

# Editors' Note

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This is the second issue of *JASAL* produced in 2007. Tanya Dalziell and Paul Genoni, the convenors of the 2006 ASAL conference in Perth, have edited a special issue, entitled *Spectres, Screens, Shadows, Mirrors* that brings together some of the papers from the conference relating to its theme. The Dorothy Green Memorial Lecture delivered at the conference by the Hon. Dr Carmen Lawrence, MHR for Fremantle, is published in this issue, as is the article awarded the A. D. Hope prize for best postgraduate student paper delivered at the conference, Julieanne Lamond's "The Ghost of Dad Rudd, on the Stump".

Some of the other articles published here were first delivered as papers at the 2006 ASAL conference, but this issue marks *JASAL*'s progression beyond a journal based on ASAL conference papers. Several of the articles have been submitted independently and others commissioned by the editors. The on-line submission process for *JASAL* has made it possible to review submissions as an on-going process throughout the year, enabling us to put material on-line as soon as an issue is ready. We plan another smaller issue by the end of 2007, and we encourage authors to submit their articles at any time of the year.

This issue covers a wide range of subjects related to Australian literature. From Kit Kelen's witty article on Norman Lindsay's *The Magic Pudding* to Shannon Dowling's reading of Lily Brett's *Too Many Men*, in the context of other second-generation Holocaust authors. We are particularly pleased to publish two articles that offer close readings of Australian poetry, as well as scholarly reappraisals of the work of Marcus Clarke and Vance Palmer. The large number of book reviews suggests that biographers, editors and critics continue to find ways to publish extended considerations of Australian literary texts, despite the apparent limits on publisher interest. Ian Henderson's review surveys the important *Dictionary of Literary Biography*

volumes devoted to Australian literature, and edited with patience and persistence by Selina Samuels.

Once again, we have been supported by staff at the National Library of Australia, especially Bobby Graham and Steven McPhillips, and Michael Birch who is responsible for the layout. We are grateful to the many ASAL members and others who have served as reviewers, ensuring that everyone submitting material to *JASAL* receives expert editorial advice.