

C H Currey Memorial Fellowship Award 1994

The C H Currey Memorial Fellowship was established in 1974 by the Library Council of New South Wales under the terms of the bequest made by the late Charles Herbert Currey 'to promote the writing of Australian history from the original sources'.

Dr Currey was a distinguished historian whose 1929 thesis at Sydney University, which earned him the rare honour of Doctor of Laws, is still the primary authority on the early history of Australian legal institutions. Among his many books, the outstanding work is his biography of Sir Francis Forbes. He was very conscious of the needs and problems of research workers not supported by grants from institutions such as universities.

The amount of the award in 1994 will be \$10 000. However, this may be divided between two or more applicants. The money may be expended as the recipient sees fit, within the terms of the general intent of Dr Currey; for example in payment for photocopies or typing expenses, or for travel in connection with research.

Application forms are available



from the State Librarian, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney 2000. An original plus two copies of applications should be supplied, and the closing date for the receipt of applications is 1 October.

In 1993 the Fellowship was awarded jointly to Audrey Oldfield

(seen above on the left at the presentation ceremony), to examine the republican movement in Australian history, and Ann Moyal (right), to prepare for publication a critical edition of the scientific letters of the nineteenth century geologist, the Reverend William Branwhite Clarke. ■

Two from Oxbridge

Modern Australian Usage (OUP)

Nicholas Hudson was for a long time the Managing Director of Heinemann Australia, and in that role oversaw the development of the *Heinemann Australian Dictionary*. He now runs his own publishing house.

This book from Oxford, on *Modern Australian Usage*, is the joyous outcome of Hudson's thirty-five years in Australian publishing, working with and relishing the Australian language in all its forms and variants. It is another of those reference books that (like Fowler's *Modern English Usage*) can waste an immense amount of your time simply because every page contains a gem that prompts an excursion to another page, and then another...

Hudson wears his erudition a little more lightly than Fowler, but the light touch enlivens and illuminates the erudition without diminishing it. He is firm in his judgements (not *judgments*) when firmness is needed; but where there is room for debate, he presents the evidence and invites you to make

up your own mind. He spreads his net wide, and many entries are encyclopedic (*encyclopedic?*) as well as linguistic and grammatical. See, for example, the fascinating and timely article on *Koori*.

My review copy was extracted for me by the OUP representative from Nick Hudson's bag at the Wordfest in Canberra last March. *Modern Australian Usage* (OUP 1993) has viii + 440 pages and is a princely gift at \$29.95 recommended retail price. ISBN 0 19 554860 4.

Copy-editing: the Cambridge Handbook for Editors, Authors and Publishers (CUP)

This is the third edition (and the sixth printing) of a book that first appeared nearly twenty years ago, in 1975. It was based on a guide written for use within the Cambridge University Press, 'so that new copy-editors could benefit from the accumulated experience of their predecessors'. Three edi-

tions later it still comes across very much as the last word in house style manuals.

This may not be so terrible: CUP is not a bad model. What may create problems are the great detail with which this style has been pursued and the implication that this may be the only model. This book is not a do-it-yourself guide for the novice, but it is a superbly comprehensive reference for the initiated. Chapters cover all aspects from estimates and specimen pages through preparing the typescript for typesetting, illustrations, proofs, preliminary pages, indexes and so on. There are a 20-page checklist for copy-editors, pages of symbols and non-English alphabets, an extensive glossary, a short bibliography and a carefully laid-out index.

Copy-editing: the Cambridge Handbook for Editors, Authors and Publishers, Third Edition (CUP 1992), xii + 471 pages, and is sold with a recommended retail price of \$45.00. ISBN 0 521 40074 0. ■