa.gov.au



COVER: Premier's Book Awards 2000 prize winning entries: *Into the Wadi* by Michèle Drouart (Premier's Prize and Non-Fiction prize winner), *Zarconi's Magic Flying Fish* by Kirsty Murray (Children's), *The Shark Net* by Robert Drewe (Non-Fiction), *Parochial* by Mark Reid (Poetry), *The Australian Fiancé* by Simone Lazaroo (Fiction), and *The Darkness* by Anthony Eaton (Young Adults).

knowit reserves the right to edit all articles. Views expressed do not necessarily reflect those of *knowit* or The Library and Information Service of Western Australia. All articles must be supplied with a name and contact details for verification.

WA Premier's Book Awards 2000



Author Michèle Drouart and the Premier of Western Australia, The Hon. Dr Geoff Gallop, with her Premier's Prize winning book, *Into the Wadi*. Ms Drouart's book also won a prize in the Non-Fiction category, as did *The Shark Net* by Robert Drewe (pictured below)



Western Australian author Michèle Drouart has taken out the State's top book prize for the year 2000. *Into the Wadi* was awarded the \$20,000 Premier's Prize, selected from an illustrious group of WA authors which included previous years' winners Dorothy Hewett and Robert Drewe. The presentations were made at a gala dinner held in the Alexander Library Building on June 15.

The judging panel described her very personal story of an Australian woman's marriage into a Jordanian family as "a moving, metaphorical account, often rendered with a fiction writer's detached point of view, which reminds us that examination of cultural difference need not relapse into crude stereotypes of orientalism. A brilliant antidote, moreover, to the 'Western woman's escape from the barbaric Arab world' genre of popular weeklies."

Michèle Drouart was also one of the two winners of a new category - Non-Fiction. The category is a combination of the two very popular previous categories, *Historical and Critical Studies* and the *Special Award*. The second winner in the Non-Fiction category was Robert Drewe for his book *The Shark Net*. Surprisingly, neither of the two winning entries can be described as an Historical and Critical Study, as both derive from very personal memoirs.

The other winners in the WA Premier's Book Awards for 2000 were:

Fiction Award:

Simone Lazaroo for *The Australian Fiancé*

Poetry Award:

Mark Reid for *Parochial*

Children's Award:

Kirsty Murray for *Zarconi's Magic Flying Fish*

Dymock's Young Adults Award:

Anthony Eaton for *The Darkness*

Each category carries a \$5,000 prize.

This year's awards attracted 118 entries and covered a period of 15 months. The prize money for the awards is provided by the WA State Government, with the Young Adults award being sponsored by Dymock's Perth Hay Street Mall store. The Premier's Book Awards are organised and presented by The Library and Information Service of WA, and past winners and further information, including the Judge's Reports, can be obtained from LISWA's web site at:

<http://www.liswa.wa.gov.au/pba.html>

More pictures of the Premier's Book Awards night on The Back Page

Save our *Film!* a unique part of our heritage

4



Still frame from Fred Murphy's film *Dreams and Screams* (c.1923)
- only preserved films can have stills made (photo: Battye Library)

For more than 30 years the Battye Library has been carefully collecting examples of Western Australia's motion picture heritage for addition to the State Film Archives. Today, the Archives collection contains many unique, or rare, moving images of the State's political, economic and social history throughout the twentieth century.

Preserving Western Australia's Motion Picture History

Preserving motion pictures is a labour intensive and expensive task. Each film is regularly examined to check for deterioration or damage and a decision is made regarding the work to be undertaken to conserve it. This can be very expensive because repairing and copying film can cost up to \$200 per minute of film. More expense is incurred in the production of viewing copies or videotape for use by the public. The preservation copy must be stored in a controlled environment to ensure its long-term survival.

Preservation Partnership

The Western Australian State Library Custodians invite you to assist in the preservation of these important records of our history by selecting one of the films detailed below and contributing to its preservation. Donations will be received through the Save Our Century Fund and are tax deductible.

Each film you select for attention will bear the following message to be seen every time it is viewed: ***This film has been preserved and can be viewed today because of the generous donation of [name of individual or organisation] to the Save Our Century Fund.***

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Films Needing your Assistance

The small selection of films listed below are all of Western Australian origin and are the only known copies in existence. Titles range from government-made films of the 1950s to films promoting the relaxed lifestyle and the beaches enjoyed by the people of Western Australia. Award winning films on the mining boom of the 1960s and the development of the Pilbara iron ore industry have been included because of their importance in attracting prospective migrants to our shores. All these films need preservation work and, with financial help, can be saved for the enjoyment of future generations.

<i>The Daily Miracle, 1947</i>	\$1,000
Making the <i>West Australian</i> newspaper. Shows the process of creating and printing from beginning to end.	
<i>Mt Newman, 1969</i>	\$3,550
Construction and early operation of the world's biggest iron ore mine. Received an Award for Creative Excellence at the Chicago Festival, 1969.	
<i>Moving Mountains, 1969</i>	\$1,050
Documentary about the Hamersley Iron development at Mt Tom Price and the transport of iron ore to Dampier by rail.	
<i>University without Gates, 1948</i>	\$1,050
A brief outline of the history of the University of Western Australia including a survey of Western Australia's primary production and development.	
<i>The Clothes you Wear, 1958</i>	\$2,075
Shows the variety of fashion and utility clothing made in WA.	
<i>The Mineral Wealth of Western Australia, 1963</i>	\$4,100
Covers the major developments in mineral exploration in W.A. in the late 1950s and early 1960s.	
<i>The Capricorn Contract, 1969</i>	\$4,100
Shows the construction of the 265 mile Mount Newman-Port Hedland railway. Won an international award for its cinematography.	
<i>A Message from the trees, 1958</i>	\$950
Shows why timber forests should be preserved. Early conservation film.	
<i>Westralian Homes, 1949</i>	\$2,450
A film about home building, arising from War Service Settlement and other post-World War II housing construction schemes.	

<i>Destination Broome, 1968(?)</i>	\$1,175
Tourist promotional film of Broome. First tourist promotional film shot specifically on Broome.	
<i>All points North, 1957</i>	\$1,450
Follows the MMA route from Perth to Wyndham. At each stopover local scenery and development is shown.	
<i>We Like it Here, 1973</i>	\$3,300
A look at the way people live in the mining communities of the Pilbara. A very well-made recruitment film intended to attract potential employees.	
<i>Salute to Citizenship, 1948</i>	\$1,375
Film about the state of the education system in Western Australia and its influence as building an appreciation of citizenship in the young.	
<i>Beaches and Boats, 1964</i>	\$6,350
Promotional film about the beach attractions and boating activities in WA. Includes footage of water sports, yachting, boating and surfing.	

Films Already Saved

<i>The Golden West, 1929</i>	Documentary commemorating the Centenary of Western Australia in 1929 and promoting the development of the State over 100 years.
<i>Official film of the Busy Bee organised to repair the main road between Cottesloe and North Fremantle, 1912</i>	This 'busy bee' was organised to repair the road between Cottesloe and North Fremantle.
<i>A Trip to Rottnest, 1912</i>	Promotion of Rottnest as a tourist destination. A few years earlier Rottnest had been a prison. Western Australia's first promotional film.
<i>Rendezvous with Summer, 1958 (?)</i>	A filmed survey of post-World War II Perth during summer. Silent film that was shown publicly, mostly in Britain, with commentary given by the film makers.

Goodbye Pat ...and thanks for all the books!



Pat Gallaher

A New Chapter for Pat Gallaher

Like the blurb on the jacket of a good book, an adequate description of Pat Gallaher's library years cannot be reduced to a few sentences. Her story is one of significant achievement for her communities, both local and regional.

Over the years, Pat has helped advance public librarianship in WA. For 20 years she steered the Geraldton Regional Library through continual growth - from a manual operation to one that is fully automated, from a bookstock of 23,000 to over 45,000. Through all that Pat was a strong supporter of LISWA.

It was typical of community-minded Pat that, when she retired in May, she did so in the hope that someone else with fresh vision and impetus would take the library further forward in this new century.

The book on Pat Gallaher is not yet closed. Another chapter began almost immediately on retirement with her election as a City of Geraldton councillor. Her great drive, zeal for work and commitment to the community will surely continue the Pat Gallaher story for many years to come. All her friends at LISWA wish her well.

State Records Act 2000

State Records (Consequential Provisions) Act 2000

The *State Records Act 2000* and the *State Records (Consequential Provisions) Act 2000* received royal assent on 6 December 2000. The *State Records Act 2000* provides for an independent State Records Commission with standards-setting, auditing and reporting responsibilities, and will be accountable directly to Parliament. The Commission will establish, amongst other things, the principles and standards governing recordkeeping by government organisations.

The State Records Act makes provision for State and Local Government organisations to create what will be known as "record-keeping plans". A government organisation's plan must comply with the principles and standards established by the Commission. Government organisations will have two years after the principles and standards first come into operation to submit their draft plans to the Commission.

In conjunction with the Commission, the State Records Office (SRO) will naturally advise agencies as soon as there are any developments with regard to the record-keeping plans. Furthermore, following the confirmation of the Commission's requirements for record-keeping plans,

the SRO will run a number of training courses and briefing sessions on how to create and implement record-keeping plans.

The Act also formalises the position and role of Director of State Records. Under the leadership of the Director, the SRO will function as the operational arm of the State Records Commission. The Director, through the SRO, will provide advice, assistance and training for government organisations on record-keeping matters, in particular the preparation of and compliance with their record-keeping plans. The SRO will also continue to provide information about, and public access to, unrestricted State archives in its custody, and will create and maintain a register of all State archives including those not in its custody.

The Act also requires that, unless its record-keeping plan says otherwise, a government organisation must transfer a State archive under its control to the State archives collection when the archive becomes 25 years old. Of course, an organisation may transfer a State archive earlier if it does not require the archive for current administrative purposes.



ABOVE: The Minister for the Arts, The Hon. Sheila McHale, unveils the portrait of LISWA's former CEO and State Librarian, Lynn Allen

Former LISWA CEO captured on canvas

The Minister for the Arts, The Hon Sheila McHale, unveiled the portrait of former Chief Executive Officer and State Librarian, Dr Lynn Allen at a function on 24 May 2001. The portrait was commissioned by The Library Board of WA to acknowledge Lynn's 12 years of service as State Librarian and CEO. The portrait was painted by artist Peter Kendall, who has held a number of exhibitions of his work in Perth and in other major cities in Australia. He is also well known as an illustrator of children's books and won the Premier's Book Awards Children's Books Prize in 1994.



RIGHT: Artist Peter Kendall (left) and the Library Board Chairman Graham McEachran.

The Library Board, in commissioning the portrait of Lynn Allen, ensures that she takes her place as the third Chief Executive Officer and State Librarian of LISWA.

I am sure she is proud to stand beside her predecessors, and her contributions and achievements will long be remembered.

Meet LISWA's visiting scholar

The Library Board of Western Australia is pleased to announce the appointment of **Trisha Kotai-Ewers** as a Visiting Scholar.

Trisha Kotai-Ewers is a Vice-President of the Fellowship of Australian Writers. She is currently engaged in doctoral studies in history at Murdoch University, and has had short stories and articles published. Trisha Kotai-Ewers is the daughter of John K. Ewers, a distinguished teacher and writer, who died in 1978. His first book was published in 1929. In 1947 he retired from teaching to write full-time. Within 12 years he published six major works of fiction and non-fiction, also writing poetry, educational texts and critical essays. He helped establish the State branch of the Fellowship of Australian Writers and coordinated the acquisition and preservation of Tom Collins House in Swanbourne. In association with her mother, Ms Kotai-Ewers edited the autobiography of John K Ewers, *Long Enough for a Joke*, published in 1983.

The Library Board recently acquired the full collection of the manuscripts (both published and unpublished), journals, letters, photographs and other archival material of John K. Ewers. As a Western Australian author of note, the collection is a fine addition to LISWA's heritage collections.

Trisha Kotai-Ewers, as the person who best knows the works and archival material of her father, will sort and provide commentary on her father's collection, producing a bibliography and guide to be published on LISWA's web site.

Another activity Ms Kotai-Ewers will undertake during her period as Visiting Scholar will be to process the records of the Fellowship of Australian Writers at LISWA.



Trisha Kotai-Ewers in the Battye Library Researchers' Room

Through her work it will be easier for researchers to access the collections of John K. Ewers and the Western Australian branch of the Fellowship of Australian Writers.

Spinning the Yarn – or the Story of Wool



L-R: Laurie Foley, Bill Hughes, Olive Hynes and Ronda Jamieson at the donation of historical materials on the WA wool industry to LISWA's collections.

At the initiative of Ron Sheen (President of the Western Australian State Library Custodians), Claire Forte (Acting State Librarian and CEO of LISWA), and Ronda Jamieson (Director of Battye Library), were pleased recently to welcome Bill Hughes, Laurie Foley and Olive Hynes to LISWA. The occasion was the presentation by Mr Hughes of significant business records from Swan Wool Scourers dating from the 1920s and more recent materials from the Hughes Group of Companies. Mr Foley presented a large number of photographs and other materials collected during a lifetime spent working in the wool industry. Mr Hughes has previously made a very generous cash donation to the *Save Our Century Fund* to enable work to be done on collecting and preserving important records of the wool industry. This will lead to material that is very significant in the history of Western Australia being made available to researchers. Staff present were grateful for the genuine interest the visitors showed in the work of the Battye Library, and for what they know can be achieved through the donation to the *Save our Century Fund*.

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a book?
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— anywhere.

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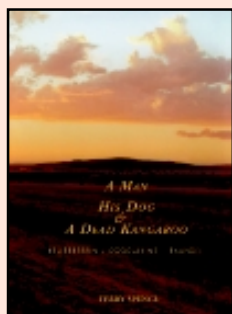

**The
State Library
Shop**

Ground floor
Alexander Library Building
Perth Cultural Centre

Tel: (08) 9427 3211
Fax: (08) 9427 3215

Email:
shop@liswa.wa.gov.au





A Man, His Dog and a Dead Kangaroo
Terry Spence

The pioneers of the Kellerberrin district faced hardship notoriously common to all those early settlers who set out to farm the 18th century lands of Australia. But they prevailed on their isolated patches of soil and carved a future for those who followed. In *A Man, His Dog and a Dead Kangaroo*, Terry Spence gathers their stories into a comprehensive, well-illustrated history spanning 140 years of the Kellerberrin district.

Shire of Kellerberrin, WA 2001

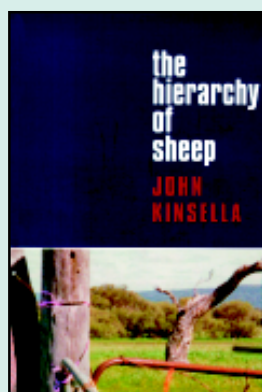


Chloe's Wish

Diana Chase, illustrated by Heather Hummel

Chloe believes that wishes can come true - they float about in the air, just like big round bubbles. And she knows that if you're very lucky you just might pop one, then a fairy godmother will appear with your wish. Chloe knows this because it happened to her - well, kind of. Unfortunately Gloria, Chloe's fairy godmother, has an awful lot of trouble getting the hang of giving wishes.

Fremantle Arts Centre Press, WA 2001

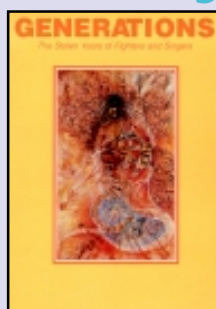


The Hierarchy of Sheep

John Kinsella

"John Kinsella delights in disturbance. He writes a brilliant new Australian pastoral of superphosphates, firebreaks, emu hunts, wheat weighing, rearing tractors and paddy melons....Kinsella writes like an Australian storm at full blow." Helen Dunmore, *Observer*, UK.

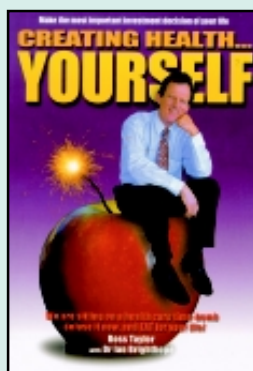
Fremantle Arts Centre Press, WA 2001



Generations: the stolen years of fighters and singers

Generations: The stolen years of fighters and singers was an exhibition at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery at the University of WA in mid-1999. This catalogue is a photographic and text record of participating Aboriginal artists and various Aboriginal community members who shared their talent and personal experiences in the spirit of unity.

Centre for Indigenous History & the Arts,
University of WA, Nedlands WA 1999

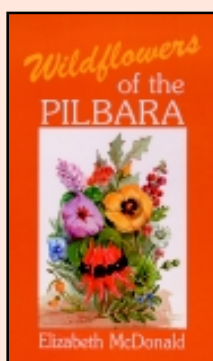


Creating Health - Yourself

Ross B. Taylor with Dr Ian Brighthope

We are sitting on a health care time bomb! Hospital wards are overflowing as more and more sufferers of life-style related diseases join the growing queues. *Creating Health - Yourself* can show you how to prevent life-style related diseases such as cancer, arthritis, diabetes, Alzheimer's and other degenerative diseases easily and without the misery of endless diets and drugs.

Ross B. Taylor (self-published), WA 2000

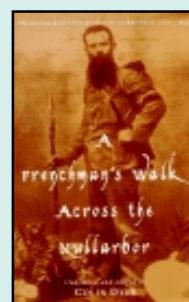


Wildflowers of the Pilbara

Elizabeth McDonald

Wildflowers of the Pilbara is a companion work to Elizabeth McDonald's first work, *Wildflowers of the Wallum*, prompted by a similar concern for the flowers and folklore of a land of natural treasures under threat by the march of progress. Elizabeth McDonald is an award-winning artist and is represented in many private collections.

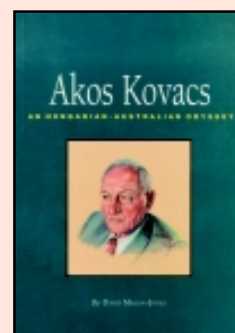
Boolarong Publications, Brisbane QLD 1988



A Frenchman's Walk across the Nullarbor
Translated and edited by Colin Dyer

In the late 19th century, French journalist Henri Gilbert set out to walk around the world. When he came to Australia, he crossed the continent from Perth to Brisbane. He kept a diary of the crossing, a 173-page treasure discovered by chance while Colin Dyer was browsing in the John Oxley Library in Brisbane. Dyer translated Gilbert's diary into English, and the result is a fascinating historical curiosity and a most entertaining glimpse of colonial Australia through a foreigner's eyes.

Melbourne University Press, VIC 2000

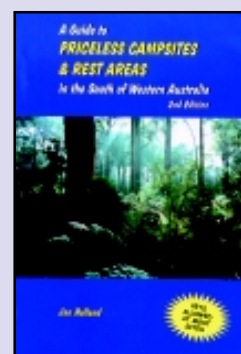


Akos Kovacs: an Hungarian-Australian odyssey

David Mason-Jones

The odyssey that led Akos Kovacs from a rural village in Hungary to Christ Church Grammar School in WA is one of unshakeable will, high adventure and even higher stakes. Fleeing communism, he became trapped in the French foreign legion before deserting to find his way to Australia. Working closely with Kovacs, David Mason-Jones' research in this first-person account is meticulous.

Phillip Mathews Publishers, Sydney NSW 1997



A guide to priceless campsites and rest areas in the South of Western Australia

Jan Holland

This guide covers the whole southern section of the state, from as far north as Kalbarri and Mt Magnet, south to the coast, and east along the Eyre Highway to the WA border. Mud maps show the location of all sites, making it a simple matter to plan that priceless campsite or rest area. *2nd edition.*

Priceless Publishing, Canning Vale WA 2000

All of these books can be found in the Batty Library

Exhibitions & events@LISWA

WA Premier's Book Awards 2000

MORE WINNERS



Simone Lazaroo won the Fiction prize for her novel, *The Australian Fiancé*.



Parochial won the Poetry prize for Mark Reid, pictured with the Premier of Western Australia, The Hon. Dr Geoff Gallop



Acting CEO of LISWA, Claire Forte, and Anthony Eaton, the winner of the Dymock's Young Adults Award for his novel, *The Darkness*.



The Minister for the Arts, The Hon. Sheila McHale, and Kirtsy Murray, winner of the Children's Award for *Zarconi's Magic Flying Fish*.

THE
back
PAGE



An Ode to Federation

AN EXHIBITION

Set to Song

Telling the story of WA's tardiness
in agreeing to federate

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JUNE - SEPTEMBER 2001

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