JASAL is a peer-reviewed journal published online from the website of the National Library of Australia at http://www.nla.gov.au/openpublish/index.php/jasal and sent in hard copy to members of the Association for the Study of Australian Literature and institutional subscribers. Membership and subscription information is at http://asaliterature.com

JASAL is published in a numbered issue once annually, with an additional Special Issue each year. The editors welcome submissions that consider Australian literature in all its forms and in terms of its socio-political and cultural contexts. We encourage comparative studies with other literatures and are particularly interested in contributions that challenge received critical paradigms and contribute to public debate. Contributors should submit work to the editors online from the JASAL website—guidelines are on the website. Submissions are considered at any time of the year.

Editors
Susan Lever
The University of New South Wales, ADFA
Email: s.lever@adfa.edu.au
Tanya Dalziell
The University of Western Australia
E-mail: tanya.dalziell@uwa.edu.au
Paul Genoni
Curtin University of Technology
E-mail: p.genoni@curtin.edu.au

Books for Review
Tanya Dalziell
English, Communication and Cultural Studies
The University of Western Australia
35 Stirling Highway
CRAWLEY. WA 6009

Management Committee
Elizabeth McMahon (chair), Damien Barlow, Alison Bartlett, Bernadette Brennan, Paul Genoni, Alice Healy, Elaine Minor, Brigitta Olubas, Roger Osborne, Monique Rooney, Ralph Spaulding.

Editorial Advisory Committee
W.D. Ashcroft (Hong Kong), Delys Bird, Nicholas Birns (New York), Patrick Buckridge (Griffith), Robert Dixon (Sydney), Carole Ferrier (Queensland), Terry Goldie (Toronto), Dennis Haskell (Western Australia), Peter Kirkpatrick (Western Sydney), Christopher Lee (Southern Queensland), Susan K. Martin (La Trobe), Lyn McCredden (Deakin), Philip Mead (Tasmania), Barbara H. Milech (Curtin), Peter Pierce, Xavier Pons (Toulouse), Susan Sheridan, Elizabeth Webby.

Cover image: Edward Kelly, age 15 (1870), PROV, VPRS 8369/P1, VA 1464
Detail from Edward Kelly to Sergeant Babington, 28/07/1870.
PROV, VPRS 937/P, Unit 272 Document.
http://nedonline.imageneering.net.au/documents/images/KELLY1A.jpg and
Reproduced with the permission of the Keeper of Public Records, Public Record Office Victoria, Australia.

ISSN 1447–8986

Designed by Michael Birch
Printed in Australia by A1 Instant Printing, 7-9 Addison Rd, Marrickville, NSW 2204
Contents

5 Editors’ Note

Articles

Michael Farrell 7 The Black or Unfair Image: The Babington Letter as a Sonnet

Rosalind Smith 17 Dark Places: True Crime Writing in Australia

Len Platt 31 ‘Altogether Better Bred-Looking’: Race and Romance in the Australian Novels of Rosa Praed

Frances Devlin-Glass 45 The Eco-Centric Self and the Sacred in Xavier Herbert’s Poor Fellow My Country

Susan Lever 64 Displaced from the Sacred Sites: David Foster’s In the New Country and The Land Where Stories End

Deborah Jordan 75 ‘All that my love and I/Strive till after we die’: The Courtship Letters of Vance and Nettie Palmer

Emily Bitto 92 ‘Our Own Way Back’: Spatial Memory in the Poetry of David Malouf

Maureen Clark 107 Power, Vanishing Acts and Silent Watchers in Janette Turner Hospital’s The Last Magician

Robert Dixon 121 Ghosts in the Machine: Modernity and the Unmodern

Jared Thomas 138 Aboriginal Voices: Up Front and Centre

Reviews

Delys Bird 148 A Companion to Australian Literature Since 1900 edited by Nicholas Birns and Rebecca McNeer
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cheryl Taylor</td>
<td>152</td>
<td><em>The Littoral Zone</em> edited by CA Cranston and Robert Zeller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Henningsgaard</td>
<td>156</td>
<td><em>Australian Classics</em> by Jane Gleeson-White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Bongiorno</td>
<td>161</td>
<td><em>The Seacoast of Bohemia</em> by Peter Kirkpatrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyn McCredden</td>
<td>166</td>
<td><em>Stressing the Modern: Cultural Politics in Australian Women's Poetry</em> by Ann Vickery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad Habel</td>
<td>170</td>
<td><em>Bias: Offensively Chinese-Australian</em> by Ouyang Yu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jill Kitson</td>
<td>174</td>
<td><em>Talking and Listening in the Age of Modernity</em> edited by Joy Damousi and Desley Deacon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Hughes-D’Aeth</td>
<td>177</td>
<td><em>Just Words: Australian Authors Writing for Justice</em> edited by Bernadette Brennan; <em>Tolerance, Prejudice, Fear</em> edited by Gideon Haigh et al.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigitta Olubas</td>
<td>182</td>
<td><em>Power Plays: Australian Theatre and the Public Agenda</em> by Hilary Glow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Hassall</td>
<td>185</td>
<td><em>The Third Metropolis: Imagining Brisbane through Art and Literature 1940-1970</em> by William Hatherell; <em>Words to Walk By: Exploring Literary Brisbane</em> by Todd Barr and Rodney Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Pender</td>
<td>189</td>
<td><em>David Foster: The Satirist of Australia</em> by Susan Lever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gillian Whitlock</td>
<td>193</td>
<td><em>Australian Literature: Postcolonialism, Racism, Transnationalism</em> by Graham Huggan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

198 **Notes on Contributors**