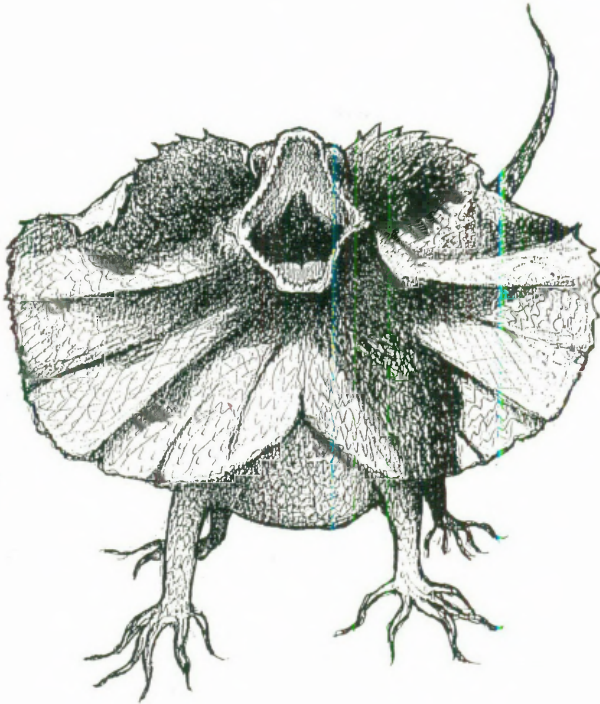


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CENTRE FOR AUSTRALIAN LANGUAGE
AND LITERATURE STUDIES
(CALLS)



The University of New England
ARMIDALE, NSW
AUSTRALIA

April, 1991



CENTRE FOR AUSTRALIAN LANGUAGE
AND LITERATURE STUDIES
CALLS

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Dr. T. Shapcott opens the Centre on 6th April, 1990

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1990
THE CENTRE FOR AUSTRALIAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE STUDIES
(CALLS)

During 1990 the Centre for Australian Language and Literature Studies has gone some way towards fulfilling its aims of providing a regional focus for research and teaching in the field of Australian Literature. There has been significant interaction with the communities covered by the amalgamated University of New England and, at the same time, the members of the Centre have maintained their national and international associations.

The untimely death of one of the most enthusiastic and active members of the CALLS Advisory Committee, Dr Steve Johnson of the Linguistics Unit, was a great loss, not only to his family and the University to which he had contributed so much, but also to the Centre. Our sympathy has been extended to Dr Johnson's family, and we too will miss him very much.

Thanks are due to all members who have supported the work of the Centre, to the members of the Advisory Committee who have worked so strenuously to see the Centre through its first year, and to the Head of the English Department, without whose active support the work of the Centre would have been difficult to sustain. By securing financial assistance from the University and the English Department - a recognition in both cases of the efforts of the members of the Centre in the promotion and teaching of courses for overseas students - Professor Sandison ensured that the Centre had an adequate financial base for its initial year. Thanks are also due to the Deputy Director, Julian Croft, the Secretary, Barbara Holloway, the Treasurer, Annette Stewart, and the Publications Officer, John Ryan, who put so much effort into the compilation of the first *Handbook* of CALLS. Thanks are also due to Wright College and its Master, Dr J. Massingham, for assistance with the Centre, and for hospitality to the writer-in-residence, Roland Robinson.

The year's activities began with the publication of the *Handbook* and a drive for membership. Three hundred copies of the *Handbook* were sent out: to people within the community who were likely to be interested, to members of the Association for the Study of Australian Literature, and to overseas colleagues. The resulting membership of eighty-five, fifty-four of whom are local, is very pleasing. What is more important is that the Centre and its activities are well known and attract favourable comment throughout Australian literary circles, and in those overseas institutions which teach and promote Australian literature. We have had many congratulatory letters on the formation of the Centre from within Australia, from the Universities of Berne, Graz, Bologna, Lecce, the University of Texas at Austin, and from many other centres.

Our inaugural function, held on 6th April, was an unqualified success, and was attended by over eighty people. The Centre was formally opened by Dr Tom Shapcott, the distinguished Australian writer, critic and publisher, who was until recently Chairman of the Literature Board of the Australia Council. As well as opening the Centre, Dr Shapcott read from his own work, and this was followed by readings from a number of distinguished writers, all with some connection with the region: the poet Les A. Murray, who is one of the patrons